

HBMS PTSA Minutes
September 22, 2006

Attendance: Debbie Pucci, Jennifer Starr, Maureen Lorden, Mary Kay James, Janis Louzek, Linda Falcone, Kristen Berry, Maggie Kerkoff, Susan Holroyd, Ruth Kabel, Janet Listowich, Kara Tulley, Lynn Goldberg, Marianne Graves, Janice Kagenski, Anita Moynihan, Patti Chilton, Julie Forgaard, Mary Thomas, Jill Russell, Charlene Lavey, Kim Barron, Denise Chrisman, Shelly Bower, Kim Johnson, Mary McCarthy, Vari Thilagar, Patricia Goyette, Dorreen Mercer, Sharon Swain (30)

1. Introductions:

The Meeting was called to order at 8:30. Introductions were made.

2. Review of Minutes:

Ruth Kabel asked all to review the minutes from the last meeting held June 6, 2006. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Susan Holroyd and seconded by Debbie Pucci.

3. Principal's Report: Pat Goyette

Back to school nights went very well. Having 2 separate nights, one for 7th and one for 8th is still necessary even though our building is complete. Parking remains the issue. Pat reports that there was a 70% turn out for 7th and 8th grade parents alike. The feedback from the surveys indicates that parents prefer announcements are not made over the intercom while parents are meeting in the classrooms with the teachers during open house.

A. Two hottest issues:

1. The average number of students in each 8th grade classroom is an average of 24-26 students due to going back to four teams. The biggest concern with this is the science labs. The concern has been resolved by creating another science class. The union supported this, and a class of 21 was created. All students involved volunteered to make the switch, and now all science classes are at an average of 21-23 students.

2. We have 3-4 children, one in particular with a peanut allergy. There are two designated tables in the cafeteria that are peanut free. The tables are washed with a special solution and we have a peanut free team.

B. Pat proposed to build in a formal snack time during the morning part of each day. The time for this is not an issue and would be the decision of each team. Pat suggested allowing a fruit and vegetable only snack, to promote and encourage healthy eating. There was a thumbs up from all to give it a try!

C. Joe Gruce and Carolyn Cicciu are doing a great job with the teachers to get an artifact into the children's electronic portfolio by the ½ year mark for the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) standards. This will give the parents an idea how their student is doing in this area.

D. It was recommended to the School Board last night (9-21-06) that the Terra Nova test no longer be given to the children. It was said that it provides less information than the NECAP test.

E. The NECAP testing will take place during the student's core blocks in October. The 7th graders will be tested in six sessions over a four day period October 3-6th. The 8th graders will have two additional days for writing. Their schedule is as follows: October 3 and 4th and October 10th, 11th and 12th. The whole next week is available for make ups to those who are absent.

4. Treasurers Report: Julie Forgaard

A. The 2006-2007 budget was presented. Janet Listowich made a motion seconded by Mary Thomas to accept the budget, which passed. A financial report for the month was also presented.

B. Anita Moynihan encouraged everyone to attend the co-op budget district meeting in March and to spread the word. Pat Goyette added that it would also be great for all to attend as many of the work shops leading up to this big meeting as possible. These work shops are public meetings. Pat stated, "Knowledge and participation is important to be able to see our investment". Pat will let us know when these meetings will be held.

5. Events:

A. Magazine drive: Shelly Bower

Shelly shared that there was misinformation as to when the orders are due. The orders can be turned in on 9/26,9/28,10/3,10/5. The "Mag Books" can be turned in on any order day. There will be no coupons accepted as part of an order. This year it is not allowed by the company. A list was passed around for assistance with the prize tables, for the students to be rewarded for their sales. Volunteers will meet in the office for the day or days they signed up.

B. Community Conversations: Ruth Kabel

Rich Melillo will once again be the speaker for the series titled: Understanding and Managing Your Emotions. It is a three part series to take place from 7-8:30pm on the following dates, Oct.26, Nov. 2 and Nov. 9. It is open to all in town and friends from other communities. Last year it was enjoyed by all who attended.

After the holidays there will be more programs to be announced.

C. State PTA Convention: Ruth Kabel

All are welcome to attend this two day event. It will be held at the Center of NH in Manchester, Friday Nov. 3rd and Sat. Nov. 4th. On Friday the speaker will discuss "Old School vs. New School". Topics such as leadership will be explored. On Saturday various work shops will be available.

D. Old Home Days: Ruth Kabel

There was a great turn out and a lot of volunteers. Ruth thanks all involved. A volunteer asked for the committee to consider purchasing a hotdog cooker for next year to make cooking easier. It was hard to regulate the grills for even cooking. Next year's committee will have to decide if they want to procure one. A total of \$1,400 was made. This money will be split between the two schools. It was determined that the money supplied in the cash box was sufficient to be able to make change.

Reminders were given to record volunteer hours on the volunteers page (to record hours) and also the visitors page (for staff to know who is in the building) of the binder in the office.

6. Committee Reports:

A. Membership: Patti Chilton

We have 139 memberships so far. Membership forms are available in the office and on the bulletin board. Lynn Goldberg proposed a new idea to put a membership form on the web site as well.

B. Student Directory: Janet Vaughn ????

C. Staff Appreciation: Susan Holroyd

Cindy Ullrich is looking for 1-2 people to co-chair the three luncheons. The first will be a Thanksgiving theme in November. The second will be for Valentines in February. The third will be in either May or June.

D. Bulletin Board: Debbie Pucci

It is located in the entryway of the main entrance of the school, and has lots of great information about the PTSA. Debbie will collect items/info for the board at the PTSA meeting each month.

E. Publicity: Janet Listowich

7. Other Business:

A. Plaque for tree: Janet Listowich

It was established that Susan and Ruth will bring the ideas (memory garden, stepping stones, etc. to Mrs. Goyette. There was a discussion about whether this benefits the children, and whether significant PTSA funds should be spent honoring people tangentially connected with the school.

B. Positions Available: A chair person to run the talent show in the spring.

This event could be run as a fun raiser for the PTSA. It is great fun for the kids.

C. Ruth is waiting for a call back from Jonathan? who called inquiring about having a ski sale at HBMS.

D. It has been established that the school news letter will be available via a mass e-mail to the parents of our students. To be sure no one is left out, it was suggested that a note be sent home asking all parents submit their e-mail address if they have not done so already.

E. Box tops for education: Lynn Goldberg

There is a jar in the office to put them. No Campbell soup labels please. Deliver these to the elementary school.

8. Next Meeting: October 20, 2006 (8:30am)