# PAMS PTA MINUTES

February 10, 2015

Called to order at 5:39pm by Janine Sarach.

In attendance: Janine Sarach, Dr. Bergren, JoElla Beavers, Kim Wells, Erin Hagge

Minutes from January meeting were approved with no changes

**Admin Report**- Dr. Bergren- VB Schools budget short by $15 mil. Increasing class size is the focus now. With the student to teacher formula it means that PAMS will be losing a few teachers and each class will increase by 2-4 students. In the past, students with the greatest need get the most attention to keeping the class sizes low. Advanced classes will be larger. With the new model the inclusion classes will become larger.

The name for the S.T.E.M. initiative for next year will be THE EDGE ACADEMY. A flier has been created to entice people to join. The population will mirror the school’s diversity, meaning if our school’s advanced student population is 40% then 40% of the kids selected for the Edge Academy will reflect advanced students. Likewise for kids with IEP’s and so on. There will be an Open House for interested families on February 25th. Applications will be due March 11 and notification of enrollment will be on April 2nd. The team involved is excited and ready to go on this academy.

There is a new approach to the device policy. There are three zones within the school. The red zone, where devices may not be used is the hallways during the school day, restrooms/locker rooms, with a substitute teacher or when testing. The yellow zone, where device use is a little more flexible and monitored by a teacher, is the classrooms, gyms, library, guidance, office, homework center, auditorium, clinic and during activities. The green zone, where device use is permitted, is before school outside, the cafeteria during lunch and all area after school hours EXCEPT the bathrooms and locker rooms. This new approach seems to be working well with the students adapting easily. There have been some instances where students have found loop holes but the system is working and the kinks are being worked out. There is still a 24 hour hold on devices being used inappropriately but the student can now retrieve their device after the 24 hours instead of a parent needing to come in.

**Activities report-** Wrestling and volleyball start this Thursday and debate will be next week. **UPDATE** – due to the loss of days because of snow the teams have had to adjust games/matches but the teams are set and they are competing when they can.

**Partners In Education (PIE)** – No report this month

**Membership:**  We need 181 to make our goal of 100%. Kim Wells is going to donate hotdogs to concessions and this money will be earmarked to go towards our memberships.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Current balance in the checking account is $10,533.39 Report attached.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Volunteers/JoElla Beavers:** Still sending out requests for the food pantry. Will have some upcoming events that need help like Lend a Hand.

**Reflections/Amber Sloan:** Reflections Ceremony will be held on March 4th in the school’s library. Certificates have been created for the top finishers. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st place finishers. Medals will be awarded to the 2nd and in some cases, 3rd place finishers. Plan is to use Sign Up genius for refreshments for the program on the 4th. Dance school winner will perform. Invitations are being sent out.

**Concessions/Kim Wells:**  Doing well. People know we are there.

**Spirit Wear:** Sales are going well. Will be available for the Valentine dance.

**Hospitality/Erin Hagge:** Counselors and Social worker taken care of.

**Principals of American Citizenship/Julie Wiley:** January response was much better than December with 46 nominations. February’s trait is Honesty and the due date is February 27th.

**New Business:**

**Volunteer of the Year:** Our Volunteer of the Year is Kim Wells

Positions for Next Year: We will be looking for a Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and someone to take over Red Ribbon Week. Amber will take Volunteer Coordinator and Stacy Cortez will take over Book Fair.

**Unfinished business**

**Lend A Hand:** There will be an assembly for the SPCA on March 20th. Everything is set for the two day event with the community events happening on Saturday April 25th and the Panther Prowl 5K taking place on the 26th at Kellam on their cross country course like last year.

**Teacher Grants:** The committee is still discussing the $2500 request from Mrs. Hamby for mini iPads for her classroom. They are looking into ways to get at least some for her but there is not enough money for the PTA to fund the entire request.

**Next meeting March 10, 2015 @ 5:30**

**Meeting was adjourned at 6:54**