

## HBMS PTSA Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2011

**Attendees:** Deanne Martin, Joy Belanger, Maryanne Shanley, Deb Drouin, Cheryl O'Donnell, Jeannette Hallerman, Gina Quinn, Susan Adams, Nora Lewis, Pat Goyette, Penny Arsenault, Betsy Cox, Katie Corsetti

**Asst. Superintendent Betsy Cox:** Maryanne began the meeting by introducing Assistant Superintendent Betsy Cox. She thanked people for their service to the PTSA and the schools. She mentioned she is at the District meetings and encouraged parents to attend. She then excused herself from the PTSA meeting to attend another meeting at the SAU office.

**October Minutes:** Jeannette motioned to accept the October PTSA meeting minutes. Cheryl seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Staff Appreciation Luncheon:** The meal was a success. Organizer Cheryl O'Donnell did have to go to Harvest Market to buy more chicken. There was enough food left over to make up meals for the custodians in the evening, which they greatly appreciated. Students made a large "thank you" poster used for decoration. Alpine Grove donated many items to the luncheon. There is no one scheduled to run this event for next year at this point.

**By-Laws:** Changes need to be made by April.

Maryanne noted some items that would need to be addressed: Dues changes need to be written in (it is believed that \$1.75 of each membership goes to National dues and \$1.50 goes to State dues); there is no provision for a co-president; *Knightly News* has been taken over by Principal Pat Goyette, so that needs to come out from under PTSA responsibilities; meeting times need to be amended officially.

Cheryl O'Donnell recommended stating a "generic" day in the by-laws to state that meetings would take place on a consistent third day of each month, decided upon by the board of each year.

**Vice President:** Maryanne made a motion to nominate Gina Quinn as vice president for the MS PTSA. Jeannette seconded the motion. All voted in favor to accept.

**Treasurer's Report:** The balance for the account is \$20800.48.

Penny suggested the board look at the 2010-11 budget expenses in order to plan for this year. Maryanne made a motion that the "Hospitality" budget item be reduced from \$300 to \$100 to be used to provide water at Open Houses and Information Nights. Cheryl seconded the motion. All were in favor.

There is a question that the State is asking for names and contact information of all PTSA members. Nothing has been formally requested, so the treasurer will pay the State membership dues but not provide specific membership information at this time.

Pat motioned to apply the 2010-11 budget figures to the 2011-12 budget with the one change for the Hospitality line item. Cheryl seconded the motion. All were in favor.

**Principal Report:** Due to the snow in October, first quarter was extended and report cards will be distributed on November 22. PTSA membership cards will be included in report card envelopes. Each quarter will be pushed back four days at this point, and adjusted as snow days occur.

The Veterans' Day assembly went very well. 8<sup>th</sup> grade band and chorus performed. There was a demonstration of flag folding. About 30 veterans were present as well as 30 parents in the audience.

Science NECAP: 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teachers need to discuss the results from last year's 8<sup>th</sup> grade tests. This test is not comprised of GRE's (grade level expectations), but grade span expectations, so these previous grade experiences are crucial to a strong science foundation.

Response to Intervention (RTI): Teachers Steve Capraro and Katrina Hall attended a conference where the emphasis was on early intervention and strategies are prioritized as 1. Good classroom instruction; 2. Some intervention within the classroom when determined necessary; and 3. Pull out of classroom for intervention as necessary. Pat explained the school needs to be more of an emergency room model: fast and immediate; as opposed to talking for weeks about what action to take before taking any.

Strategy for 7<sup>th</sup> graders: first week of the month go through a criterion (math, English, homework, and organization). Students who don't do well are targeted and get extra attention; while other students go to science, social studies, and specialists for enrichment. The last three Fridays of the month would be set for the intervention and enrichment. Pat suggests that the enrichment piece be named differently. To deem intervention as a success, a student needs to achieve an 80% or higher after the intervention course. This practice will be tried again in December then re-evaluated for effectiveness. The immediate concern of teachers is reduced regular instructional time.

**Reflections dates:** Deadline is January 5 to school; January 23 to the State. Awards will be rolled into the winter recognition assembly.

**Other:**

7<sup>th</sup> Grade barbeque in June at Alpine Grove: Alpine Grove is willing to provide all the food for this event at cost.

Maryanne asked about sending her PTSA newsletter out every one or two weeks. Two weeks was the consensus. Debbie asked to have Scrip dates added. Cheryl suggested to include PTA and school highlights at the top of the newsletter, then put the calendar info at the bottom.

School Board meeting (11/16): Maryanne said the budget will be scrutinized, but there are no huge Middle School issues coming up. She said there are very vocal anti-tax groups that want the budget reduced, but no voices for the other side. It was announced at that meeting that Pat Goyette will retire after this school year.

Pat confirmed her retirement announcement.

Librarian Caroline Jahns addressed the meeting regarding the piece of MS101 that she is teaching with Mr. Gruce.

Jeannette motioned that there be no meeting in December. Cheryl seconded it. All were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00.

Next meeting: January 19 at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Corsetti