



Hingham High School PTO Minutes

October 4, 2018

- Meeting commenced at 9:45 a.m. in the HHS room 103
- PTO President, Sara Mason Ader, welcomed the group, and attributed the delayed start to a longer than scheduled Principal's coffee.

Attendees

- Rick Swanson, Sara Mason Ader, Amy Crean, Jane McGrath, Deirdre FitzGerald Fabbro, Barbie Dwyer, Liz Bienfang, Lynn Cotter, Deirdre Anderson, Monica Melendes, Cynthia Sturtevant, Kim Littell, Jody Trinchet, Wendy Peacock

Principal's Report—Rick Swanson

- Rick Swanson provided the monthly principal's report beginning with an acknowledgement that the 10/1 "Shelter in Place" incident had been thoroughly discussed at the preceding Principal's coffee.
- Principal Swanson noted that the HHS is in the 5th week of classes and has had a solid start. The following updates were shared related to the school year to date:
 - Current enrollment at HHS is 1255 students; the class of 2022 has the largest student body with 339 students. Conversely, the class of 2019 is the smallest with an enrollment of 280 students. The HHS staff has increased in response to the growing student population—specific roles noted were adjustment counselors and para-professionals.
 - Week 5 is the midpoint in the 1st term; all grades will be posted by 10/5.
 - HHS Musicians are preparing for the Fall Concert which will take place on 10/16.
 - 600 students are currently participating in a Fall Sport. Principal Swanson noted that 80% of the student body will participate in a sport over the full year. Notable varsity highlights included the Girls Soccer team who are currently ranked 12th and the boys football team who are in the top 20 in the state. The Boys soccer team recently played under the lights with the full team wearing black Jerseys bearing the name Warhaftig in support of Nephcure and Andrew Warhaftig.

- The Nephcure walk was very successful-- raising 125K with tremendous support from the HHS community.
- Spirit week and Homecoming are ~~upcoming~~, beginning Monday 10/15 through the weekend of 10/20-21. The Homecoming Dance, previously capped at 500 students, will take place in the Gym and Cafeteria to allow all students access to the event. The senior class will run-the event and will be supported by Chaperones and Police. All students must arrive prior to 8:00 pm and cannot leave until 9:30pm. Additionally the Homecoming sale will take place on 10/20 near the turf field.

Secretary's Report— Deirdre FitzGerald Fabbro

- The Secretary's report from Sept 6, 2018 was distributed.
- The minutes were approved as submitted on a motion by Deirdre FitzGerald and seconded by Sara Mason Ader.
- Deirdre FitzGerald Fabbro noted the Monthly Minutes will be posted on the HHS PTO website no later than one week in advance of the next PTO meeting. The October minutes will be posted by 10/25/18.

Treasurer's Report—Jane McGrath

- Jane McGrath reported we are on track to hit our revenue objectives for the year.
- Upcoming expected expenses are Mini- Grants, and Sr. Night.
- Sara Mason Ader shared a request for \$100 of funding to support advertising on radio station WATD during the homecoming Football game. The request was to be part of a shared expense with the Hingham Sports Partnership and the Hingham Gridiron. The request spurred dialogue regarding the approval of discretionary funds. The request was given conditional approval, provided the advertising spot supports the upcoming Ski and Sport sale. Rick Swanson positively endorsed the ongoing student engagement with WATD.

Committee Reports

- Weekly Bulletin—Lynn Cotter
 - The Bulletin is in full swing and is being sent to entire distribution list, despite slightly delayed delivery for the week of 10/1. The ongoing deadline for weekly bulletin submissions is the preceding Friday at noon.
 - The purpose of the bulletin is targeted communication to HHS parents to emphasize PTO information and the calendar of events

- Hospitality Committee— Sara Mason Ader on behalf of Arlene Moynihan
 - The HHS Teachers lunch is being planned for late October. The date is currently TBC.
 - The Thanksgiving Pie event for the HHS staff will be Tuesday 11/20. Help will be needed for this event.

- Directory
 - The agenda sales have been positive.
 - Directories remain available at the HHS office.
 - Looking ahead to school year 19-20, the committee will need extra help organizing volunteer forms as they are returned.

- Mini Grants— Sara Mason Ader on behalf of Sandra Lynch
 - The Application process has begun and the committee is beginning to receive requests. The full committee will meet on 10/12 and the awards will be announced on 11/2.
 - Barbie Dwyer highlighted that web page needs to be updated.
 - Rick Swanson shared that to date, no grants have been forwarded to him.
 - Later in the meeting, Barbie Dwyer suggested the need to distinguish between Mini-grants and budgeted line item expenses.

- Ski and Sport Sale—Wendy Peacock
 - The event has a budgeted target of \$4200. The team noted the opportunity to exceed this goal.
 - Plans are underway and the immediate focus is advertising—Bulletin, Facebook, Pinboard, and Boosters.

- Beautification—Cynthia Sturtevant
 - Cynthia Sturtevant has accepted the committee leadership role.
 - The committee is just getting started and has a limited budget.
 - The near term focus for the committee will be on the front courtyard, and the front seasonal planters
 - The longer term objective will be the transformation of the back courtyard, in partnership with Sean Papich. The vision for the back courtyard will be an outside pass through enabling social motion for the HHS community.
 - Engaging with the following HHS groups was recommended as the committee becomes operational—The Botany Club, The Green Team and Harbormen Helping Hingham.

Class Updates

- 2019— Sara Mason Ader on behalf of Sherry Schilb
 - Homecoming details covered earlier in meeting.
 - Wreath Fundraiser—the class will have \$50 holiday wreathes available for pre sale at Homecoming
 - The Holiday fair will be 11/17. Parent volunteers are needed.
- 2020—
 - No update presented
- 2021— Katie Sutton updated via email
 - Class committee is up and running. 2021 parents will operate the concession stand during the 10/12 football game.
- 2022— Monica Melendes
 - The officers have been voted in and have conducted their first meeting.
 - The class parents will meet with the Stu Co the week of 10/8.
 - A can drive has been confirmed for February 2020.
 - A community service plan is being developed.

New Business

- Senior Night
 - The committee reported they are getting started. The following positions have been confirmed--
 - Kim Wendell will join Stacy Havens as a second chairperson.
 - Ellen Larkin-- Decorations
 - Liz Bienfang—Entertainment
- Fruit Center Fundraiser
 - The date has been confirmed for the week of 11/5-11. Marketing will commence and encourage the HHS community to stock up for the Holidays.
- Savers
 - Savers has been in touch offering to do a collection at HHS in case any of the groups are interested in sponsoring this.
- Metco
 - Chrissy Roberts reported there has been no connection to date.

- Parent Partners will have a table at Homecoming. The Parent Partners group is designed to enable a more welcoming environment for Metco families joining the HHS community.
- Advocacy and Community outreach—Barbie Dwyer
 - A 9/20 Op-ed in the Hingham journal was introduced for discussion. The Article discusses Vaping and targets awareness and the current FDA review.
 - “Weeding through the Myth” will be shown at HHS room 103 on Oct 17, 18, 19.
 - The committee is working with the SADD who will be showing “if they had known” to the freshman class during the Month of March 2019. The film highlights the dangers of mixing prescription medication with alcohol. SADD will be submitting a mini grant application this year and would like to be considered as a budgeted line item expense in the future.
 - There was brief discussion of committee aligning forces with the other groups opposing the potential compressor station.

Closing

- The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.
- The next meeting will be November 1, 2018 at 9:30 am in HHS room #103