

Hollis-Brookline Middle School PTSA
November 18th, 2013
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

A general membership meeting of the Hollis-Brookline Middle School Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) was conducted on Tuesday, November 18, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. at the Hollis-Brookline Middle Conference Room.

Co-President Tammy Fareed presided:

Members of the Board Present: Jeannette Hallerman, Co-President
Mara Friedman, Vice President
Laurie Miller, Secretary
Penny Arsenault, Treasurer

Also in Attendance: Bob Thompson, Principal
Patti Flynn, Assistant Principal
June Cloutier, Claudia Dufresne, Kathleen Moynihan, Craig Plummer

Tammy Fareed welcomed attendees, and introductions were made.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Thompson said the school is looking into HBMS participating in the Bing For Schools program pilot, which would provide surface tablets to the school based on usage of an Ad-Free version of the Bing search engine by registered users.

There was discussion regarding the increased use of smartphones and tablets and the need for a new wireless network for the Middle School to support it.

STUDENT ENRICHMENT & TEACHER REQUESTS

Mr. Thompson mentioned teachers have been requesting adaptors to connect their smartphones/tablets to document cameras for displaying information in the classroom. These have not been put in the school budget. Mr. Thompson will ask teachers what technology or other requests teachers might have.

Ideas for student enrichment programs/opportunities were brainstormed: anti-bullying program, a writing program presented by an author, Saturday group trips to local educational opportunities (Andres Institute, Museum of Science, Freedom Trail, culinary tours, etc.), trip to orchestra performance, opera, professional development for teachers, equipment for web streaming, mindfulness programs, anxiety/depression presentation, yoga, artist in residence, nutritional program, outdoor classroom/garden. Jeannette will create a survey to parents to be sent as part of the next PTSA newsletter.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tammy Fareed suggested that the PTSA establishes a policy that we will not provide reimbursement checks for more than \$1000. Discussion ensued, and it was determined that it was typical procedure for large purchases to be made with a member's credit card and then subsequent reimbursement made to them upon producing proper receipts.

The superintendent search committee has published a survey for residents to take to provide input regarding the qualities needed in a new superintendent.

Mr. Thompson mentioned that the Co-op School Board & Budget Committee are developing the school budget for next year, and his two main priorities for the middle school are: ensure level of education

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1 continues while maintaining the current level of staffing, and improve upon the technology infrastructure
2 by way of a new wireless network.

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4 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5 Laurie Miller presented the minutes from the November 2013 General PTSA Meeting. A motion to
6 approve the minutes as written was made by Jeannette Hallerman, and seconded by Tammy Fareed.
7 Motion carried.

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9 TREASURER'S REPORT

10 Penny Arsenault provided a written report of recent activities. Current treasury balance as of 11/8/2013 is
11 \$13,531.72. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report for November 2013 as presented was made by
12 Penny Arsenault, and seconded by Mara Friedman. Motion carried.

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14 MEETING ADJOURNMENT

15 Motion to adjourn meeting was made by Jeannette Hallerman, seconded by Penny Arsenault. Motion
16 carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

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18 Respectfully submitted,

19 Laurie Miller

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