

Vanessa Lee Mercado, President
Tammy McNamara, Vice-President
Courtney Jaskula, Treasurer
Nicole Keough, Secretary



Menands School PTA
19 Wards Lane
Menands, New York 12204
menandsschoolpta.com

Menands School PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes
November 19, 2019

In Attendance: Maureen Long, Antonietta Schroeder, Heather Aragona, Vanessa Lee Mercado, Tammy McNamara, Courtney Jaskula, Nicole Keough, Jennifer Wilson, Christy Johnston, Lizzy Decker, Susan Clemente, Stephanie Else, Lou D'Andrade, Johanna Clarke, Elviza Nigmatyawava, Francia Justinval, Dara Blanchette, Shanee Taylor, Madalyn Royal, Taj Buskey, Laura Kessler, and Asma Khan

Start 6:32PM

President Vanessa Lee Mercado called the meeting to order

Board was introduced, Members in Attendance introduced.

Childcare is helping more parents and families attend meetings. 10 families used childcare for this meeting.

Meeting Minutes approved with corrections to misspelled member names. Motion made by Christy Johnston 2nd by Jen Wilson

Treasurer's Report- given by Treasurer Courtney Jaskula. Yankee Candle fundraiser final numbers are not in but it is projected that it will be higher than budgeted.

Membership Report- 90 members. Applications can be done online at Member Hub or a paper application can be completed.

Principal's Report- given by Principal Antoinetta Schroeder.

- It was reported that there was much participation in red ribbon week and the pumpkin run.
- Thanks to Mrs. Ford for organizing the pumpkin decorating contest.
- The book fair was a success. This was the first time it was held over a week's time span. The final amount of money towards books for the library is unknown, but it is anticipated that it will be @ \$400.00. The students gave input on the books that they would like to see added to the library.
- Parent Teacher Conferences start on Thursday November 21st. Early dismissal will be at 11:20. The second conference day will be December 12th.
- Picture makeup day is December 3rd.
- Holiday break is from December 23rd to January 6th.

Past Events were the:

- Family Fun Night Halloween Bingo chaired by VP Tammy McNamara. The event was well attended and space became an issue. Possibly changes made in the future.

- Family Dance was chaired by Secretary Nicole Keough, good turn out but mostly younger grades. Raffle was started by PTA and it ends on December 13th.

Upcoming Events are listed on the previous meeting agenda.

A few events need a chairperson. Those events are Family Fun Night on February 28th and the Staff Appreciation Lunch. Dara Blanchette volunteered to chair the lunch.

Upcoming Fundraisers are listed on the previous meeting agenda.

The PTA General Meeting Schedule was discussed with emphasis on the meetings where the election/nomination committee will be picked and what the process is for voting on new PTA officers.

New Business was discussed

- Community and family engagement committee, possibly to have a “liaison” between school staff and families
- Parents as Partners topic of “Mindfulness Movements for Stress” Dara Blanchette and Tammy McNamara offered to look into this.

Ideas for future PTA events were mentioned

- Fran Justinal; Glow event
- Johanna Clarke; Family Movie Night and Turkey Shoot
- Christy Johnson; Homespun
- paint and snack or coco
- family craft night
- stem night

Christy Johnson commented on the great turnout at the PTA meeting

Meeting adjourned at 7:45PM