

HBMS PTSA Meeting Minutes – January 17, 2013

Attendees: Mara Friedman, Jeannette Hallerman, Penny Arsenault, Maryanne Shanley, Bob Thompson, Patti Flynn, Krista Whalen, and Katie Corsetti

Minutes: Maryanne motioned to approve the December meeting minutes. Bob seconded the motion. The motion passed; the minutes were approved.

Principal's Report:

Bob reported that a lockdown drill took place this morning. Two police officers, the admin team, and the custodian were located in different areas of the building as observers to the process. It was in a controlled setting as in the teachers knew to expect the drill and all students were in classrooms. The lockdown was very successful. It took 1:06 minutes from the time a text was received in the office of an "intruder" and the office announcing the school to be in lockdown for all to be secured. Bob is planning for the next drill to be much more inconvenient, including not all students being in classrooms.

In February, the State's Dept. of Emergency Management will come to the Middle School to evaluate emergency procedures. The administration and Hollis and Brookline police officers will meet with this representative.

On February 15th, a random selection of 8th graders will take either a reading or math 90 minute NAEP assessment, which is a national measurement of academic progress. No individual student or school results will be made available. It is a report card for the state/nation. Parents will be notified if their child has been selected and they have the ability to opt their child out of the testing if they choose.

The administration has begun the process of transition by meeting with elementary and high school administrations. They are looking for ways for students to interact more with both schools to help with incoming/outgoing students' transitions.

Treasurer's Report: Penny reported a balance of \$14,771.42 in the PTSA account.

Budget: Bob explained that the School Board asked the administration to look at a \$400,000 cut Co-op wide. This is a hypothetical situation and used as a tool in order to go to the Budget Committee to show true school needs. Krista explained that Bob needs vocal support at the budget meetings against cuts. Mara suggested getting talking points out for people to know and understand and give them something concrete they could share at the meeting.

Other: Staff appreciation is February 15. Tammy will send out a volunteer sign up for a dessert buffet.

7th Grade barbeque is still in need of a chairperson.

Maryanne asked if Bob and Patti would be willing to go to the Elementary schools' PTA meetings. They are very willing to do so.

The DC trip is still short of funds for students in financial need. Maryanne spoke with the High School journalism teacher to help with publicity efforts.

Next meeting: February 21 at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Corsetti