

## Minutes

November 13, 2017 - 5:30pm

- Welcome
- Recent Event Recap
  - **Yankee Candle:** Great fundraiser! Orders should be coming in real soon. Also, orders can be placed online all year and if you go to the store mention you're from School 18 for our orders to count.
  - **Original Works:** Orders have been collected and mailed out for processing. We anticipate artwork orders to be back to school by early December.
  - **Hurricane Relief:** Overwhelming support from our families – lots of donations.
  - **KidStuff Coupon Books:** Sale ended today.
  - **Grandma's Pies:** Orders due tomorrow, 11/14. Pies to be picked up from Grandma's by Mr. Kussler on Tuesday at 12pm. Pies will be ready for pick up afterschool on Tuesday from 2-5:30pm.
- Business
  - Committees
    - **Yearbook Committee** – An email will be sent to schedule first committee meeting.
  - Fundraisers
    - **20 Days of Giveaways** – Tickets are all set, have one donation for each day of the raffle. ValleyCats and Siena also offered to donate tickets. Many donations come from Downtown Troy, please remember to support them when you're doing your holiday shopping this year.
  - **Treasurer's Report, Shelly Hansen**
    - Box Tops check should be received soon. Keep collecting!
    - Troy Grooming Co. has donated last month's contents of the "swear jar" to the School 18 PTA.
  - **Principal Items, Mrs. DonVito-MacPhee**
    - All fire drills have been completed for the fall. One more lockdown drill with the Troy Police Department. Substitute teachers are made aware of all emergency procedures should there be one. An evacuation drill will be performed in the Spring to an off-site location. In a true emergency, District Office will notify parents/guardians of the emergency and procedures to follow. School 18 is in constant communication with District Office via the radios and cameras. Sign up for the text alert system to receive important alerts and updates from District Office.
    - Two teachers attended the NYS Reading Conference to deepen their professional development and will turn-key this training when they return. This year, School 18 is focusing on Reading & Writing Units of Study. Students have just ended the Narrative section and are beginning their Nonfiction section. You can learn more about this at Parent Teacher conferences.
    - We have a new Physical Education teacher, Chris Davey, who replaces George Rafferty who retired in October. Mr. Davey comes from Amsterdam and was a former UAlbany football player.
    - Question regarding the substitute shortage: School 18 currently has two building subs who are there daily, a retired teacher and grad students who sub. Mrs. DonVito-MacPhee is constantly recruiting new substitutes to ensure all classes are covered.
- Upcoming Events
  - **School Spirit "Dress Up" Day:** December 1<sup>st</sup> – Your child should bring sneakers to participate in gym class.
  - **20 Days of Giveaways:** December 1<sup>st</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>
  - **Book Fair:** December 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>
    - Parent Volunteers Needed for Thursday evening and Friday afternoon – If interested in volunteering, please email the PTA.
  - **"Drop-in" PTA Meeting:** December 7<sup>th</sup> during Parent Conferences – A PTA representative will be on site to answer any questions, concerns and also assist with PTA membership. \*Refer a friend to join the PTA and you'll be entered into a gift card drawing.
  - **Winter Concert:** December 19<sup>th</sup>

- **Attic Treasures:** December 20<sup>th</sup> - Chairperson needed! Donations also needed, especially men's gifts.
  - Parent Volunteers Needed – If interested in volunteering, please email the PTA.
- **Bowling:** More info to come!
- ★ *Volunteers are entered into a monthly raffle for a \$10 gift card!*
  - *SEPTEMBER WINNER: Colleen Pells*
  - *OCTOBER WINNER: Loni Cerulli*
- **Other Business**
  - **Attention Amazon Shoppers** – School 18 PTA has an Amazon Smile account and will receive a portion of your order's proceeds if you select us as your charity. Direction on how to choose your charity are below:
    - Go to <https://smile.amazon.com>
    - Log in with your regular Amazon account info
    - After logging in you may see this under the search bar:
 

Supporting: PTA New York Congress 12-055 School 18 PTA ▼
    - You can change the charity by clicking on the down facing triangle at the end of the charity name displayed, and select "change".
    - Type in our name displayed above and press "search". Once displayed on the next screen press "select".
    - Only orders placed through the Amazon Smile site will count, so we suggest bookmarking the Amazon Smile page (<https://smile.amazon.com>). Thank you for your support!

**Next PTA Meeting: "Drop-In" December 7<sup>th</sup> 5:00-8:00pm during Parent Conferences**

**Contact Your PTA:** pta.school18@gmail.com

**2017-18 PTA Officers:**  
 Jessica Maloney, *President*  
 Amy Fraser, *Vice President*  
 Shelly Hansen, *Treasurer*  
 Theresa Kaniff, *Secretary*