

HHS PTSA Meeting Minutes–September 26, 2023–In Person & via Zoom

In-Person Attendants: Kristin Bowen, Chimene Schwach, Mary Grupe, Dana Carter, Geni Alexander, Brenda York, Lisa Boyer, Megan Bounous, Amy Larson, Kristen Deken, Amy Childs, Susan Schommer, Katie Harris, Chuck Munter, Sive Schultz

Zoom Attendants: Christy Reedy, David Mitchell, Amy Hoyt, Shannon Cary, Joanna Trachtenberg, Valerie Freed, Amy Zguta, Cindy Sall, LeAnn Stroupe, Rebecca Gingerich

Introductions/Welcome: Kristin Bowen welcomed everyone. Geni Alexander and Megan Bounous introduced themselves as Vice Presidents.

Previous meeting minutes approval: Brenda York asked if anyone had questions, comments or changes in relation to last month's meeting minutes. Sue Schommer suggested adding her attendance at the last meeting. Katie Harris then motioned to approve August Minutes and Geni Alexander seconded. Minutes were approved with the amendment of adding Sue Schommer as an attendant at the August meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Income for concession sales is already in full swing. Each teacher can submit \$50 reimbursement, although not a lot of teachers have currently utilized it. The teacher appreciation lunch is coming up. Kewpie Grants and Club Cash will be being paid out soon. Negative balance currently in ECA account that will be resolved by January, particularly with Coke reimbursement.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Grupe was excited to share that HHS received a message from AP Institute of Drawing and Sketching in relation to a graduate from last year who scored in the top 1.3% of students in the world. There are 5 Hickman National Merit Semi-Finalists this year. HHS marching band will be in the Emerald Regiment competition at RBHS this weekend. New library furniture will be delivered tomorrow. 200 children have opted out of media exposure as a result of the opt-out option with the change in registration protocols this school year.

StuGov Report: Grace Harris & Bruce Wing. Homecoming Top 10 voting currently happening. The Charity Fair to go with Homecoming festivities will be on October 18th, the Homecoming game is slated for October 20th and the dance will be from 8-10pm on October 21th. Requests came from the student body about having the dance in the gym as opposed to the commons. Student Forums are scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of each month. StuGov is trying to plan some fall events, such as PTSA concessions, football movie night (in the fall or spring) as well as trying to focus on beautification inside and outside. StuGov will likely need volunteers for Homecoming and information related to that will be coming out in an email soon.

PTSA President Report: Revised version of officer's list is available.

Old Business: Update on how to keep the microwaves clean. Mrs. Malin (?--RISE teacher) is working on a spreadsheet to organize the microwave cleaning. It is a continual process of trying

to figure out how to keep the microwaves plugged in and/or in place and as it has been a frequent problem that students want to access the outlets that the microwaves are plugged into by moving them. Is there anyone interested in trying to contact facilities about the outlet problem? Mrs. Grupe shared that there is a problem with there not being enough outlets throughout the building and thinks that there may be some simple solutions. The route to get this done easier might be to share with those that are able to make decisions that there are not enough power strips to charge computers, etc.

Kristin Bowen then raised a discussion about school communications. Currently our school has many communication processes that we have done the same way for quite a long time. Of these, the website needs work and the principal should be sharing information more frequently. Mrs. Grupe said that she should be creating at least a monthly newsletter from the principal and more a static page to click on to see updates. She shared an example electronically of how to more easily share this information—a kind of spreadsheet to share information (a “tunnel”). StuGov Grace reiterated the idea of putting everything on a master calendar for ease of knowing when events are. Kewpie Tunnel would have news events and a master calendar. It is suggested that the S'More concept that parents have found useful in elementary and middle school could be useful, although who is supposed to be taking care of updating this information in the long-term? Mrs. Grupe will be managing this for now. For this to be successful, Mrs. Grupe needs to be able to build a list of questions that would be desired in the “tunnel” to help her figure out how to improve daily and/or monthly communication. A key question to figure out would be which groups get the primary focus? Two column preferences that were suggested for the “tunnel” would be “senior families” and “new families” as well as possibly inquiring with the front office about frequent questions to be able to add. Amy Childs & Katie Harris are going to help to spearhead how to get this process moving. As part of the communication discussion, Mrs. Grupe felt that it was important to share positive information and that should happen sooner.

It was suggested that the PTSA Facebook page is becoming redundant with too many reminders about the same things.

New Business:

Concession helper Sign-up Genius is being shared and will be shared in the announcements. Other volunteer opportunities will be happening soon, such as an upcoming flu clinic. Is there a way for PTSA to be of help in the building for the 3 professional development days coming up?

Club Cash is being tabled for this meeting, as Melissa Petsel is not present.

Committee Reports:

Concessions: Every event so far this school year, except for one has had at least a 30-40% profit increase from last year. There are a total of 5 home football games this season with the last three in the coming weeks. The basketball schedule will be figured out soon and then clubs will be able to figure out where they want to step in.

Landscaping/Beautification: Lisa Boyer shared that Second Saturday/Landscaping Day will be October 14th from 9-11am. National Honor Society hopes to help with this as well.

Kewpie Grants: Sue Schommer shared that the info went out last week for Kewpie Grants. They will be due the 3rd week of October.

Membership: There are 252 paid members thus far and 16 people with incomplete information. There are 49 faculty members, 145 parent members and 55 student members. An idea came about in relation to incentivizing individuals to become members, such as doing a monthly drawing for a concession stand meal, a diversity sweatshirt, etc.

Teacher Appreciation: Report from Rosemary Feraldi, who was unable to attend. The sign-up for the salad bar is going well. What she does not get in donations, she will pick up at Sam's. Lisa Boyer shared that in the past, they had to set up their own tables, chairs, etc. for the Teacher Appreciation events. A Sign-up Genius will go out for October soon (snacks, but no meal) and the sign-up after that will go out in late October for November's meal.

Website: What would be useful to be on the PTSA website?

Hospitality: Brenda York, Alicia Belmore, Emily Nusbaum and another person will chair the committee. Brenda York has already been in touch with Mrs. McMahon & Mrs. Hogan to let them know.

Fundraising: Megan Bounous and Geni Alexander shared that the Barnes & Noble fundraiser is December 9th.

Executive Team meeting is coming up October 9th. If anyone is interested, please let us know.

Next PTSA meeting November 6th at 5:30pm in Library.

Geni Alexander motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Kristen Deken.