

**Swarthmore Rutledge School
Home and School Association Meeting
April 9, 2008**

ATTENDEES: Beth DeBruyn, Linda Martin, Sharon Graham, Becki Harris, MC Petras, Carlin McCoy, Sharon Mester, Mark Linkins, Mary Gay Scanlon, Marcia Hiehle, Nicola Jefferson

MINUTES:

- Minutes were unavailable to be approved.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- There was no Principal's report

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Mark Linkins, Director of Curriculum for WSSD

Mark spoke about the after school foreign language programs. The programs are intense enough where there will need to be a director hired. Gary Davis has taken the lead right now. The Hands on Science coordinator was a paid position and this could be as well; the district would manage the funds.

The program has been well received by all participating, including the students doing the teaching. The students go to a support seminar one day a week on campus and are receiving one college credit for teaching at SRS. The district will pick up the cost of the background check for teachers and materials.

Mark then provided a discussion of upcoming changes to the science curriculum where we will be moving to "kit-based instruction" to align with the Pennsylvania science standards. It was identified after a study that the environment/ecology and space/solar systems were not adequately addressed and needed to be incorporated. The updates will be applied for the 2008-2009 school year.

Becki Harris, Foster Parenting

Becki Harris spoke about foster parenting. Presbyterian Children's Village has many opportunities for foster parenting; this opportunity does come with training. Because there is a shortage of foster parents in Delaware County, some Delaware County children end up on Philadelphia. The commitment is no more than 18 months because that is the amount of time that a child can stay in foster care (long term options need to be in place).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Treasurer

- Sales are lagging in our directory and Spirit Wear
- We will probably run a year-end surplus for Hands on Science
- Dimensions in foreign language, math, and technology have not spent their money to date.
- There was discussion around the Teacher Initiative Fund and purchasing a digital camera. This money could be coupled with the Dimensions in Technology funds?

Nominating Committee

- The full slate was put forward and put to a vote.

Motion: all those in favor of the slate of officers present. Motion carries

OLD BUSINESS:

- Car Wash to support Relay for Life is April 12.
- Dimensions in Technology is having the Math/Tech night on April 17
- Dimensions on Social Studies is sponsoring a favorite book election at the same time as the Pennsylvania primaries
- Blue Rocks game is April 27 – 5th grade is singing the anthem.
- Family Dinner dance is May 2
- Note card due date is extended; they will be returned before summertime.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Book sale needs people to help set up and clean up. The book selection this year is the upgraded selection. Through the Rotary, you will be able to purchase a book to send to a Chester school.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 7 at 7:30 in the SRS Library

Meeting Adjourned 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Sharon Graham