

November 14, 2018

**PTA Meeting Minutes
Salt Brook Cafeteria**

7 pm

1. **Call to Order and Flag Salute**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
3. **Special Guest:** Larry Heisler, M.A. LMT

Larry Heisler guided the PTA through a meditation. He also did an exercise going through the body's pressure points. Mr. Heisler walked the PTA through a breathing exercise to be done 4 times a day for 3 minutes each time.

4. **Teachers' Representative Report:** Mrs. Sebastian, Presented by Mr. Firetto

Parent Teacher conferences were held November 5, 6, and 7. They continue to be an effective way to communicate with parents.

We hope the book fair continues to be a successful fundraiser for the PTA. The children and faculty are enjoying the opportunity to buy their favorite books. The preview fliers were helpful for parents to view the books prior to their children purchasing them. The teachers truly appreciate the "Wish Lists" and parents generous book donations to our class libraries. The teachers would also like to thank the PTA for the Book Fair Gift Certificates!

This week is American Education Week. Teachers would like to thank the parents and grandparents for taking the time to come visit our classrooms and seeing your children learning.

5. **Principal's Report:** Mrs. Drexinger

American Education Week

Thank you to all of our volunteers during American Education Week!
Grandparents Day was a huge success. We had a large number of grandparents able to attend this year.

After School Clubs

Clubs are beginning this week and next and run through April.

STEM Club for Grades 1-6

Art Club for Grades 1-6

Grades 1 and 5 clubs began (approximately 15 students in each rotation).

Grade 6 Club will begin in January and run through the end of May.

Exploring possibility of new clubs for next year. Hoping to add 1-2 new clubs in different areas.

NJSLA (formerly PARCC) Assessment

Grades 3-6

Number of ELA units reduced from 3 to 2, reduction of 70 minutes of test time for grade 3 and reduction of 90 minutes of test time for grades 4-12.

Number of Math units reduced from 4 to 3 in grades 3-5, reduction of 60 minutes of test time. For grades 6-8 number of units remain at 3, but there is a reduction of 60 minutes of test time.

Due to these changes, our testing block will be shortened this year. Grade 2-4 will test week of April 29- May 3. Grades 5 and 6 will test week of May 6-10. Make-ups for all grades will follow.

Treats for Our Troops

Great collection! Thank you to all who donated.

Message from Officer Dano

Thank you to the parents that are doing their best to follow the traffic patterns. It is truly appreciated and he looks forward to meeting you at one of your upcoming meetings.

6. **Presidents' Message/Announcements**

a. Superintendent Forums

January 16th Special education- HS/MS Media Center

b. Sweetheart Dance

Looking for Committee Members

7. **Treasurer's Report** - Kathleen Walsh

Please see attached

8. **Fundraising**- Diana Ettinger, Maureen Reilly

a. Mixed Bags Catalogs

b. Spring Fundraiser- March 29th

9. **Correspondence Report** - Kerry FitzGerald

10. **Committee Reports**

See Report Summary

11. **New Business/Open Forum**

Mr. Firetto would like to thank the PTA for bins in the library. Thank you to the Veteran's Day Committee for a successful Veterans' Day Breakfast and classroom visitation.

Suggestion: New Parent Questions Coffee or Information Night for next year. Provide new parents with school information and allow parents to ask questions. Back to school Checklist with Class dues, PTA membership, etc.