



Vail Ski and Snowboard Academy (VSSA)

PTA Meeting Notes

September 16, 2015

4:00 pm, Room 203

Attendees: Geoff, Grimmer, Jackie DeScisciolo, Susan Okurowski, Stacey Birtwhistle, Kara Palamaras, Pam Peterson, Jamie Allard, Shari Grant, PLEASE ADD OTHERS FROM SIGN IN SHEET.

- I. Geoff and Stacey called the meeting to order. Geoff gave a brief introduction to the PTA at VSSA. He gave an overview of changes to the advisory program this year and answered any questions or concerns from parents attending.
- II. Jackie requested an approved of the meeting minutes from April 29, 2015 PTA meeting. They were reviewed and approved.
- III. Susan Okurowski, PTA Treasurer, provided the PTA's financial report. It was reported that the incoming PTA dues for the 2015-16 school year were low. Dues collected are 50% lower than past year. This is due to the new online application forms. There is no way to pay dues online so it is up to the individual families to remember to submit the check with their application forms. In many cases, this was not done. As a result, Susan along with the PTA Secretary is planning to meet with Holly to determine a way to remind those that have not paid either through targeted emails or a general note in the Yeti Times.
- IV. New PTA officers for the 2015-16 school year were approved. They are as follows:
 - i. President – Jacqueline DeScisciolo
 - ii. Vice President – Stacey Birtwhistle
 - iii. Secretary – Kara Palamaras
 - iv. Treasure: Susan Okurowski
- V. Headmaster's Report was given by Geoff Grimmer. VSSA has 177 total students this year and is fully staffed. SSCV has hired 4/5 academic coaches this year to assist with the 8th grade, advisory classes, foreign language and study hall.
- VI. Jackie gave PTA updates on the following:
 - a. **Class parents** will now assist the advisory teachers on an as needed basis. Volunteers are to reach out to the advisory teachers to see where they can help.
 - b. **Teacher and Staff Birthdays:** Kelly Fralick has volunteered to head up the Teacher and Staff birthday volunteers. She will send out information to the school body via the Yeti times so that individuals may sign up to bring in a card/treat to recognize VSSA staff and teachers on their special day.
 - c. **Parent /Teacher Conferences** will take place on Oct. 27/28. The PTA provides dinner for teachers and staff on these long days. Stacey is asking for a volunteer to coordinate a sign up genius and to coordinate a theme for each night so that VSSA parents can volunteer to bring in food and clean up.
 - d. **VSSA Community:** Jackie asked for ideas for VSSA to continue to be a great neighbor in the Minturn community. Some ideas mentioned were:

- i. Providing a tent/table during Halloween Fest on Oct. 30. Give out hot chocolate/candy.
 - 1. Donate bags of candy to the Minturn residents to hand out at Halloween Fest
 - 2. Create a relationship with the seniors that share our school with us.
 - 1. Have 5/6th grade students visit them with their Halloween costumes.
 - e. **Yearbook:** Diane Gionfriddo volunteered to do this year's yearbook. She needs software. Pam Peterson said she would reach out to her to help. Also needs a better way to ask for and capture pictures throughout the year.
 - f. **PTA/PTO:** The school is looking at turning the PTA into at PTO. Jamie Allard volunteered to research and fill out paperwork to take us through this process. It is more beneficial for the school to have a PTO rather than PTA because the PTA national organization takes more dues than the PTO.
 - g. **PTA Book Club:** Update will be given in next Yeti Times.
- VII. Other: A parent in attendance (PLEASE ADD NAME) reminded all that School Board Elections take place on Nov. 3.