

HBMS PTSA Minutes
September 23, 2005

Attendance: Trish MacDonald, Ruth Kabel, Joyce Hegarty, Susan Holroyd, Monica Gallant, Lynn Goldberg, Bonnie Frisard, Sandra Musson, Mary Thomas, Tammy Campbell, Anita Moynihan, Julie Forgaard, Janice Kagenski, Mary Kay James, Kathy Reuter, Charlene Lavey, Janet Listowich, Merle Carrus, Shelly Bower, Patti Chilton, Ruth Quinn, Debi Davis, Maureen Porter, Marie Degulis, Cindy Ullrich, Erin Magee, Regina Kozsan, Pat Goyette, Kimberly Saunders (30! In attendance)

1. Introductions

Introductions were made around the room and new members were welcomed.

2. Review of Previous Minutes

Susan Holroyd made a motion to accept the June 9, 2005 minutes as written, second by Ruth Kabel, no one opposed the minutes passed.

3. Principal's Report

Pat Goyette joined us to give a report to the members gathered. She told us she would report in the form of information first and then tell us recommendations she has given to the school board.

Information

Back to school open houses were very well attended this year with 70% of eighth grade parents present and 90% of seventh grades parents in attendance.

Acoustic panels are coming to be installed in the multi purpose room.

Carol encouraged the middle school to apply for grant money from the Plan for Social Excellence, which is tech. based. We applied two years ago and were denied, this time we won the grant. We will be receiving \$95,000 of equipment including two mobile labs. That makes 5 labs total at HBMS. We will receive two sets of 25 wireless computers, laptops, which will be used for research in the classroom.

Interscholastic sports are in full swing; we had tryouts for 5 teams. The bleachers are going in now and will be completed by Wednesday.

Lockers and gym lockers will be in Monday.

The projected enrollment for this year was 460 students, that is what was budgeted for. We presently have 486 students in HBMS.

Recommendations

Pat has recommended to the board that we do not give the Terra Nova tests to the eighth grade students this year. This recommendation is do to the instructional time that is lost to the testing and the fact that the NECAP tests are given and those are nine ninety-minute blocks for the 8th grade and seven ninety-minute blocks for the 7th grade.

Although a 90-minute block is set for each test, the student may take as long as they need to complete the test. Tera Nova tests are four sixty-minute blocks. Grade Level Expectations will be looked at through these tests. The testing will take place in October sometime between Oct 3rd and 25th, parents will be notified the exact dates. Attendance during this testing is very important. In preparation for this testing the teachers have to be sure nothing of academic assistance is on the walls, it needs to be removed or covered. The rules regarding administering these tests are very stringent. The tests must be counted when signed out and recounted when the teacher hands them in.

The average cost of a textbook is \$75.00. A procedure is being looked at for families requesting an extra book to be kept at home. The procedure will be consistent at both the middle and high schools. A parent suggested looking for the book on line and told us she had been very successful finding books for not much money. She warned to just be careful about which edition you are looking for.

Regarding the three days the middle school students need to make up because of the construction delay at the beginning of the school year, two options are being looked at. The first option is the board would forego two student contact days. The co-op plans for 182 days but the state requires 180. The third day would be made up on one of the teacher's professional days. The second option is the teachers would forego all 3 professional days. The decision is expected from the board in October.

Green Group is a student organization at HBHS with a focus on recycling. Pat has an appointment scheduled with Jennifer McCloud to meet with middle school students to form a service club at the middle school level. Hollis has decreased the need of \$600 per month in dumpster fees. The group will take the recycling in steps starting with paper because this is the one we see a benefit from. After that is in place and running smoothly other areas of recycling will be looked into.

A strings program will be offered at the middle school at 5pm on Thursdays. This will be a private pay program with the fee of \$90 for a 15-week session. The program is through Melody Workshop in Nashua.

October fifth is the magazine kickoff.

The 8th grade Washington trip information is not organized yet. The information will be available by the second week of October.

Our assistant principal Kimberly Saunders announced that the first school dance would be September 30th! She is looking for volunteers to chaperone the dances. The time commitment of chaperone is from 6:45 to 9:15-9:30.

It was also shared with the group that the school received compliments on our students from both a new custodian at our school and also from the photographers, stating how well mannered and considerate our students are!

4. Treasurer's Report

The budget for generations is higher do to holding them on separate days so we need to pay for 2 speakers and 2 luncheons. You will note that the enrichment budget is down as the funds are moved to generations.

The ending balance is \$10, 374.21, we anticipate spending this as teachers move into their new spaces and needs arise. The teacher's requests go through Mrs. Goyette to the PTSA.

Sports Warehouse behind Gold's gym would like to support our school. Requests need to be put in writing on letterhead.

Merle Carrus made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, second by Mary Thomas. No one opposed the treasurer's report was accepted.

A staff request of \$1164.00 to purchase adventure equipment safety supplies such as harnesses and helmets, ropes etc. was announced. Adventure equipment is a rock-climbing wall. This money would come from the \$10,374.21.

Janet Listowich made a motion to accept and fund this request, second by Debi Davis. No one opposed this motion passed.

5. Events

Magazine Drive

The chairs of this fundraiser are Erin Magee and Debi Davis. The kickoff for the magazine drive was postponed to October 5th do to construction in the gym. If you would like to volunteer for this event please e-mail Debi or Erin. The prizes will be given at lunches and since the lunches are much bigger they will need extra people to help give out the prizes. It was mentioned that the magnet books the kids have people fill out bring in a good amount of orders so encourage people to fill out the books. In April and May of last year we were still receiving funds from the use of magnet books.

Box Tops and Hannaford

Last year the school received \$440 from box tops, \$120 came in from on line shopping. If you go to www.boxtops4education.com and sign up as a booster you can view a whole list of stores you can shop from and the school benefits from your purchase. This web site and information will go in the next newsletter. If you shop at Hannaford save the special slip and bring it into the school and put it in the jar in the office. The Girl Scout troop is taking care of the boxtops and Hannaford programs for us as a service project. Thank you Girl Scouts and leaders!

Community Conversations

Ruth will meet with the 2 guidance councilors about a possible drug awareness program for parents. Ideas for future topics suggested were Sexual Exploitation Awareness such as the Protecting God's Children program and NHHEAF (New Hampshire Higher Education Assistance Foundation), a program on financial planning for college. The

High School has a good Parent Education Series with the first presenter on October 19th at the High School. This information will also go out in the newsletter.

Reflections

Last year was the first year HBMS participated in this program and Christopher Brown made it to the state finals and won! He wrote and performed music. The paperwork for this will be available sometime in November.

State PTSA Convention

The state PTSA Convention will be held at the Merrimack Hotel & Conference Center on October 21st and 22nd from 9-3:30. The cost is \$14 for lunch on Friday and \$20 for lunch on Saturday and a \$22 registration fee. Let Ruth know by the beginning of October if you would like to attend.

Old Home Days

The Old Home Days booth was cancelled this year do to the forecast of rain.

6. Committee Reports

Membership

As of September 22nd the HBMS PTSA has 274 members! The faculty drive is upcoming. We will pull the faculty raffle winner at our next PTSA meeting.

Directory

Students will again design the cover of the directory. The price of the directory went up from \$5 to \$7 on Pat's recommendation. The price had not been changed in 10 years. The cost of printing will be looked at. This had been looked at in the past as a service to the school and the price is now inconsistent with the high school directory.

Staff Appreciation

Cindy Ullrich will chair the staff appreciation with co-chairs of Doreen Campbell and Marie Degulis. Their budget is \$800 and they are looking into some new ways to show appreciation.

7. Other Business

Mike Mezzocchi Memorial Tree

Ruth and Mrs. Mezzocchi went shopping for the tree, they decided on something that blooms in May. They will make the purchase soon. The tree will be placed outside Mrs. Mezzocchi's room in the courtyard.

Jordan Coffey Memorial Donation

A donation to Dana Farber or the Make a Wish Foundation was suggested. A brief discussion followed and a motion was made by Anita Moynihan to make a \$100 donation to each organization. Second by Susan Holroyd, no one opposed these two donations passed.

Blood Drive

An announcement was made that a blood drive will be held in Brookline at the safety complex at the corner of route 130 and route 13 on October 28th from 3-7pm. It was suggested to send this information to Iris to have it put on the web site.

Musical Instrument Donation to Katrina Victims

Tammy Campbell suggested anyone with instruments at home that have been retired be sent to victims of Katrina. She will run this idea by Pat.

The next HBMS PTSA meeting is October 21st from 8:30-10:30.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03.