

Haverford Middle School PTO
Meeting Minutes 11/12/13 HMS Library

A meeting of the Haverford Middle School (HMS) PTO was held in the HMS library.

In attendance: Dan Horan (Principal), Katie Campbell (Teacher Representative), Nichole Bethel (President), Jen Hufnal (Vice-President), Maria Purdy (Treasurer), Merri Lee Newby (Secretary), Peter Monteleone, Therese Menear, Jenn Dixon, Stephanie Wingate-Gardner, Angela Helfer, Beth Zukowski-Dougherty, Stella Thorogood, Eileen Brophy, Linda Short, Steph Oberlin, Lou Montessor, Dawn Roth, Heather Heckler, Tricia Mazzella

President Bethel called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Opening of Meeting and Approval of October Minutes

Ms. Zukowski-Dougherty made a motion to approve the minutes of the 10/8/13 PTO meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Monteleone and passed unanimously by acclamation.

Old Business

- **Box Tops** – For the November 1st deadline, there was a return of \$89. Ideas were discussed for the next drive including a competition between grades.
- **6th Grade Halloween Dance** – Ms. Mazzella and Ms. Zukowski-Dougherty reported that the 6th Grade Dance went very well with lots of parent support and volunteers. Many thanks to Lectric Light House, Krispy Kreme, CNM and the 6th grade parents for their many donations of gifts and gift cards.
- **Harlem Wizards** – Ms. Bethel updated the PTO on the Wizards game. A few more bills are forthcoming, but there is a net of about \$3,038 for ticket sales and \$340 for concessions. 802 tickets were sold with only 8 no shows at Will Call. Everything was up over 2012 (681 tickets sold; \$2,405 in ticket sales and \$233 in concessions). Ms. Bethel made a motion to book this event for 2014; Ms. Hufnal seconded the motion which passed unanimously by acclamation. Ms. Garcia would like a co-chair to run the event in 2014. A second vote was taken with Ms. Newby making a motion to allocation \$100 for the deposit required to secure the 2014 date. Ms. Bethel seconded the motion which passed unanimously by acclamation.
- **Garden Club** – Ms. Hufnal reported that the Gardening Club met and planted bulbs in the 6th grade courtyard which will come up in the spring. Many thanks to Anna Cohen, Tasha Carson, Madeleine Murphy, Emma Kelly and Gina Ranieri for all of their help that day.
- **Winter Spirit Wear Sale** – Ms. Bethel reported that the winter Spirit Wear sale would run through 11/14. Ms. Bethel passed out a flyer with items and descriptions. 132 items have sold so far. The PTO gets \$1 per item sold; it is not a

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major fundraiser. There is a two-week turn-around on orders. E-mail Ms. Ciarlante with any item suggestions for future sales. Baseball hats may be added in the spring.

Upcoming Events

- **Book Fair** – Ms. Thorogood informed the PTO that Diary of a Wimpy Kid had been pre-ordered and 18 copies pre-sold. There will be a penny wars competition; books can be won for classroom libraries. The Book Fair will be open from 11/18-25 from 7:45 am to 3 pm and in the evening of 11/19 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.
- **Activity Nights** – Ms. Bethel reported that more parent volunteers are needed for the Activity Night on 11/22 from 7 to 9 pm. She will send another e-mail Blast for volunteers. Upcoming Activity Nights are: 12/6/13, 2/21/14, 3/28/14, 5/23/14.
- **December PTO Meeting** – Ms. Zukowski-Dougherty made a motion not to hold a PTO meeting in December. Ms. Brophy seconded the motion which passed unanimously by acclamation.

Teacher's Report

Ms. Campbell provided a separate written report for November covering the following topics (summarized here):

- **6th Grade Art Classes**: Mrs. Hoffman's 6th grade art classes just finished exploring a unit on digital photography. The students worked in teams to share cameras and take photographs for a Compositional Elements Scavenger Hunt.
- **Cooking Club**: They are making Pumpkin Spice Muffins this month.
- **Sewing Club**: There will be a meeting in December. Students will be making sock owl ornaments and should contact Mrs. Barber with any questions.
- **Geography Bee**: The bee will start in late November and go through December. The final competition will be in January with 10 finalists. Questions can be directed to Mrs. Clouse's via her website or a student's social studies teacher.
- **Bowling Club**: This club is open to all grades and will meet at Wynnewood Lanes starting December 4th. Cost is \$6 each time. The cost includes two games plus transportation to/from HMS. Snack bar purchases are not included.
- **Gaming Club**: This club will get started in December, date TBA.
- **Activities Night**: The next one is November 22nd. This is a chance to hang out with friends and make new ones too. From 7 to 9 pm there will be a DJ and open gym for basketball, Ping-Pong and board games. The cost is \$5 per student and includes refreshments. Tickets are on sale in the cafeteria and will be available at the door. Contact Mrs. Still or Mrs. Young for more information.
- **Save-A-Heart Awareness Olympics**: This event will be held before spring break on April 9, 10 and 11. This is the middle school's annual fundraiser for the American Heart Association.

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Principal's Report

Mr. Horan provided a separate agenda for his portion of the meeting.

- Parent-Teacher Conferences – These will be scheduled using the PTC Wizard. Only a few people have needed extra help navigating the system. Mr. Horan clarified that conferences are scheduled with the entire team; it is not possible to schedule conferences with individual teachers.
- Book Fair – Mr. Horan reviewed dates/hours.
- New Clubs – Mr. Horan provided a list of the 2013-2014 New Clubs: Cooking, Sewing, Community, Keyboard, Impact, Math-6th Grade, Math-Math League, Robotics, Photography, Crafts, Brass Ensemble, National Junior Art Society, Team Sports for 6th Grade Girls, Women's Chorus, Wood Shop. Mrs. Schmidt is running the 6th Grade Girls' Sports Club which will go all year with two week breaks between sports seasons. Mr. Monteleone asked whether there could be a Men's Chorus. Mr. Horan will follow-up.
- School Board Representatives – The HMS representatives are Mata Troilo, Brae Barber, Britt Engler, Jack Daly, Michael Kim and Drew Fuentes. They will rotate going and giving a report to the board. This will be good for the board and good for the students, per Mr. Horan.
- Medication Policy – All medications must be delivered to the school nurse by a parent in its original labeled container. Students who have a doctor's note and coordinate with the school nurse are permitted to carry an inhaler with them.
- B101 Christmas Choir Contest – 7th Heaven's contest entry this year will be Somewhere in My Memory by John Williams. Mr. Comstock has volunteered to record a master; the recording date is 11/11. Parents asked if the CD could be sold as a fundraiser but there are potential copyright issues that prohibit this. Ms. Heckler reminded parents to keep voting as many times as possible no matter how many "likes" the song appears to have on the B101 website.

Questions/Comments

- Ms. Dixon asked Mr. Horan about the recent lockdown drill and an incident that was reported in the local newspapers. Mr. Horan said that protocols were followed with regard to this incident. Ms. Zukowski-Dougherty asked if the school is responsible for students until they reach their home. Mr. Montessor explained that case law has been expanded over time. Mr. Horan said that it depends upon the circumstances.
- Mr. Horan explained that during Parent Visitation Day, parents are not expected to attend lunch; the book fair is open during lunch.
- Mr. Montessor reported on IDC meetings. At the February 2014 meeting, Dr. Rotoli will attend and discuss the Core Curriculum. At the June 2014 meeting, a school board representative will attend and discuss the budget. Other current issues: AYP is being replaced by School Report Profiles; planning is underway to better customize the Safe Foods lists; there is a desire to collaborate on

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community service projects between schools; upcoming Vendor Nights: 11/22
7pm to 9 pm Chatham; 11/23 9 am to 1 pm Manoa; 12/6 and 12/7 Chestnutwold.

The next PTO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 14th at 7 PM in the HMS Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Merri Lee Newby
Secretary