

High Tech High Media Arts Parent Association

General Meeting

| 5:30-6:30pm

[Google Link](#)

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

BOARD MEMBERS

President: Katie Rooney	Spanish Liaison:
Vice President: Denise Lapaglia	Staff Liaison 9th grade (parent): Antionette Davis Staff Liaison 10th grade (parent): Staff Liaison 11th grade (parent): Betsy Schneider Staff Liaison 12th grade (parent):
Treasurer: Liza Gomez	Fundraising Chair: Racquel Cusi
Secretary: Anne Gurnee	Communications Chair:
Staff Liaison (teacher): Dan Slowik	

Meeting started 5:30 pm 1/12

Attendees: Katie Rooney, Dan Slovic, Denise La Paglia, Liza Gomez, Betsy Schneider, Anne Gurnee

AGENDAs

- Intro and Welcome
- Approval of December minutes
- Dan/Teacher Report
 - o Per central office, Wells Fargo acct not for buying food/snacks. Dan waiting for warning to stop using it for this!
 - o Paul and Meli are back. Daryenne now at Elem school.
 - o New 9th grade teacher, Mr. Beltz.
 - o Winter Formal info: \$60 (\$45 for free and reduced lunch eligible students), 7:30-10:30 at Seaworld, includes Electric Eel rides 2/28, link tb sent for payment of tickets. Dan's received 6 or 7 interested band submissions, asking financial

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commitment from bands? Submissions from several HTH schools. Dan to add submissions to PA drive so we can view. Each band will play 1-2 songs so we can fit in the auction, etc. 15 bands max? Venue holds only 100.

- o Will put out announcement to families about Thrift Club this Friday 1/17
 - o Next Exhibition 6/4, Senior Exhibition 6/5
 - o Next SLC 3/3-5
 - o CRT 2/10-12 Lauren Stephenson is the contact
- President's report
 - o New year, time is flying by and I am happy we have landed on a fundraiser to replenish our funds!
 - o Time to start floating ideas and tentative confirmations of positions for next year (this is Katie's last year but is willing to consult)
- Fundraising
 - o Student Music Showcase! Share forms and vote on logo Ap for Music to be paid \$900
 - o 10th Grade college road trip-needs to be funded
- Communications
 - o Chugging along, will need a lot of help with SMS (see notes)
- Treasurer's Report
 - o Current bank balance: \$ 2154.21 (\$500 earmarked for students from TC)
 - o HTH Foundation Network for Good \$7030.51 (\$3500 will come from here for CRT)
 - o Funding requests? None on the sheet Dan will announce tomorrow morning to staff
- Hospitality
 - o SLC's 3/3-3/5-food needed for teachers?
 - o Teacher Appreciation week 5/4-5/8-need someone to take the lead on this
- Upcoming events

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- o Winter formal Sat 2/28. Parent social? All 3 high schools to attend, meet in PB or MB for Parent Social?
- o Music Fest: Sponsorship ops flyer, \$15/ticket, need to get word out
- o College RT 2/10-2/12
- New business- Email from the foundation, see below

What schools *can* use public funds for

Public funds may only be used for expenses with a **direct educational purpose**, meaning schools must be able to clearly demonstrate how each expense supports student learning.

Allowable uses include:

- Classroom supplies tied to curriculum
- Materials used directly by students
- Instructional equipment
- Project-based learning materials
- Food that is part of instruction (e.g., science experiments, culinary lessons, cultural lessons)

What schools *cannot* use public funds for

Schools may **not** use public dollars for items that are not directly instructional, including:

Food & Refreshments

- Snacks for students (unless instructional)
- Advisory snacks or meals
- Teacher or staff snacks, coffee, or appreciation meals
- Celebration food
- Food for morale boosting
- **Field trip lunches or snacks** (must be covered by non-public funds)

Events & Celebrations

- Decorations (balloons, flowers, party supplies)
- Gifts, prizes, awards

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Clubs & Voluntary Activities

Public funds cannot support voluntary or selective groups. This includes:

- Club apparel or merchandise
- Food for club meetings
- Competition or travel fees
- Club-specific equipment
- Fundraiser items

Clarification:

Club-related expenses should be covered by club budgets—meaning funds raised or secured by the clubs themselves.

What this means for Parent Associations

Because schools cannot use public funds for many non-instructional needs, PAs may continue to play an important role in supporting areas such as:

- Teacher appreciation
- Community-building events
- Decorations or supplies for non-instructional events
- Snacks and refreshments
- Morale-boosting items
- Fundraiser materials

This clarification does not change the mission of PAs, nor does it shift responsibility for club funding. It simply reinforces how different funding sources must be used.

Please also note that PA funds must remain in PA-managed accounts. Once deposited into a school account, they are considered public funds and are subject to the same restrictions.

Next Steps

As we move into the spring semester, I encourage each PA to:

- **Connect with your School Director** to reassess fundraising priorities and anticipated needs.
- Align on what support may be needed for the remainder of this school year.

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- Begin planning with these guidelines in mind for the **2026–27 school year**, as they will continue to inform budgeting and fundraising decisions.
- New business?
- Next Steps/Adjourn
- Meeting adjourned 6:06 pm

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