

# MINUTES

**RJ Lockhart Elementary School  
PTA Meeting  
December 15, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by Jeannie Georgis at 9:20am

## **Approval of Minute**

**Motion to waiver the reading of November meeting minutes: Heidi Cavosi, Marta Kiernan**

**Treasury Report : see attached Patty Stauder went over the report**

## **Principal's Report**

Mr. Scarallo discussed the time off during parent/teacher conferences. Complaints made to district regarding too many days that the children are not receiving the enough time for learning. This is not only Lockhart but the district schools.

On the secondary level the parent portal is open to MHS and Ames, Berner is about to open. A parent's tool to keep on top of the child's grades.

Attendance: any time a child is absent from school a note must be given to the school of their absence. This is a legal document. Also, please do not ask teachers to give work if you are taking vacations. Work will not be given to the children for unexcused absences.

Curriculum: anyone interested in seeing the state curriculum will be able to access from the district website. Chief net (keep in mind that Massapequa District enhances the state curriculum).

Chain of Command: if you are having a problem with your child in class/school, please contact the child's teacher first. If the issue needs to be escalated to the assistant principal/principal it will be done after discussing with the teacher. The principal will escalate to the district. Please do not go to the district first as most of these issues are not a district related problem.

Great website to visit: [nylearns.org](http://nylearns.org) k-12, no password needed – lessons and worksheets available – great tool while the children are on vacations to keep them connected to the standards.

Shared Decision Group is making postcards that will be sent home when children are doing great things and teachers feel that they should be praised for their actions.

Question from parents to the Principal:

Concern: recess taken away and the lack of physical activity. Children are not given enough time to release the energy built up and this is a problem with children that have attention issues.

Answer: Mr. Scarallo advised that the children are moving around quite a bit during the course of the day as they move around in the classroom for centers, specials, lunchtime and recess. They are not sitting in their seats all day long without moving around. Taking recess away from children is done when situations occur and children have to understand there are consequences for their actions.

Concern: Snack Policy – if a child brings in cookies for snack time given by their parent should a teacher not allow the child to eat this snack because it is not a healthy.

Answer: the staff encourages children to eat healthy snacks each day. If you should have a problem with a teacher about this issue please speak to the teacher.

Question: Do all teachers have emails?

Answer: yes and no—emails are used for short, quick questions and situations – if you have something that needs to be discussed with a teacher your best bet is to phone the office and leave a message and the teacher will call you back asap or face to face.

Question: Can it be looked into kindergartens buying snacks at lunch time.

Answer: Mrs. McConnell will look into this.

Question: Lockhart School is never in the newspapers.

Answer: We are not using Syntax anymore. Mrs. Meyers takes many pictures and sends to the PR group. Parents can submit their pictures to Mrs. Meyers - they will all go through Mr. Scarallo for approval and then sent to the PR group. The clothing drive pictures were submitted and should be in the next newspaper. Also, pictures on a continuous basis are added to the district website slide show.

## **New Business**

Mrs. Borget left information regarding the parent support groups – they meet once a month from 9:30-10:15 am – divorce families

### Committee Reports

- Kids Stuff fundraiser is complete. This was a great success. Also Spiritwear was very successful this year as well.
- Box Tops – Theresa has advised that this is doing very well. The last contest winners were: Mrs. Burch (k) 1<sup>st</sup> place, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Mrs. Carney (3<sup>rd</sup> grade) and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Mrs. O'Neill (3<sup>rd</sup> grade). What about Labels for Education?
- Book Fair: January 19<sup>th</sup> kick off Volunteers needed. Contact Heidi Cavosi
- Talent Show: flyer going in out next week to sign up for the talent show which will take place on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed.
- Election Day Bake Sale and Holiday Shopping were a great success.
- Make a Wish Concert: great turnout for the walk-a-thon. Still taking donations. The Make a Wish Assembly for the children will be held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and Parent Assembly for band, orchestra and chorus will be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00am.
- School Closed 12/24-1/2 holiday break -- Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther King
- Character Education Assembly was brought in for the children – they loved it.
- Capri Sun recycling program: Mrs. Mayclothing and Mrs. Bacheller do not feel this program is feasible for us to continue as it is very messy and not getting much for it. They will revisit this program.

Teachers Report: Thank you from the teachers for the kids stuff books. Recommendations for next year that a list of the children per class is given to the teachers so they can mark off as the books are returned.

## **Announcements**

### **Next Meeting**

January 12, 2011 7:00pm

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.