

HPHS PTO MEETING

September 14, 2009

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 9:30 A.M. by Beth Shapiro Kopin – President

ATTENDANCE: Beth Shapiro Kopin, Jody Weinberg, Marjie Sandlow, Elissa Halpern, Beth Conen, Janna Berk, Julie Hoffman, Corinne Bronson-Adatto, Brad Swanson, Terri Olian, Lynne Lieber, Barbara Sereda, Liz Meyer, Sarah Liebman, Dawn Breiter, Tammie Smith, Mary Kathryn Dunsten, Laura Kaufman, Kim Martin, Rich Dodd, Carol Wolfe, Beth Olderman, Lisa Mann, Elizabeth Copeland, Lizzette Jacobson, Michelle Appelbaum, Annette Lidawer, Sue Libawsky, Jill Bernstein, Jill Katlin, Robin Nasatir

I. Welcome and Introductions: Beth welcomed all to the first meeting of the new school year. Time was taken to go around the room and listen to individual introductions as we get to know new and existing PTO members.

II. Minutes: The May minutes were presented. A motion was made to approve the minutes. Motion was approved.

III. Principal's Report: Brad announced that three mailings were going out today: (1) Open House; (2) Homecoming; (3) Explanation letter re: October 14/15 – Unique Schedule.

- (1) Open House – Brad explained the schedule for Open House. The program is 7:00 p.m. – 9:22 p.m. with 9 minute passing periods. Note: Teachers will be taking attendance during third period. All entrances will be open, including the library entrance. Parking – police will not be ticketing in the neighborhood so more parking will be available.
- (2) Homecoming - Week of October 5 – 10. Theme is FINAL FOUR. Homecoming Dance will be 7:30 – 10:30. Procedural change: Any student wishing to leave before 10:00 p.m. will have to present an “Early Release Approval” form signed by a parent. Dance is NOT a lock-in – the form is an effort to close the communication gap between parents and students.
- (3) Schedule – Oct. 14/15 – Classes will meet only in the afternoon; staff will be having department meetings in the morning. Morning schedule for students is as follows:

Students: Oct 14th – Freshmen – Explore Testing
Sophomores/ Juniors – PSAT Testing
Seniors – NAMES Program

Please note that the PSAT test is also the qualifying test for National Merit Scholarship. You must register for this test through the College Board. See the link on the HPHS website.

Students: Oct. 15th – Sophomores – PLAN Testing
Juniors – Mandatory Practice ACT Testing – we are partnering with
Revolution Prep
Freshmen – NAMES Program

IV. President's Report: Beth Shapiro Kopin – The new “HPHS Bricks Project” is underway – proceeds are to be split jointly between the PTO and Giants Club. This fundraising project involves selling bricks that will be laid at the Athletic Entrance off of Vine Avenue. Bricks will sell for \$50 apiece and will be sold till they run out. The overall project also includes four benches at the Athletic entrance that are a joint gift of the PTO and the Giants Club. The PTO has also donated money to the school to be used to buy additional benches to be placed by the H Entrance. Flyers for the Bricks Project will be available beginning at Open House.

V. Treasurer's Report: Jody Weinberg – Revised budget for 2009/2010 was presented. Changes were made to line items including Grad Night, Bricks Project and Check Awards. Also recognized some expense items. Some budget line items were reorganized to make the budget more clear.

VI. Committee Reports:

- A. Check Award Fundraiser – Check Awards Books are selling for \$35/apiece - include discount coupons for many great local businesses.
- B. Membership – 824 members registered as PTO members (780 last year). Thank you to Marjie Sandlow for her email effort – very successful and appreciated.
- C. Fine Arts – Committee is responsible for finding and featuring local artists. Great show is up right now in the library foyer. Discussion took place about whether or not artists may be available to speak to classes. Also, effort underway to explore communicating artist’s work (through website, etc.) to parents. Pamela Olin (sculpture) and Kerry Hirth (painting) being featured now.
- D. Book Sales – Great volunteers. Online registration of volunteers worked out well this year. Book Store Manager is wonderful and extremely organized. Thanks to all parents who participate and help so much.
- E. Hospitality – *Freshman Lunch* – takes place during Freshmen Orientation, the day before school starts. Approximately 600 kids go through the sandwich line in 12 minutes. Very efficient!
Open House – Dinner in the Commons is provided by this committee for teachers and certified staff. This year it will be catered by Casa de Isaac. Please contribute baked goods for Open House! Drop off “ready-to-serve”.
- F. Parent Directory – Thanks to all who helped put this together. Cover design by David Braun – contest winner.
- G. Parent Education – Aiming to do a program on January 27th, 2010. Topic is under discussion. Also, HPHS PTO is co-sponsoring a program with Deerfield Parent Network on October 29th at 1:00 p.m.: “Yes Your Teenager is Crazy”, presented by Dr. Michael Bradley. He is a national speaker on this topic. Program to be held at The Presbyterian Church in Deerfield – 824 Waukegan Road.
- H. Newsletter – Goes out electronically now. Deadlines for submissions of articles posted on the website.
- I. School Board Liaisons – Will give written updates as they attend meetings.
- J. Weekend Update – Watch for this in the Daily Announcements.
- K. Shoreline – Shoreline is the student newspaper. Down to 5 mailings per school year (used to be 8). Come join this committee and have a fun time chatting and doing the mailing!
- L. Newcomer’s Committee - Goals: continue outreach work with military families, transfer families, and Hispanic families. This committee is a good chance to reach out and meet new people.
- M. Grad. Night – Works on the plans for the school-sponsored event held on the night of graduation.
- N. District 113 Foundation Report – Working on the Spring fundraiser: Billy Elliott, to be held Sunday evening, March 21st at 7:30 p.m. Don’t forget about “Honor an Educator” tribute cards. They will be available at Open House, and may always be ordered through the foundation.

FYI – There is a newly formed “Theater Parent Group” called Encore (similar to Bandstand for Band and Crescendo for Chorus). See link on website for more information.

Please note: In an effort to be more responsive to parents who can’t attend Lunch with Brad, two new meetings have been added to the already-existing meeting schedule: October 16th –Coffee 7:15 a.m. and December 4th – 4:00 p.m. Hope to see you then!

Meeting adjourned – 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janna Berk

Secretary