

Haverford Middle School PTO Meeting Minutes 2/11/14 HMS Library

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

In attendance: Beth Mastrocola (6th Grade Assistant Principal), Katie Campbell (Teacher Representative), Nichole Bethel (President), Jen Hufnal (Vice-President), Maria Purdy (Treasurer), Merri Lee Newby (Secretary), Lillian Mittleman, Peter Monteleone, Tricia Mazzella, Renee Lawler, Beth Zukowski-Dougherty, Kathy Kerns Phillips

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

Opening of Meeting and Approval of October Minutes

Ms. Newby made a motion to approve the minutes of the 1/14/14 PTO meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Monteleone and passed unanimously by acclamation.

Old Business

- **Book Fair** – Ms. Bethel has received a written report from co-chairs Jen Kirkland and Stella Thorogood. The book fair was well attended and very successful netting \$2,500 for the school library plus additional funds and books for classroom libraries. 6th Grade won the Penny Wars and each 6th grade teacher received \$25.
- **IMPACT Update** – Ms. Bethel summarized the discussion to this point. A survey was sent with a 47 people responding, but many reported not receiving the e-mail therefore Ms. Bethel will resend it. Of the 47 who received and responded to the e-mail blast, 30 were in favor of the proposal to offer IMPACT assessments to all students for a nominal fee and 17 were not. Ms. Bethel will report back to the PTO pending the results of the resent e-mail survey.

New Business

- **8th Grade Career Awareness Day 2014** – Ms. Bethel informed the PTO that 8th Grade Career Awareness Day will take place on May 9, 2014. Eleven speakers are confirmed.
- **Activity Night** – Ms. Bethel reported that the next Activity Night will be on 2/21. A few more parents volunteers are still needed. Ms. Purdy and Ms. Mittleman said they may be able to help. Ms. Phillips asked whether it would be possible to have Activity Nights by grade. Ms. Campbell said the teachers had discussed this option and that she will bring it up again and report back.
- **Staff Appreciation Luncheon** – The luncheon will be in April. Volunteers and donations are needed. Anna Cohen is the chairperson.
- **Requests** – Ms. Bethel raised the issue of outside groups that ask the PTO to post or forward announcements/information to the PTO community. There was much discussion and exchange of thoughts but no formal policy or resolution was adopted addressing the issue. Bringing Market Day to HMS was also discussed. Mr. Monteleone suggested getting some statistics to have data on which to base a decision. Ms. Mittleman asked if we need another fundraiser. Ms. Phillips and Mr. Monteleone spoke highly of the program and the food. Ms. Hufnal asked whether the teachers need something special and suggested the funds raised could be earmarked for that purpose. Mr. Monteleone is willing to follow-up to get more information. Ms. Bethel will put him in touch with the Market Day representative that contacted her.

Teacher's Report

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

- **Bowling Club**: They had a rescheduled meeting in February due to snow and their last meeting will be 2/26.
- **Save-a-Heart**: A mailing went out to all HMS families regarding this event which will be held 4/9-11. Ms. Bethel reminded Ms. Campbell that in years past the Save-a-Heart

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- committee has e-mailed the PTO a request for a donation but the request hasn't been received yet this year. Ms. Campbell will follow-up.
- Parent Conferences 2/12-13-14: If there is a school closure due to snow on the conference days, Mr. Horan will send a Global Connect call describing how the situation will be handled.
 - Activity Night: Next one is 2/21 from 7 to 9 PM. Cost is \$6 and there is more information on the website.
 - 8th Grade Course Selection: The course selection process started for 8th graders with a student assembly on 2/10 and a Course Selection Night at the high school. More information is available on the website.
 - HMS Musical, *School House Rock Live*: Performances are this week (Thurs 7:30, Fri 7:30, Sat 2) in the auditorium and tickets are \$3 (student/child/senior citizen) or \$5 (adult).
 - The Reading Olympics: Mrs. Datner, Mrs. Witzel and Mrs. Doyle are leading this. The event will be held at Interboro High School at the end of April. They meet during lunch and/or advisory. Ms. Bethel reminded Ms. Campbell that the PTO will support the cost of the tee shirts. Ms. Campbell said she will let the teachers know.

Assistant Principal's Report

Ms. Mastrocola attended in Mr. Horan's place.

- Snow Days – Ms. Mastrocola reported that at this point in time, students will attend school on June 18th and 19th with June 20th being an in-service day for teachers.
- Power School – Mr. Montelione shared that Power School had been down several times in the past few weeks and specifically that Power School reports had not been issued since the prior Thursday (2/6). Ms. Mastrocola said the school did not have power on Wednesday. She will inform Ms. VanTrieste about the Power School problems.

Questions/Comments

- Ms. Phillips brought Box Tops containers for a team by team school-wide competition. The winning team will be rewarded with water ice. As some thought that the competition would be by grade, Ms. Phillips will double-check that it can be done by team.

The next PTO meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11th at 7 PM in the HMS Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Merri Lee Newby
Secretary