

Harvard Schools PTO
Fall Member Meeting
Wednesday, March 10th, 7:30 pm through Zoom

- **Welcome (Dana)**
 - Welcome & Thank You
 - Overview of tonight's agenda
 - Reintroduction of Board Members
 - Dana Oliver (Pres)
 - Amy Nutt (VP)
 - Alissa Weiss (Asst Secretary aka Social Coordinator)
 - Julie Hopkins (Secretary)
 - Seth Trotz (Treasurer)

- **2023-24 YTD Overview (Amy)**
 - We've been busy since the Fall!
 - Fundraising has been going well (more to come from Seth)
 - Membership
 - We ended the membership drive this year with 176 primary members and 132 secondary members
 - The family membership drive raised over
 - Grants
 - We've funded 17 grants between the 2 (3!) schools for over \$18,000
 - Outreach Events (In addition to the fall events that we reviewed at our Nov Mtg)
 - Sponsored another HES Principal's Coffee
 - These are at various times to give parents with different schedules access
 - Sparsely attended but gives parents who are interested a time to come chat
 - Most recently our first ever HES Family Game Night
 - Nearly 100 attendees (we have no idea cause we didn't count really but it was a bunch!)
 - 1st Annual Paper Snowflake Making Contest at Winterfest
 - Dozens of fabulous snowflakes were created (in addition to 1 million tiny pieces of paper scraps), awards were given out and a wintery time was had by all
 - Directory
 - PTO Student & Staff Directory was published and distributed to over 160 families

 - **Finances (Seth)**
 - YTD we've raised over \$28,000 to put back into the schools with the Spring Soiree still ahead of us (more to come about the soiree later tonight)

- Membership - over \$15,000
 - Business Partners
 - 13 local businesses joined our BP program this year and raised \$6500
 - Square 1 - \$1600
 - Book Fair - \$3000
 - Readathon - \$1800 and counting
 - Pickleball Tournament & Winter Fun Run - minor fundraisers this year but picking up steam as annual events
- **Review of 2023-24 Late Fall & Winter Fundraiser & Events (Julie)**
 - Square 1 Art - Julie
 - Chair: Elizabeth Bulger
 - Our Nov member meeting was just before Sq 1 Art Sales began
 - Coordinated with Ms Owens this fall to create art
 - In November families purchased fabulous keepsakes
 - 28% of HES students participated; 86 Keepsakes were sold
 - Brought in over \$5000 of sales including over \$1600 in proceeds
 - Book Fair - Sowmya
 - Chairs: Ellin Wade, Sowmya Sampige
 - Our last meeting was just before Book Fair began
 - Worked again this year with Silver Unicorn
 - Over 200 titles selected for the fair, all published in the last 18 mos.
 - Sold over 1100 books
 - Brought in over \$12,000 in sales and \$3,000 in proceeds
 - 2024-25: Current team will be assisting for one more year and shadowing the incoming team to keep the dream alive will be Monika Zelinski, Brian Killean and Andy Hu
 - Winter Fun Run - Julie
 - Scheduled twice for snowy days
 - On January 28th we persevered despite the storm!
 - Over 70 Registrants - approx 25 runners braved the elements and were rewarded with hot cocoa
 - Will there be another race in the Fall?
 - Our insurance covers it so... Maybe!
 - If you are interested in helping with this please let us know
 - Readathon - Maren & Danielle
 - Chairs: Danielle Miller & Maren Caulfield
 - The 3rd annual Readathon was a huge success!
 - 135 students and 73,012 minutes read in total!

- More than 18,000 more minutes than last years 54,837 and a whopping 62% more readers than last years 84!
 - The incentives this year were particularly motivating... (Bingo Card, Little Bee Bookstore Gift Cards, Popsicle Party, Visits with Frannie the Comfort Dog!)
 - Results were announced today and fabulous prizes will be awarded to all
 - Thus far 24 students chose to collect sponsors and have raised over \$1800
- New Family - Shannon
 - HES Chair: Shannon Boeckelman
 - TBS Chair: Alissa Weiss
 - Now caught up from backlog of families from the fall and a few more since then; 24 new families total this year
 - K registration is starting to happen so likely to see an uptick
 - Monthly emails go to new families with seasonal local information and recommendations
 - Planning to reach out to Arm & Arm to talk about a new family event
- Teacher Appreciation - Geena & Rachel
 - HES Chairs: Geena Fitek & Lauren Kelly-Joseph
 - TBS Chairs: Rachel Huelin & Jessica Reynolds
 - This committee continues to hold monthly teacher events, stock the snack carts and coffee and show our teachers and staff how much we appreciate them. Much loved Muddy Waters Coffee Truck is coming soon.
 - December; Hot cocoa bar, sweets, cookie buffet
 - Feb: K-cups restocking & Vday treats
 - March: Pie Day
 - Muddy Coffee Truck likely coming in May
- Other Committees from the fall with updates before we move to the spring?
 - No
- **Looking ahead to Spring 2024 (LOTS still coming...) (Alissa)**
 - School Store - Stacey
 - Chair: Stacey Keneally
 - This project is just starting to form
 - Starting up discussions with Hilary Sturgis at HES - meeting upcoming
 - Science Fair - Charles
 - Chair: Charles Oliver
 - TBS Science Fair upcoming March 20th at 2:00
 - PTO Judge Team of 6 Judges looking forward to seeing the students hard work

- Apparel - Dana
 - Chair: Marnie Reichenbach
 - Incoming Co-chair: Isabelle Andrei
 - Looking ahead to Class of 2031 T-Shirts
 - Will be working together to set a course for 2024-25

- End of Year Event - Barbara
 - Chairs: Beth Cooper & Barbara Romero
 - Planned again for Kimballs this year
 - Last year we had about 300 attendees (164 students and 153 chaperones)
 - Scheduled for Friday June 21st 9 - 10
 - Features BBQ, ice cream and Kimballs activities
 - Looking for some extra hands to help out with check in at the EOY event

- Soiree - Lauren
 - Chairs: Lauren Derse, Jasmine Cook, Amber O'Leary, Amy Paro
 - Theme: Denim & Diamonds
 - Red Tail Golf Club
 - May 18th 5:30 - 10:30
 - Live music, international DJ, dinner, drinks, silent auction and raffle
 - Early bird tickets \$95 until april 6th (\$115 after that!)
 - Please reach out if you have silent auction items and raffle items
 - Anything goes!

- Call for other committee chairs or others with updates?
 - Sowmya
 - Claudia Owens will be holding an art show at HES
 - 1 week event May 2 - May 9
 - Looking for volunteers: April 30 and May 1 set up
 - Looking for a grant for food for the event as well

- **Call for Volunteers & Open Floor - Dana**
 - Call for volunteers
 - We are starting to think about the 2024-25 school year
 - Many thanks to the volunteers who have already stepped up looking ahead to 2024-25 rolls
 - Science Fair Chair: Charles Oliver
 - Book Fair Team Rising Co-Chairs: Monika Zelinski, Brian Killean and Andy Hu
 - Apparel Co-Chair: Isabelle Andrei
 - Business Partners Co-Chair: Pam O'Connor
 - Candidate for the Board: Nicole Gentile (who has a rising K and is looking to get more involved next year)

- Many hands make light work and we are always looking for more interested members including...
 - Book Fair Volunteers
 - Business Partner Committee Members
 - Board Members!!!
 - Shout out now or email us at info@harvardpto.org
- Questions, comments, call for ideas
- **Thank you & Adjourn - Dana**

Members Present

1. Alissa Weiss
2. Amy Nutt
3. **Barbara Romero**
4. **Charles Oliver**
5. **Christa Maxant**
6. Dana Oliver
7. **Danielle Miller**
8. Jasmine Cook
9. Julie Hopkins
10. Karen Shuttle
11. Katie Berg
12. **Lauren Derse**
13. **Maren Caulfield**
14. Pam O'Connor
15. **Rachel Huelin**
16. Rachel Kopay
17. **Geena Fitek (**
18. Seth Trotz
19. Shannon Boeckelman
20. **Sowmya Sampige**
21. Stacey Keneally

Minutes & Attendance taken by Dana Oliver - Reviewed and approved 3/27/2024 by the PTO Board