

## **APPROVED HINGHAM HIGH SCHOOL PTO MINUTES SEPTEMBER 7, 2017**

**ATTENDANCE:** Barbie Dwyer (President), Sara Ader (Vice President), Jane McGrath (Treasurer), Michelle Ayer (Secretary), Richard Swanson (Principal), Joy Nilsen, Alyson Hussey, Susan Willason, Stacy Havens, Dana Donnelly, Andrea Dewire, Trish Cairns, Jean Shore, Pamela Gillig, Holly, Deidre Anderson, Christina Roberts

**President, Barbie Dwyer, called the meeting to order at 7:10PM**

### **Principal's Report** (Rick Swanson)

- Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year. The first few days have been successful: the office and custodial staffs worked hard over the summer to prepare the school for the coming year and teachers and students are settled in
- Convocation was a special event this year with the key note address being given by award winning author and Presidential Medal of Honor recipient, David McCullough.
- The principal's twitter account is in full swing and posts will be made nearly daily so make sure you follow him on Twitter @rswansonhingham
- Introduction of new HHS leadership: Assistant Principal, Collin Shattuck and Athletic Director, Jim Quatromoni and welcome to the 7 new teachers and 1 new nurse added to the HHS staff
- HHS will be undergoing a comprehensive evaluation from NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges). A comprehensive evaluation is completed at least once every 10 years for accredited schools and the evaluation includes school site visits, interviews with parents, staff, and administrators. The NEASC team will be on site Sept 24-27<sup>th</sup> and will be looking for parents to interview. Please contact Rick Swanson if interested in participating in
- Thanks to the PTO for help with the new student orientation on August 28

### **Treasurer's Report** (Jayne McGrath)

- Review the 2017-2018 budget and highlighted small changes made to certain line items (addition of Climate Committee (new group to HHS), Freshman Orientation (larger class), Staff Hospitality, Senior Night (self funding).

### **Secretary's Report** (Michelle Ayer)

- Minutes of the May PTO meeting reviewed and approved

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Weekly Bulletin** (Stacy Havens)

- New weekly bulletin staff (total of 5 people) will alternate weekly posting content for delivery to PTO distribution list on Sunday evening
- Freshman parents will be added to the PTO distribution list by October 1 (waiting for all parent contact forms to be submitted)
- If you wish to be added to the distribution list OR have a submission for the bulleting, email [hhsweekly@gmail.com](mailto:hhsweekly@gmail.com) Submissions due 9AM the Friday before distribution

- Although weekly bulleting is a comprehensive compilation of school related and community events, be sure to check the HHS website for daily notices

#### **Sport and Ski Sale** (Trish Cairns)

- Planning for the annual PTO fundraiser of used sports and ski equipment scheduled Saturday November 4 is underway
- Volunteers will be needed the day before and day of event so stay posted for sign up information

#### **Senior Night** (Dana Donnelly)

- Preparations for this 30 year tradition of providing a safe, fun, overnight, post graduation party for HHS graduates are already in process
- This event is supported / organized by parents of ALL grades (i.e., it is not a senior parent only event)
- Committee is in need of a Project Manager (formerly referred to as Decorating Chair) for the event
- Meeting to be held prior to October 1 to solicit volunteers for the event

#### **Hospitality** (Marcy Lamlein and Pam Gillig)

- 13 events planned for the year; nearly 1 staff event each month plus Junior Book Awards, Senior Awards, Senior Night, and National Honor Society reception
- Volunteer opportunities include set up, staff, and/or clean up for the event and providing food, beverages, or other items needed for the event
- Positive impact on teacher morale is very high, so please volunteer to help with at least one event.

#### **Class Parent Updates**

- Class of 2018 (Michelle Ayer/Joy Nilsen): busy year ahead with homecoming concessions and dance, fundraiser, Holiday Fair, and end of year events (prom, senior picnic, and senior night)
- Class of 2019 (read-in by B. Dwyer): need concession items for Friday's football concession stand. Plans for Junior Prom underway
- Class of 2020 (read-in by B. Dwyer): the original class parent has stepped down as child has left HHS and Eileen Bevens has volunteered to serve as one of the three class parents needed. There is still a big need for 2 ADDITIONAL CLASS PARENTS so please consider volunteering if you have a student in the Class of 2020.
- Class of 2021 (Deidre Anderson): new student orientation lunch was a success and fed over 500 students and staff members. Class advisor, Christina O'Connor, has worked with the parents to set expectations of their role as class parent.

#### **New Business**

- Discussion of funds for donations to charitable organizations on behalf of HHS PTO for families who have lost a close relative
- Decision to eliminate the Annual Antique Show as a PTO fundraiser. B. Dwyer to reach out to show organizer and ask if the fundraising event can be offered to another Hingham organization (HHS crew has expressed interest)
- Agendas are still available for sale to parents and students. Agendas can be purchased at the HHS main office, at freshman parent night, and open house
- Drama Club is hosting annual freshman picnic on Sat., Sept 9. Auditions for the upcoming fall musical, *Chicago*, will be held Mon and Tues Sept 11 and 12.
- The following PTO committees are looking for additional volunteers:
  - Ski and Sport Sale (Nov 4)
  - PTO liaison to School Council
  - Class of 2020
  - Senior Night

**Meeting Adjourned 8:20PM**

Next PTO meeting Thursday, October 5 9:30AM Room 103