

November 13, 2008

HBHS PTSA Minutes

Attendance: Marsha Cone-Roddy, Erin Magee, Donna Cormier, Dianne Bonta, Marie Degulis, Linda Falcone, Patti Chilton, Kristen Berry, Diane Barrett, Anita Moynihan, Solé Hawekotte, Janet Vaughn, Janet Listowich, Charlene Lavey, Jill Russell, Beth Baryames, Debi Davis, Darlene Klyler, Mrs. Matte, Mr. Ouellette

Introduction

Co-Presidents' Report

The school was awarded the Blue Ribbon, an award for volunteerism. The school was awarded the 100% Participation Award, and 100% of the schools in the district received awards.

The Hollis facility study committee was discussed. Part of the committee's discussion is about the future of the H/B Coop. Four options were presented. The least expensive recommends keeping the coop together until at least 2035, when the bonds will be paid off. This option does not address today's space issues. (At the high school today, for 5 out of the 7 periods, there is not one empty classroom. This is affecting education and course offerings.) Brookline's committee will meet on November 19 at Bush Hall at 7:00 p.m. Marie and Erin will provide feedback.

Secretary's Report

Kristen Berry made a motion to approve the minutes. Patti Chilton seconded. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

HBHS PTSA still needs to pay the national dues. Dianne filed taxes. Our fiscal year, per bylaws, is from July 1 through June 30. The tax year is from October 1 through September 30. Usually the two match up. Ours do not. Dianne filed the taxes by November 15 (which matches deadline for our fiscal year) even though they were not officially due until February 15 (which is 6 months after the tax fiscal year.) She recommends that PTSA always file by November 15.

Mr. Ouellette

A chlorine system has been installed to address the water concerns. Water samples/tests are being sent to the state. The water is not unsafe to drink, but it has had high levels of coliform.

There was a discussion about notification to parents about school incidents or events. This discussion was a result of a parent query about a rumor that had been circulating around the school. The suggestion was made to use the parent e-mail as a way to communicate with parents when necessary. Mr. Ouellette felt that the e-mail system was an appropriate way to communicate with parents when necessary. In the case of the rumor the parent had queried, he felt there had been no need to notify parents as the rumor had been investigated thoroughly and found to be not substantiated and not true.

Membership and Directory

Thank you to Donna for all your hard work on this year's directory. Donna does have a person in line to replace her next year.

The directory is late as a result of a staff change in guidance. It should be out within two weeks. The directories will be distributed at lunch with memberships attached. There will be extras. Contact Donna if you would like one.

Next year, PTSA will rethink paperwork as some people filled out forms and paid twice this year.

Staff Appreciation

Staff appreciation will be November 20 from 4-6 p.m. There will be a staff dinner in the cafeteria during teacher conferences. Maureen Porter will decorate the room. The question was raised about staff who will not be on the premises during conferences.

Parent Education Series

On November 19, a speaker will address the topic of Helicopter Parents. This is sponsored by the S-Team, which is part of the PTSA. Pat Marquette cannot continue to coordinate this project and needs someone to take over. All speakers for this school year are planned and scheduled. Are you able to help out by taking over this project?

Topics for this year include the following: Communicating with Teens (Jan. 14/21 snow date); Nutrition and Teens (Feb. 11/18 snow date) .

Book Club

The book club meets once a month. This month's reading is *The True Story of Hansel and Gretel*. Parents and staff are invited to attend, and even if you can't attend, you may enjoy reading the book.

January Meeting

College freshmen are invited to the January meeting to talk about their first year of college. A number of college freshmen will probably be able to attend this year, including Michelle Davis, Lindsay Magee, Daisy Vaughn, and Stephanie Lavey.

Other Business

There was a discussion about notifying parents about information, PTSA meetings, school board meeting, etc. Maybe these meetings can be included at the bottom of the Daily Announcements--not to be announced to students but available to be read by parents. Jill Russell will give important dates to the school administration, who can post the dates. The co-presidents can also include a "Month at a Glance" notice of meetings (school board, budget, etc.) in their co-presidents reports in the newsletter.

There was a discussion about having a district-wide meeting of PTSA boards or sending representatives to the other schools' meetings to publicize information about the high school to elementary school parents. Kristen will find out about Hollis meetings, and Marie or Charlene will look into Brookline meetings.

Thanks to Jill Russell for the announcement of our meeting in the newspaper.

The December meeting will be on December 2 at 7 p.m. at Erin Magee's house. Bring finger foods, desserts, or ors d'oeuvres.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marsha Cone-Roddy