

Hollis-Brookline Middle School PTSA
April 21, 2015 General Meeting Minutes, 8:30 AM HBMS Conference Room

Present: Laurie Miller, Co-President, Mara Friedman, Co-President, Terri Bair, Secretary, Penny Arsenault, Treasurer, Bob Thompson, Principal, Patti Flynn, Assistant Principal, Kathleen Moynihan, Maryanne Shanley, Farrah Coady. Call to Order at 8:30 am by Terri Bair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Terri Bair presented the minutes from March 17, 2015. A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Maryanne S. and seconded by Kathleen M. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- \$11,878.73 current balance. Activity: PTSA paid \$200 to HBMS for yearbook ad.
- Staff request for 2 more picnic tables. Motion to buy 2 tables for under \$600 by Laurie M., Terri B. 2nd. Motion passed.
- Motion made by Penny A. to accept the Treasurer's report, Laurie M. second. Motion passed.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Mr. Thompson presented the HBMS Twitter feed, HBMS website & online newspaper on the projector. Twitter: Recently made the 1000th tweet, added morning announcement tweets. Go to the twitter link on HBMS page to see and follow morning announcements. HBMS online newspaper news: 8th graders learned that the Gettysburg address is illegal to recite without a permit on the steps of the capitol.
- Debate team & online newspaper are new offerings this school year. Mrs. Coutu, Mrs. Kinney, Mrs. MacLeod volunteered to run these new clubs. A discussion ensued regarding paying a stipend for teachers who lead these groups (it is outside of their contracts). HBMS has 5 clubs that involve extensive volunteer time, and only 2 stipends are currently budgeted. Mr. Thompson is going to add 2 more stipends to next year's budget. The PTSA can help by purchasing supplies for these clubs: a bike for bike club, extra art supplies for summer art enrichment. These would need to go through the PTSA teacher request process. PTSA may give gift cards this year as appreciation gifts.
- Staffing changes: Mr. Lyle is retiring, (8th grade social studies). Replacement: Pam Griswald from Pinkerton Academy (there were 65 candidates), she has 2 years experience.
- Mr Bond (8th grade science) prospective replacement: George Minot from ConVal, 1st year teacher (there were 24 candidates).
- Laurie Derosa (8th grade social studies) will be out for sabbatical, so they are looking for an interim sub.

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

- Smarter Balance Assessments begin May 19. HBMS students are taking the paper version and tests can take from 15-90 mins each. A significant amount of time & resources go into coordinating the tests, especially the paper version. Next year, some schools may opt to do the computer version, and all will move to the computer version in the near future (HBMS has 1 more year before having to switch). If HBMS does the computer version there will be some issues: the computer labs have to be closed to instruction for 3 weeks, a limited # of students could take the tests at once, and it could cause network load issues.
- Fall 2015: About 200 kids coming into 7th grade. Only 2 so far going out of district for 7th grade (private or otherwise).

NEW BUSINESS:

Class parties: 8th grade BBQ: Kathleen M.:

7th grade BBQ: Susan Holroyd. Parents will be needed to operate a grill.

PTSA NOMINATIONS:

Fall 2015 PTSA Co-president nominees: Farrah Coady, Mara Friedman. Secretary: Terri

MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Farrah, seconded by Terri, adjourned at 10 AM.

Respectfully Submitted, Terri Bair