

## HBMS PTSA MINUTES

October 20, 2006

**Attendance:** Ruth Kabel, Dorreen Mercer, Janet Vaughn, Susan Holroyd, Merle Carrus, Lynn Goldberg, Mary Thomas, Kristen Berry, Kara Tulley, Lisa Keehan, Shelly Bower, Patti Chilton, Janet Listowich, Jill Russell, Maggie Kerkhoff, Julie Forgard, Ellen Kotelly, Marianne Graves, Vicky Sandin, Trish MacDonald, Patricia Goyette, Denise Chrisman, Cherie Wholey (23)

### **1. Introductions:**

The meeting was called to order at 8:35AM.

### **2. Review of Minutes:**

Ruth Kabel asked all to review the Minutes from the last meeting held September 22, 2006. Lynn Goldberg motioned to accept the Minutes from the last PTSA meeting and Shelly Bower 2nds this motion. Procedure for minute posting: 1.rough draft will be sent to and reviewed by executive committee, 2. minutes will then be sent to those present at the meeting for review and correction, 3.after approved at the next month's meeting, minutes will be posted on the web site.

### **3 Principal Reports:**

*WOW (word of the week)* has really been a great success so far this year. It is very popular and other subjects are interested in having a *WOW* too.

A. NECAP testing went smoothly with a low absent rate for students who clearly made an effort to attend the testing dates.

There is a proposal that the Co-Op is thinking of adopting that would help all students and teachers. Carol Mace introduced The North West Education Assessment test to the School Board. Discussion will be taking place and may be something the Co-Op would like to establish. The NWEA program is a short test of 45 minutes. This is not a state mandated student wide test but a more personal test that could provide a clear understanding of each student's abilities. NECAP testing is state mandated and this would not change but this additional shorter test of 45 minutes would give a more precise assessment of the student's abilities. In some cases helping to direct students to services they may need or providing academic challenges. If teachers are prepared to see what a student is capable of they are better able to help each student. In addition this could help the Special Education departments. Teachers in other schools have been very pleased with this short 45 minute test. This is an expensive program and it may be a test we would want to pilot with a few teachers to see if it is worth the Co-Op investment. This

way we could keep costs down until we discover if the teachers love it. We have been told “This is the first tool teachers’ love.”

B. Blue Ribbon Award, this is the first year that all the schools in our SAU were recognized in the Blue Ribbon Award. Richard Pike, superintendent received a special award.

C. The Mt. Monadnock hike went well. There were 217 students and 67 adults who chose to hike and all made it to the top! The following week, the students were able to see Jim Gagney a NH resident who climbed Mount Everest. He spoke about goal setting and planning with a closing of “keep moving forward”.

D. The 8th grade Washington D.C. trip is still on schedule and a new, large hotel has been chosen this year. Information night went well with Washington D.C packets sent home to families of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. If you have not received your information please contact the office.

E. Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> will be a professional development day for staff. There will be a menu of Technical workshops for part of the day. In addition Dean Eggert an attorney will speak about 504 plans. Staff will then be reviewing the special education model and procedures for HBMS.

F Budget. The coop is working on next year’s budget. Since the current 6<sup>th</sup> grade and 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes are smaller, the class size should be back to 21 students per teacher next year. Pat Goyette has submitted a plan for text book replacement, building upkeep, supplies, computer updating. The teachers have negotiated a 3 year contract and the support staff is in the process of negotiating a contract.

G. Peanut allergy issues are being addressed. Dr Lila Moynihan came to speak to the teachers about ways to help make the students with allergies safe and realistic suggestions about what schools can do to accommodate allergies. It was a successful meeting.

H. The healthy morning snack of fruits and vegetables has been both beneficial and welcomed. The kids have really taken to having a healthy snack. Each team has a snack time.

I. Teacher Request The application deadline is February 15 for the \$5000 grants from Lowes. The PE teachers are writing a grant in order to put in a fitness course to do sit ups, stretches, etc.

NHIAA-Sports and PE, The NHIAA now requires eye protection for lacrosse and field hockey players. It is the School’s request that the PTSA might help fund the bill for the eyewear needed for Physical Education. While it is not required to have eye wear for PE

sports such as Field Hockey it seems a practical choice. The cost is about \$2300. A grant has been submitted for \$1000 and the PTSA may be asked to cover the remaining \$1300. This would benefit all students. There is also an eyewear washer available in the school science department that would be used to clean the Eye wear for PE.

#### **4. Treasurer's Report** Julie Forgaard

A. Our School Magazine Drive was successful bringing in \$19,175 (gross) to our treasury. Shelly Bower is thankful to all volunteers for helping count money and work at the prize tables this year. It was a busy time. After the Magazine drive, directory, membership, and Old Home Days the ending balance is \$32,711.98 .

Since the gross income for the PTSA was more than \$25,000 last year, the law requires a tax form to be filled out. Taxes are due on Nov. 15, 2006. Ruth will review them with the NH PTA treasurer, then send them in.

#### **5. Events**

A. Community Conversations: Ruth Kabel.

Rich Melillo will be the speaker for the series titled: Understanding your emotions. It is a three part series to take place from 7-8:30 on October 26, Nov. 6, and Nov. 9. It is open to all in town. Hope you can make it.

B. PTA Convention: Ruth Kabel

All are welcome to attend the two day event. It will be held at the center of NH in Manchester on Friday Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sat. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>. On Friday the speaker will discuss "The Old School vs New School". Saturday workshops will have such topics as leadership and helping students. Our PTSA will be providing a \$25.00 basket for the NH PTA Convention Raffle event. The motion to use \$25 for a basket for the raffle was made by Merle Carrus and Shelly Bower 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed.

C. Reflections: Marianne Graves and Ellen Kotelly

Reflection is a National PTA Arts achievement contest. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the school's participation in the program, recognizing the artistic talents of our students. The theme this year is "***My Favorite Place.***" Any student can participate and there are wonderful categories from Music, Dance, Visual art, Photography and Film. Students can pick up an application on or after November 1<sup>st</sup> in the school office. All entries should be submitted by January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Discussion about where the PTSA can display the works. Ellen and Marianne will secure a spot along with HES.

#### **6. Committee Report.**

A. Membership: Patti Chilton

We have 204 members in our PTSA as of Oct. 2006.

B. Directory. Thank you to Janet Vaughn for providing all with an up to date school directory. Janet made some excellent recommendations for next year. The order forms will be more specific as to what will be listed in the directory. The Chair will review forms prior to distribution and communicate with Penny Arsenault. The PTSA may re-visit the profit and price issues.

C. Staff Appreciation and Thanksgiving Lunch:

The Thanksgiving luncheon for the staff will be on Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, volunteers can contact Jill Russell and Maggie Kerkoff to assist this event. Thank you Jill and Maggie for heading this up!

**7. Other Business**

A. Student Elections. Thank you to Kathy DeLacy and Mary Thomas for helping Mrs Hall and Mr Capraro with the Candidate Reception. 60 students were in attendance.

B. Student Dance, there is a request by Mrs. Rizzo-Saunders to have games available in a room off of the school dance for those students hesitant about attending a school dance. The games might provide an alternative activity while the dance is in progress. Before donations of games are provided, perhaps a loan of board games could be provided to see if this is triumphant for the students.

C. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (Generations)

Kristen Berry and will be chairing the generations luncheon for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents. Volunteers will be needed for check-in on Dec. 14. Hospitality provides the morning coffee-Ruth will contact them.

**8. Next Meeting**

November 17, 2006- 8:30AM in the Library Media room.

A BIG thank you to Cheri Wholey for taking and typing up the minutes this month!

~Dorreen, Susan and Ruth

