

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING - Parent Teacher Association (PTA), Jessie Ripoll Primary Monday, 09th June, 2014

Following the singing of a number of choruses, Mr. Constantine Martin, President, welcomed all present and called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m. Mr. B. Brown opened the meeting with prayer.

WELCOME AND REVIEW OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of meeting dated 12th May, 2014 was amended as follows: Page 1, line 4 to read Mrs. Collen Edwards. Based on the foregoing amendment, the motion was moved for the acceptance of the minutes. The minutes were confirmed by Mrs. Sharna Ramsay and Mrs. Feron Brown-Hamilton.

Update – PTA President

Mr. Martin thanked the parents who participated at the recently held Eyalite Health Fair – the support and turnout of parents were commendable; the organizers were appreciative.

- ✓ *Family Games Night* – This would be Friday, 27th June, 2014. The flyer was available for viewing on the PTA's website. Parents were asked to 'come out and 'lime' together and support the final PTA social event for the 2013/2014 school year.
- ✓ *Election* for a number of executive posts was slated for this meeting; parents were asked to submit forms recommending persons to serve. However, to date no nominations were made. Mr. Martin made reference to The Jessie Ripoll Primary School PTA Constitution, *Article VI - Officers, Section II* which states that the term of office shall be two (2) years. A member holding office for the full term may however be reelected if his/her attendance and contributions are in good standing. Therefore, the current executive can serve for another period of two years – 2014/2015 and 2015/2016.
As per the Constitution and confirmation by the PTA President regarding the current executives' offer to continue to serve, all parents present were in acceptance of this move. Mrs. Marcia Detry Fogah would provide further information/guidance in her update.
- ✓ Mr. Martin encouraged parents to visit the *PTA's website* and informed there was a possibility that parents can win prizes. A trivia question was posted on the website and the first three (3) persons with the correct answer were awarded tokens. A quiz in the form of summer school dates/hours/early bird discount was asked. Stacy Evans and Feron Brown-Hamilton provided the answers and won BookSmart vouchers.

Mr. Martin thanked parents for their participation online and at the meetings throughout the 2013/2014 school year.

Update – Mrs. Detry Fogah, Acting Principal

Mrs. Detry Fogah acknowledged the large turnout of parents and thanked them for their continued interest in their PTA and the school by extension.

- In line with Mr. Martin’s commendation to parents for their support of the *Health FAIR*, Mrs. Detry Fogah congratulated parents for their continued support of events, in particular the Health FAIR which was graded a 9 out of 10. Additionally she thanked the teaching staff for rearranging the staff room, which was a timely initiative before the FAIR. She informed that 132 children received free vision test and 93 received free eyeglasses. One Hundred and Eighty-nine (189) teachers were honoured. Jessie participated in a Reading Competition and received a laptop. Jessie students also received whatever items remained after the staging of the event.
- *Mr. Tyrone Brady* (Mr. Fix it) was killed on Thursday before the Health FAIR. Mr. Brady was father to a 6 month old, 3 year old and children in Grades 3 and 5. Mr. Brady was remembered as a person who fixed all that required repairs on the school grounds. The funeral service would be held on Saturday 28th June, 2014 @ 10 a.m. at Webster Memorial United Church. Mrs. Detry Fogah informed that counselling sessions were being arranged for the children.
- *End of Term Exams* – This would be 17th – 24th June, 2014.
- *End of School Year Fun Day* – This would be Wednesday, 25th June, 2014.
- *Graduation* – This would be held on 01st July at the Abe Issa Auditorium. School will not be held on this day. Mrs. Detry Fogah reminded parents to ‘Let their Children be Graduating Children’ – no heels should be worn. Parents of non-participating students were invited to come along with their children.
- *Summer School 2014* - Early Bird Special ends Monday, 30th June, 2014.
- According to the protocol of the Ministry of Education, Jessie’s booklists were submitted to the Ministry - sign off should take place on Friday, 13th June, 2014; however, as soon as approval is granted, the booklists would be circulated to parents. Mrs. Detry Fogah reminded parents that Bible, hymnal and dictionary are continuous books hence they should not be bought each year. The school’s website, she said, allow for free access and printing of worksheets. Parents will see teachers using copied books but students would not be asked to buy these books. However, parents who choose to, can buy the books. Parents were reminded that BookSmart Book Store had the relevant texts available and would also wrap the books and deliver them. Mrs. Detry Fogah recalled numerous incidences of students leaving his/her books on the school grounds. She reminded parents not to omit the most important lesson in growing up ‘teach your children to be responsible’.

- *Extra-Curricular Update* – For added exposure, a number of students were entered in a Chess Competition; the group received seven (7) certificates and two medals. Two more competitions were entered and one grade 3 student (female) was the winner of the amateur section and for the under 8 section one student medaled at 3rd. Mrs. Detry Fogah encouraged parents to allow their children to be involved in extracurricular activities. She highlighted that children who are in Chess usually do well in Math.

In other updates:

- Karate – 2nd place was secured in United States based competition
 - Swimming – one student (female) joined Jamaica synchronized swimmers
 - Hellshire School Environment Competition – A certificate was received
 - Poster Competition – 2nd place was secured
- Parents were encouraged to visit the school and the PTA’s websites and leave condolence to the Brady family. Parents continued to offer support in various forms.
 - Work Day – This would be Saturday, 17th June, 2014 – the plant drive, Mrs. Detry Fogah said, would be ongoing. She added that the ‘grassing’ of the playfield would be on the agenda as the next venture for the upcoming school year.
 - School Management System/Programme – This would be launched Thursday, 04th September, 2014. The company that approached the school has eighty (80) schools on their programme; Jessie would be the first primary school.
 - Further to the election for PTA posts, Mrs. Detry Fogah confirmed that there are vacancies. Persons were asked to think about their decisions and the records would so reflect. In reference to the question, “are there any Executive positions available?” Yes, there are – 1st Vice President, Assistant Treasurer and Secretary. Mrs. Detry Fogah introduced the PTA executive members present:

Mr. Constantine Martin	–	President
Mrs. Erika Allen-Lennon	–	2 nd VP
Mrs. Nadene Martin	–	Treasurer
Mrs. Sandra Thompson-Derby	–	Assistant Treasurer
Mr. Anthony Fisher	–	Assistant PRO
Miss Annette Edwards	–	Floor Member
Mrs. Nadine Bryan	–	Floor Member
Mr. Michael McPherson	–	Floor Member

Mrs. Sheryl Thomas moved the motion to retain the current PTA body. Nominations were tabled for Sheryl Thomas and Mr. Lawrence to be elected for posts on the PTA – Mrs. Thomas and Mr. Lawrence respectfully declined. The parents, by majority, unanimously declared that Mr. Constantine Martin, along with the other Executive Members, be retained as the PTA Executive body for another two (2) years. Mr. Martin

in thanking parents for their confidence in him added that that Mr. Brown and Mr. Lawrence would be asked to serve in other capacities.

Mrs. Detry Fogah reminded parents to approach their companies for assistance/donation in favour of the school. She gave best wishes to those parents who have children in Grade 6 and would in short order know the results of GSAT exams.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion to adjourn was moved by Mrs. Tricia Mills Renford and seconded by Ms. Vanessa Lewin. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m. with the National Anthem.