



Hingham High School PTO Minutes

December 6, 2018

- Meeting commenced at 9:30 a.m. at HHS, room 103

Attendees

- Rick Swanson, Sara Mason Ader, Amy Crean, Deirdre FitzGerald Fabbro, Barbie Dwyer, Monica Melendes, Liza O'Reilly, Michelle Sullivan, Libby Lewicki

Principal's Report—Rick Swanson

- Principal Swanson provided the monthly Principal's report and started by thanking the PTO for the Thanksgiving Pies and Raffle. Further, Principal Swanson noted we are half-way through the second term.
- The following updates were shared:
 - Mini grants are at work and Principal Swanson reiterated the value of the mini grants to the HHS community.
 - Extreme couponing set records this year, doubling previous efforts and enabling \$2000 worth of food to be procured.
 - HHS was in the midst of a robust Inclusive Schools Week.
 - HHS has qualified for Quiz Bowl for another year. HHS is the only school to successfully qualify for the event every year since inception.
 - ARTS: The fall musical, Urinetown, received terrific reviews and was a highlight in November. Principal Swanson highlighted two important upcoming events, 1) Auditions for the district festival, and 2) Upcoming HHS concerts (band, Orchestra and Chorus).
 - ATHLETICS: The Winter sports program began following the Thanksgiving break with over 50% of students participating in a Winter sport. The boys Basketball coach, Bobby Kniffen, was named the "D2 coach of the year" for the 17-18 season.
 - CLUBS: It was another active month for HHS clubs. The VA appreciation club conducted a successful coat drive. Additionally, as part of the inclusive school week, the HHS student body conducted a club expo, which highlighted over 50 active clubs in the school.

Secretary's Report— Deirdre FitzGerald Fabbro

- The Secretary's report from Nov. 1, 2018 was not available for distribution during the meeting.
- Following the December meeting, the November minutes were emailed to the attendees and subsequently approved via email.
- The December minutes will be posted by 1/31/19.

Treasurer's Report—Jane McGrath

- The Treasurers report was shared by Sara Mason Ader, on behalf of Jane McGrath.
- Most fundraising for the year is complete. Notably, the ski and sport sale and the fruit center events exceeded their respective budget targets.

Committee Reports

- School Committee—Liza O'Reilly, Vice Chair of the Hingham School Committee, provided a detailed update on the superintendent search.
 - The search process is moving along well, with four final candidates identified.
 - The school committee is prioritizing "student focused leaders"
 - Following public introductions on Dec 10th + 17th, a January vote is scheduled to confirm the incoming Superintendent.
- Fundraising
 - Fruit Center fundraiser exceeded budget expectations and delivered \$1875 to the PTO.
 - Sarah Wasser, representing Revolution Prep, joined the meeting to further explain the fundraising opportunity for HHS. The program provides practice SAT / ACT tests at the HHS. The cost to take the test is \$10 and half of the proceeds go to the PTO.
 - The Ski and Sport sale was a success and delivered \$6.2K verses a budget of \$4.2K
- Hospitality (Staff Appreciation) Committee—
 - The Thanksgiving Pie event for the HHS staff was well received. The event is a HHS staff favorite. Going forward, it is requested that the pie giveaway take place on the Tuesday preceding Thanksgiving.
 - The December Holiday Lunch is upcoming.
- Mini Grants— Sara Mason Ader on behalf of Sandra Lynch
 - The awards were announced on 11/2 and a full list of recipients is available on the PTO home page.
- Metco—Update from Chrissy Roberts

- The “Mentoring Young Minds” program was kicked off at HHS. The program pairs a Metco student with a faculty member who connect one on one every week. All participants meet as a full group once a term.
- Collin Shattuck is exploring means of taking all Metco students to see the film “The Hate You Give”. The funds required are \$600.
- Senior Night
 - Barbie Dwyer will co chair the decorating committee with Ellen Larkin.

Class Updates

- 2019—
 - No update presented
- 2020—
 - No update presented
- 2021—
 - No update presented
- 2022— Monica Melendes reported that the class is doing well and continues to coalesce.
 - The class sold out of Holiday Fair merchandise.
 - The class is planning their next outing—March Madness Dodge Ball.

New Business

- A cappella—HMPA co presidents are exploring the potential of launching an A cappella group at HHS. The PTO will consider discussing a stipend as the work progresses.
- Homecoming Advertisement- the effectiveness of the WATD was discussed and an email link will be shared for review and follow up.
- School committee member Libby Lewicki shared an update on a grant request made to the Community Preservation Committee to remediate the PRS playground. The grant determination will be made mid January.

Closing

- The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.
- The next meeting is February 7, 2019 at 9:30 am in HHS room #103