

## Minutes of the October 26th, 2009 PTA Meeting

### Tesago Elementary School Shenendehowa Central School District

**The meeting commenced at 7:03pm in the Tesago library and the following people were in attendance:**

Robin Lamb	Debora Clark	Julie Plumadore	April Douglas	Sherrill Brown	Margaret Motacha
Lisa Almeridin	Samantha Yattaw	April Kohler	Lisa Mrieckowski	Pam Karathomas	Lisa McCarthy
Jennifer Landers	Sharon Bowles	Jill VanDusen	Chris Meagher	Stephanie Dobo	Meredith Haskins
Kathleen McCarty	Greg Pace				

**Items discussed:**

<p><b>Sharon Bowles</b> <b>Board of Education</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Appointed new principal for Gowana – Robin Dawins.</u></li> <li>• Dedication Ceremony – Carry on bell to one room school house.</li> <li>• Fiscal Budger – Possible mid year cuts. Continuing to monitor and discuss with elected officials to express views.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Greg Pace</b> <i>Principal's Report</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monster Mash was a huge success. Hannah's Hope – holding a table there was nice to see.</li> <li>• Fall Fundraiser – worked out very well, especially with the economy today.</li> <li>• Partnership Team is up and running. Went to district meeting at (name of school). We are working on a Parent Resource Packet.</li> <li>• Cambells &amp; Box Tops – going very well.</li> <li>• H1N1 – we are constantly education our staff and children. Handwashing – keeping hands away from face, sneezing into elbow, etc. Stomach virus is also going around. Purell is in front of library and the office. Each room has their own. A lot of the kids have their own sanitizer on their desk. If the Hand Sanitizer is alcohol based cannot send in. Kids not allow to share it due to allergies as HASCOM regulations need to be followed. (Kids cannot touch chemicals).</li> <li>• Best Assembly – November date will need to be changed.</li> <li>• Parent Teacher Conferences – these conferences are held only once a year. However, Mr. Pace reiterated that just because the conferences are only once a year, the parents can still meet and/or communicate with their child's teacher(s) as the year goes on.</li> <li>• Discussion re child abduction and having a chain link fence. Will not be a chain link fence put up. Have not had any issues and children are constantly supervised when outside.</li> <li>• Zoo – bring it up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers. Needs to be close to curriculum. Why go to the Bronx Zoo 3 hours away when there is zoo that is only and hour away.</li> <li>• How come the 5<sup>th</sup> Graders don't participate in the Halloween Parade? Mr. Pace advised that the 5<sup>th</sup> graders do something different. They may do a contest or a picnic.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Beth Silaika</b> <b>PTA President</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Back to School Barbecue</u> – Was a huge success. Julie Nelson thanked everyone who helped. Event made approximately \$250.</li> <li>• <u>Monster Mash</u>– Jill and her co=chair and all volunteers did a wonderful job. Was a huge success. Have received a lot of positive feedback.</li> <li>• <u>Reflections</u> – Julie Thayer – November 7<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• <u>Halloween Parade</u> – Fall Festival October 30<sup>th</sup>. Leave pets home. No blood or gore and</li> </ul>

no weapons. Parents will be in the respective classrooms to help out.

- Early Dismissal – on November 10<sup>th</sup> school will be dismissed 15 minutes early.
- Movie Night – November 10<sup>th</sup>. Movie will be Monsters vs. Aliens
- Veterans Day – November 11<sup>th</sup> – School will be closed.
- Principals Discretionary Fund – Mr. Pace has several checks in the safe in the office. He would like to deposit into the principals discretionary fund so that Mr. Pace can be reimbursed for expenses he incurs for lunches, etc. Tony had suggested we increase the line item not to exceed \$1500. Checks are made out to Tesago. The checks were initially sent to PTA but are now sent to Tesago and Mr. Pace has them in the safe. This was not approved. We did *NOT* “pass” this discretionary fund increase.
- Newsletter – Can we put a reminder in the newsletter for children to not eat on the bus due to allergies, etc.
- 50/50 Raffle at Holiday Extravaganza – We are going to look into how this is worked in the PTA regulations?

<p><b>Kate</b> <i>Librarian</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Book Fair</u> – Will be held the week of November 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup>. Library media center page on the web. Will be a ton of info on the media center.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meridith Haskins</b> <i>Chairperson – Holiday Extravaganza</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Cash for Gold coming</u> – we get 10% of what they accept.</li> <li>• <u>Vendors</u> – can bring their own table. Crafters can rent a 10 x 10 spot for \$30 or tables are \$40. Vendors can also bring their own tables.</li> <li>• <u>Mass Email</u> – Mr. Pace advised that they will send a mass email with a list of vendors.</li> <li>• <u>Advertising for Holiday Extravaganza</u> – Never ran in Times Union last year. Was ran in the Penny Saver.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stephanie Dobo</b> <i>Arts &amp; Education</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Puppet Show</u> – A puppet show for grades 1-3 will be done to bring awareness of children with disabilities. Scotia Glenville - _____. Brian Chevalier – Grades 1 – 4. He will be back in February for Grade 5.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Sherrill Brown</b> <i>Secretary</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PTA Handbook – was forwarded to Karen Doescher to be placed out on the website.</li> <li>• Beth Silaika advised that there is a phone number that needs to be changed.</li> <li>• Minutes from last PTA minutes were placed out on Website as well after Mr. Pace granted approval.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Robin Lamb</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Outside Bulletin Board</u> – Michele Clancy wanted to see if she can obtain a key for the lock for the outside bulletin board. Can she bring it home? Everyone agreed key needs to remain in the office and just email or call the office ahead of time if she needs to get it.</li> <li>• <u>Odyssey of Mind</u>– Still looking for chair.</li> <li>• <u>Scholarships</u> – no changes. Took different avenue.</li> <li>• <u>Newsletter</u> – once it's up Terri Bills can put newsletter up.</li> <li>• <u>Boxtops</u> - \$1,000 so far. Encourage to not hoard them. Check the expiration dates and just a reminder to be sure that the expiration dates are on the Boxtops.</li> </ul>

**The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by:**

Sherrill Brown  
Tesago PTA Secretary