HTHI PA Mtg Minutes
December 12, 2018, 8:30 a.m.

Attendees: Kelly Williams, Caren Christopher, Therese Hymer, Angelique Deanda, Erik Castillo, Lori Gildred Conlan

Welcome and Introductions (Kelly)

Informational Items

1. **Director's Report** (Erik)

- Immersion Week will be either the week after Spring Break or in June. Still being decided by staff when is best.
- Today Jade is at a mental health symposium to help teachers and staff learn how to help students with mental health issues. Erik is seeing the impact in college choices; it affects how students see their ability to leave home successfully, how far from home they feel comfortable to go for college.
- Erik gave a report about college admissions. Tying up loose ends on Senior Class, still some private school application deadlines in January. PSAT scores are in; the Junior Class scored high, will be reviewing with the students next week.
- Shifting focus to Juniors. Has had Kim helping him try to shift focus down to lower grades so they can help students understand the impact of grades, activities, etc. If students in 9th grade have 3.5 and up, 90% chance will go to a 4 year college. If have a 2.5-3.0, only a 40% chance will go to a 4 year school.
- Will Haase, 12th grade Calculus Teacher, Jade, Erik & Dawn Wirtz (9th grade Physics teacher) attended a conference about college success. One of the aims at HTH is to increase the rate of college success for students of color. Factors include financial affordability, belongingness, college application process, FAFSA completion. Across all family income levels, even at highest quartile, only 18% of students who go to community college end up getting a 4 year degree within 6 years. Really focused on the belongingness factor - helping the students get feet on campus, learn about clubs that they can connect with. When Erik worked at USD, they were doing research on why students leave: first was not feeling connected, second was money (an expensive private school). The connectedness is everything.

Treasurer's Report:

- Balance of about $18,000. No changes in budget.

Communications:

- Newsletters are continuing to go out on & off.
- Some issues with content. Last newsletter was almost all sports; looking at doing bullet points and links to longer info on sports.

- Brainstorming ideas: talk with Jade about what staff or students could write up for the newsletter. Use the banners or similar “corners” to separate content. Use pictures. Use a shorter version of Jade’s email message with a link to her longer email. Caren is willing to help with putting the newsletter together and formatting (not content generation). Content for upcoming Java with Jade meetings.
- Kelly Williams has a sample of this year’s HTH newsletter being done by Stephanie Antin. Likes it, will work with some ideas from it. It has links to longer pages such as Caleb’s Directors Report. Kelly Williams will send to today’s attendees.
- Caren is working on website update. The first page is a blog that is posted for the current period. You can go back and see the prior versions/pages as well when you update.
- Therese will meet with Caren to review PA’s Google Docs and minutes access, so Caren can post to the PA website

Restaurant Night:

- Thursday, December 20, many of the classes are doing an Exhibition Night. Jen Pickering is working to have a restaurant fundraiser(s) that night. Will get information out as soon as possible.

Spruce Up:

- Still haven’t chosen between the two dates in January.

New Business - none

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully submitted,
Therese Hymer
Secretary

2018-19 PA Leaders

President	Kelly Williams
VP-Fundraising	
VPs-School Support	Lori Gildred Conlan
VP-Communications	Kelly Schwartz
Treasurer	Kyle Wade
Secretary/Parliamentarian	Therese Hymer

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 16, 8:30 a.m.