

Meeting minutes pending approval at the February 2017 General Meeting

PTA General Meeting

Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7 p.m. – HHE Library

See attached attendance sheet

Meeting began at 7 p.m.

A motion to approve the meeting minutes from 6/7/16 General was made by Jackie Giardino and seconded by Diana Christiansen. 6/7/16 minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report – Michelle Sceppa

4 proposed 2016-17 budget changes:

1. Change the amount to zero for Bingo and Raffle Night (as we are no longer hosting these events). This would eliminate a total of \$750 in expenses. Move the \$750 to 'Fall Festival' as an expense. This is the new fall event we hosted this year (not a fundraiser)
2. Increase Administrative fee for copy charges from \$400 to \$600
3. Increase Administrative fee for website cost from \$200 to \$230
4. Clothing Drive – increase the expense to \$200 as we will host this event twice during the school year (main expense involves truck rental).

A motion to approve these changes was made by Jackie Giardino to approve revised budget, seconded by Diana Christiansen. Budget changes approved.

Michelle also provided additional explanation regarding 'Prior Year Expenses' line. Using these funds to cover overage in last year's 6th grade art project.

Question was asked regarding additional fundraisers this school year? As we exceeded our goal for Pass the Hat (over \$16,000 raised), the plan is to not have any other significant fundraisers this school year.

President – Liza Yore

Nominating Committee

PTA must select a Nominating Committee to fill board positions for 2017-18 school year. The Nominating Committee should consist of 3 regular members and 2 alternates.

The following members were nominated during the meeting:

Melissa Johnson

Nikki Coyne

Barbara Forsman

Carrie Altman – alternate*

Audrey Kozel – alternate

- Carrie was the only person not in attendance at the meeting but had already agreed to serve on committee if nominated.

No other names were nominated at the meeting. Jackie Giardino motioned to approve the nominating committee members and Diana Christiansen seconded. Nominating Committee members approved. Liza provided Nominating Committee instructions to Melissa Johnson.

Revisions to Goals and Bylaws

- Bylaws – for Standards of Affiliation, add that contract must be submitted prior to 10/31 each year.
- Section 6 – Copy of Bank statement should be forwarded to PTA Secretary for recordkeeping.

Jackie Giardino motioned to approve these changes, Diana Christiansen seconded. Changes approved.

Principals Report – JoAnn Todd

JoAnn gave a presentation to the PTA general membership on a variety of topics including school wide goals, SBA results, PBIS and upcoming tea with Mrs. Todd.

JoAnn summarized the HHE goals from 2015-16 as well as a draft of our 2017-16 goals. Goals are focused on Literacy, Math and the Positive Behavior System.

JoAnn reviewed SBA results from last year. Overall, our results were very positive and HHE showed improvement from prior year (taking into account adjustment for those who did not participate in testing). HHE had good results in comparison with both NSD results (to comparable elementaries) and WA state results. SBA testing consists of English/Language Arts and Math for 3rd - 6th grade and Science (5th grade only)

PBIS (Positive Behavior System)– This is a district wide initiative and HHE was amongst the first group of schools to roll it out. The purpose of PBIS is to provide ‘a school wide approach to support students social and emotional growth.’ It helps promote a more consistent, predictable environment to support learning. When everyone (both staff and students) know what is expected, stress is reduced and readiness for learning increases. Several staff members who were present at meeting gave examples of how PBIS is working at HHE. For example, the morning routine is much more efficient and students and staff are both enjoying the calmer start to their morning. In addition, office and health room visits have decreased significantly.

JoAnn explained STAR award system and how it is used to recognize STAR behavior in our students. Any staff member can give a student a STAR award. Student input was used to put this together. The 5 points on the STAR reflect:

- Be Safe
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful

- Be Caring
- Be an Active Learner

All students participate in “Second Steps” curriculum that is focused on developing social and emotional skills.

Additional ways that HHE is promoting school pride and a supportive community are:

- ‘Wear it Wednesdays’ spirit wear day.
- Buddy Bench - constructed and donated by the Whitaker family. This is a beautiful wooden bench that students can use when they are looking for people to engage with at recess. The students are aware of its meaning and how to utilize it.
- Student leadership opportunities continue this year with ASB, 2 representatives were elected in each class and attend regular meetings. One of their first goals is to come up with a safe version(s) of tag.
- Based on student request, working on Water Bottle Flip challenge – put together team of students to work out the details.

Tea with Principal Todd will be held November 30 from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. in the Activity Room.

Ways and Means – Rachael Ustorf

- Clothing Drive in September – raised about \$500. Another one planned for late March. HH Saddle Club offered us the ability to advertise on their reader board.
- Pass the Hat total was over \$16,000. As this exceeded our goal, this will allow us to do a Spring Fun Run – for fun and not fundraising!
- Box Tops going well – our goal this year is to raise \$1000.

Advocacy – Charla Griffy-Brown

- Legislative Assembly on 10/22, main issues being discussed are McLeary and enhancing our ability to serve students in foster care.

Family Life & Health – Melissa Johnson and Jackie Giardino

- Fall Festival a tremendous success – families really appreciated that this was a no cost event.
- Planning a winter social, details tbd, unfortunately we are unable to hold an ice skating party in December due to scheduling restrictions at the rink
- Picture Day completed on 9/27 – thank you volunteers!
- Vision and Hearing completed 10/10 – thank you volunteers!
- E-Prep – comfort packs are in the classrooms, parents who have not done them can still send them in.

Community Outreach – Sarah Newell

- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Committee chairpersons are : Sarah Kennedy, Sarah Brittingham and Nicole Adams
- Veterans Day outreach program (gift card drive) will be going on soon
- More details to come about holiday gift drive (Giving Tree)

Enrichment – Diana Christiansen

- In desperate need for a pianist to accompany Missoula Theater performance in November (11/14 – 19)
- Ms. Lin is also seeking an accompanist for choir
- Programs underway – Lego, Art and upcoming Manners and Holiday gift making

Other business

- Turkey trot/Food Drive coming soon – details and date TBD (Nikke Coyne coordinating with Victoria Gray)
- Liza Yore requested of staff – please let us know what you need from PTA.
- PTA Newsletter chairs are selected

Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 p.m.