

September 4, 2008

## HBHS PTSA Minutes

**Attendance:** Marsha Cone-Roddy, Erin Magee, Donna Cormier, Dianne Bonta, Marie Degulis, Debi Davis, Janet Listowich, Linda Falcone, Tammy Campbell, Diane Barrett, Susan Holroyd, Beth Baryames, Susan Hodgdon, Tracy Dunne, Mary Kay James, Darlene Kohle, Tim Kelley

### **Introduction**

#### **Minutes of June 3, 2008**

A draft of the minutes for each meeting will be sent to the members present at the meeting. After the minutes are approved at the next meeting, the approved minutes will be posted on the PTSA website. Linda Falcone made a motion to approve the minutes. Donna Cormier seconded. The motion passed.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

There are two accounts in the PTSA account: the operating account and the S-Team account. The S-Team account funds the end of the year senior activities and mailing.

There is a balance of \$556 left in the garden account. This is used for upkeep of the garden. If there is a volunteer who would like to help Jill Russell with upkeep, please let the PTSA know. The Green Group might be available to help. Thank you to Marie Degulis for all of her hard work on the garden over the past few years.

#### **Susan Hodgdon**

Welcome to Susan Hodgdon, our new superintendent. Thanks for coming to our first meeting.

#### **Tim Kelley**

The third floor back hallway was redesigned over the summer. The old carpet was removed, and a new floor was installed. The National Honor Society donated funds for the Cavalier in the middle. The benches have been relocated to the back lobby.

Although there still are teachers on carts, their schedules have been adjusted to make it easier for the teachers to travel between classrooms. Now teachers are traveling among rooms on the same floor.

National Merit results will be announced in about one month. The students did very well.

Open House is Thursday, September 25.

The school is still overcrowded with just about every classroom scheduled for every period. Since there are no teacher offices, teachers have their desks in classrooms, often two to a class. That limits availability for space for student-teacher meetings as classes are being conducted in the teacher's rooms during free periods. Class sizes are reasonable.

The cafeteria is still overcrowded. Many seniors eat upstairs in the third-floor lobby. The mini-cafeteria and the old senior lounge, both classrooms now, are available for lunch.

There will be practice lockdowns (at least two) to improve security. There are ten fire drills per year. This year, there will be at least one during lunch.

Cameras have been installed in the rear parking lot. There is now a camera in the locker-room hallway and one aimed at the back door. Cameras are used to monitor entries and blind spots.

The school is looking into the cost of installing temporary speed bumps (that can be removed in winter) for driving safety.

A question was asked about the possibility of moving some freshman classes to the middle school. This is an educational issue, in addition to a space issue, so it is a big decision that would need to be discussed in depth.

The freshman team concept has been changed. Now the teams include all freshmen but only English and social studies classes team up.

There was a discussion about the best time and most effective way to publicize the overcrowding issue. The population will probably remain stable at around 900 students for the next few years.

This year's parking fee (\$40 per parking pass) is earmarked as follows: 1) Build a pathway from the gravel lot to the school, and 2) Increase parking by the ball field.

The school has a grant for technology again this year. Last year, the grant was used to purchase Smart Boards. This year, the school is looking into getting an LCD projector for every room. Two teachers also donated their stipends toward this project.

### **Membership and Directory**

There was a discussion as to how to increase teacher membership in the PTSA. These suggestions were made: raffle a \$25 gift card as in previous years; have membership forms at teacher luncheons; promote membership as a form of support for PTSA rather than as a volunteer. The question was raised about having a student from the newspaper come to meetings.

### **Staff Appreciation**

There is usually a luncheon for teachers in November. Mr. Kelley asked about the possibility of having an early dinner instead on the Tuesday night of parent-teacher conferences.

### **Old Home Days**

Ruth Kabel and Anita Moynihan still need volunteers. Please be in touch if you are able to help out.

### **Book Club**

Last year, Marie Degulis and Erin Magee started a book club for parents and school staff. The club usually meets around 3:30 in the library, once per month. It was a lot of fun last year. More information to follow.

### **Booster Club Golf Tournament**

The Booster Club is in need of both golfers and volunteers for the tournament, which is on Monday, September 15 at Overlook. Volunteers oversee stations, such as the Hole-in-One, Longest Drive, or Las Vegas Hole. If you are available to volunteer for 2-3 hour shifts, please be in touch.

### **Volunteer Opportunities**

There are opportunities to volunteer in the school library both during and after school. Although the school store is on hold right now, Janine Farrar is the new teacher in charge. There may be volunteer opportunities when the school store reopens.

Pat Marquette has been in charge of the Parent Series for the past few years and has done a wonderful job. She is no longer able to coordinate this after this school year.

We are looking for a volunteer to take over. Please let Erin Magee know if you are interested. Pat has all the information needed and will be available to attend the evening series to introduce the speakers.

**E-Mail List**

Erin is working on an updated e-mail list. She will e-mail notification of meetings each month. Meetings have been scheduled as follows:

October 9, 7 PM (evening)

November 13, 8:30 AM (morning)

December TBA (at someone's home)

January 8, 7 PM (College Freshman night)

February 12, 8:30 AM

March TBA (before Coop District Meeting)

April 9, 8:30 AM

May 14, 7 PM

June TBA (at someone's home)

**Other Business**

*PTSA Meeting Announcements:* The question was raised about announcing the meetings on the morning announcements for parents who read the announcements. Erin will check with Debbie Champigny.

*Officer Kevin Irwin:* Officer Irwin is retiring on October 1. Congratulations and thanks go out to Officer Irwin for his years of dedicated service to our town and to our children.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Marsha Cone-Roddy