

HBMS PTSA minutes
12-17-04

Attendance: Trish MacDonald, Joyce Hegarty, Susan Holroyd, Deb Tamasanis, Erin Magee, Dianne Bonta, Lisa Schmalz, Kristen Berry, Regina Kozsan, Debbie Pucci, Jill Russell, Bonnie Frisard, Ruth Kabel *Debi Davis missed this meeting do to her choosing a hair appointment over attending meeting. We wish her a happy holiday and look forward to seeing her new “dew” in January.

1. Introductions

Brief introductions were made.

2. Review of previous minutes

Lisa Schmalz made a motion to accept the November minutes as written, second by Susan Holroyd. This motion passed.

3. Principal's Report

Generations for 8th grade was wonderful, “on a scale of 1-10 it was a 12”, Pat reported. It is now planned by Erin White our health teacher. Thanks were extended to PTSA for food, helping to organize and funding. Seventh grade generations will be held March 30th.

NECAP, New England Common Assessment Program tests were taken by the 7th grade for math and 8th grade will be taking the writing section of the tests in January.

Team 3 news – Carolyn Ciccu’s nephew is currently serving in Iraq. At the November school dance team three sponsored a collection of t-shirts. For every t-shirt that was donated the student was given a ticket for a \$50 raffle. The t-shirts were all sent to Iraq for Iraqi citizens in need. The \$750 profit from the dance is also being used to purchase more t-shirts to be sent to Iraq. Team 3 also held a collection of teddy bears to be sent over to Iraq.

Budget season is here! Pat told us this was her 8th year of budget season and this is the toughest one yet. The school board has requested a zero increase. With health insurance up 14%, and the increase in retirement benefits, gasoline and oil this is a difficult request. The middle school is asking for 2 teachers to be hired to complete team 5. With these 2 additional teachers we would have another complete team and this would put us in compliance with the no child left behind act. In this act we must have teachers certified in their subject by June of 2006. We will have 480 students in the school next school year.

Superintendent Search – We have had 25 applicants for the superintendent position so far! The committee will review the paperwork and 4 to 8 will be chosen for interviews.

Transitions day for 6th graders is being planned already.

During Red Ribbon Week Rick Melillo and Christy Grief encouraged students to bring questions to their ROCK advisors. Rick has offered to hold a parents evening to review some of what the conversations were like in these ROCK groups. He will be invited to the PTSA January meeting to give us more information.

Building Committee-The decision has been made to install all new lockers in the Middle school for next year. There will be a total of 549 lockers so each student will have their own locker. We will also utilize the 84 new lockers that were added this year.

Steve Simon asked Mrs. Goyette how security at the middle school would be addressed during/after the renovation. Swipe cards were discussed along with security cameras, lighting and a locked front entrance that you would have to be buzzed through. Of these suggestions the security camera was liked the best.

4. Treasurer's Report

Dianne Bonta reported that \$742.00 more has come in from the magazine drives postcards, bringing the total income from the magazine drive to \$8,300.00! This is \$1,200 more than budgeted for and made up for the loss from Old Home Day. We are now totally funded for this year. Income from membership is \$402.00 with over 200 members. We had an expense for National PTSA attendance and also for a contribution of a basket for the National PTSA Conference. The ending balance in the checking account is \$16,005.83

The suggestion of a donation to our home economics teacher, Mrs. Sarvaiya was tabled until the end of the year.

5. Events

Generations

Deb Pucci gave many thanks to all who helped with generations! She said the lunch was unbelievable. The extras were packed up and given to the police department. The PTA now has tablecloths and aprons in school colors for use by the PTSA. Deb will write up some suggestions to be used at 7th grade generations day.

8th Grade Celebration

Lisa Schmalz has started preparations for this celebration and will be holding an organizational meeting TBD in January. Marie Salamone has offered to guide this committee for the celebration.

Community Conversations

Ruth Kabel questioned how much we would like to do given that the high school is hosting a speaker each month this year. She will look into Rick's offer to host an evening, possibly including an invitation to the sixth grade parents. Ruth will also look at a good time to hold this, possibly late spring.

January 12th is the date for the next speaker hosted by the High School. Following is the detailed information for this...

Sometimes The People You Love The Most
Are The Hardest To Get Along With...

Why are my parents always bugging me? Why won't my child listen to me? Why is everything an argument? Why can't we just get along? Middle and high school students are beginning to re-examine their relationships with their parents, their peers, their teachers, and their world. Change and conflict often go hand-in-hand. Conflict is a normal part of life, but that doesn't make it easy to handle! During this interactive workshop, parents will learn strategies to resolve conflicts and improve communication with their children. Sandy Mulcahy, Director of Nashua Mediation, will be presenting this workshop sponsored by the Hollis Brookline PTSA S-Team. . The workshop is free and open to anyone in the community. It will be held **Wednesday, January 12th**, at 7 p.m. at the Hollis Brookline High School. For more information you may contact Pat Marquette at 673-1957.

6. Committee Reports

Staff Appreciation

In January we will show appreciation to our school nurse. She will be treated to a delivered lunch and given a magazine and some time to eat and read. February will be a month of appreciation with desserts.

PTSA Banner

Deb Pucci and Linda Demaris have been working on a banner with school colors. The suggested slogan for our PTSA was **PTSA making a difference everyday**. A vote was taken on accepting this as **our slogan, the vote passed** with no one opposed.

Hannaford

Lisa Schmalz reported we have earned \$204 from Hannaford. The money will come through the school office. To participate in this program you have to purchase something that qualifies in a quantity that qualifies. If you have done this when you get your slip at the register you would also be given a coupon slip that states something similar to money for your school.

7. Other business

Donation for Rosemary Mezzocchi

Rosemary Mezzocchi's husband recently passed away suddenly. The school staff has provided meals for Rosemary and her visiting family of about 15. After the school break the PTSA will look into supplying her with some meals. Trish will talk with Rosemary to see how the PTSA can best honor her husband's memory. Suggestions were to plant a tree at the HBMS or a donation to a charity in his memory.

Reflections

Joy Petersen could not make the meeting (another hair appointment?) but passed along information regarding Reflections. All submissions need to be in the front office January 5th through the 7th. Joy also asked for help with judging from an Art teacher, Music teacher and English teacher. Pat said that would not be a problem.

The S in our PTSA

Trish will be going to one student council meeting a month to get student input for our PTSA.

Brookline Rec Room

Once a month above the Brookline Village store, on the 2nd floor, an evening is held for 7th-9th graders to gather. The Cozy Tea Cart sponsors the evening with games, food and a movie for the youth to enjoy. You must accompany your child and fill out a registration form when the student first attends. The next Rec room night is scheduled for January 14th and is from 7 to 10pm and the cost is \$5.00

The next PTSA meeting will be January 21st.