

Minutes of the PTA BOD Meeting
Held November 11th, 2015 at 7pm
Waverly Elementary School Media Center

In Attendance

Kathy Jacobs	Rachel Edoho-Eket
Dani Boarman	Saral Patel
Karyn Peluso	Susan Walker
Kelly Balchunas	Tracy McEvoy
Shari Haddaway	Nicki Mantzouris
Anastasia Booth	Ernestine Wright
Kelly Van Horn	Laura Munns
Micky Coughlin	Bernadine Zissy
Cris Boarman	Olga Zavialova
Scarlett Goon	Ellie Paczkowski

Past President Message Dani Boarman

Dani is running the meeting for today as we are transitioning from Chi's resignation. Dani contacted the HoCo PTA council and confirmed that we are moving forward within our bylaws which state that the 1st Vice President is the immediate successor of the President. Also, if our 1st VP is willing, they may immediately step in to fill the President position. Karyn is our 1st VP and she agreed to step up and take the remainder of the President position for the year. Dani will be assisting Karyn with the transition. At the end of this term Karyn may go through the election for next term. Thank you to Karyn for stepping up.

October 2015 PTA BOD Meeting Minutes are approved.

President's Report Dani Boarman

Thank you to . . .

Karyn Peluso for the activities from the past month - including the Halloween goodies. Bernadine Zissy and Kelly Van Horn for helping to purchase, count and distribute the Halloween treats.

Hospitality for getting ready for staff dinner during conferences

Fifth grade activities for 5th grade t shirts and preparing for the remainder of activities

Cultural arts - moving forward on taking care of assemblies

Reflections - been very busy preparing for next week

Directory - for preparing and completing our directories

In Dec we do a holiday celebration in place of our formal meeting in the WES media. Location to be determined.

If anyone is interested in fulfilling the vacant VP position, please let us know and the position will be voted on by the PTA BOD (Board of Directors). Information will go about the open VP position in case people may be interested. The BOD vote will be slotted for a future meeting.

Principal's Report

Kathy Jacobs

Thank you to the PTA. The Halloween Oreos were appreciated. The parade route went smoothly.

Anticipating American Education Week - asking the community to refrain from eating at school because it's very difficult to accommodate all the visitors in addition to the students. Waverly has always been open about parents eating with students at lunch (some schools don't permit) however, need to restrict for American Education Week due to crowds in cafeteria. A note was sent out regarding Thanksgiving lunch - last year ran out of food for the last lunch shift so we can not allow visitors to buy Thanksgiving lunch.

Conferences -

Hopefully explanation in the Waverly Wire was clear. Conference scheduling is opening this Friday. Parents will register for a conference with your child's session 1 teacher. If a conference with session 2 teacher is needed, please send a note to school making a request.

4th and 5th grade GT- you will be conferencing with the session 1 teacher. If your child has the GT teacher session 1 - then you will see the GT teacher.

For all conferences there will be feedback from all teachers in terms of what is being covered in class and anything else that the other teachers wish to share.

A direction sheet for scheduling conferences will be coming out.

Looking forward to December - concerts and other fun things coming up.

Construction Updates

Approved newest development design for our school . . .

Over 4 days different staff members from different departments were able to give feedback regarding the original plan and actual changes came out of the staff's feedback. One of the biggest changes is that the 3rd grade team was going to be demolished to build a two story addition representing 14 classrooms and included an activity room (second gym) - no longer occurring in that fashion.

Also in original plan - visitors would still enter through the front doors. Now the gym is going to be completely rebuilt off the back side of the school going out across where the current black top is. The gym will be really big because conceivably it will have to house 3 classes at one time. The new gym will have white boards and projectors. The current gym will be office suites, (so still will be coming from front entry into secure office area) offices and conferences rooms. Where the office is now will be an additional art room and enlarged health room suite (ours is currently not up to code).

Ground breaking next September - starting with exterior construction first (third grade will be demolished and rebuilt - two stories)

A great deal of thought went into what would be good to have now as well as in the future and the school board and the engineering and design firm really supported the desires. Doubled amount of music area, reconfigured where special education type of rooms will be available. Very productive process over many days.

Assistant Principal's Report

Rachel Edoho-Eket

4th and 5th grade students have taken the strengths assessment and are aware of their strengths and how they can be applied. The staff will continue to talk about ways to incorporate strengths information into classrooms.

Students are asking for a way to be highlighted/recognized for their strengths.

Currently working on initiating something in the school.

Teacher Report

Shari Haddaway

Very excited about next week - American Education Week. Teachers have been preparing and are eager for parents to see how well the ESM (Elementary School Model) is running. Waverly is really off to a great start.

Vice President' Report

Kelly Balchunas

The flu mist was delayed and is now scheduled for the 16th of December. Will be asking for parent volunteers to assist.

Vision and screening is also coming up - on the 14th of December. Will need parent volunteers to help things run smoothly.

Hoping to have a spring event - Fun Run. Currently working with the Wellness Committee on the Fun Run. Beginning the planning process and possibly tying into the WES 25th anniversary. Mary Beth Hance is working on this. Hope to have more info in the near future.

Treasurer's Report

Saral Patel

Ending checking account balance for 10/30/2015 is \$55,948.07.

Total Income from the month: \$12,142.67

Total Expenses for the month: \$5993.58

Fallfest: \$9,176.55 income and \$2916.35 expense. (there are a few expenses that were reimbursed in November) Thank you again Karyn!

Membership Numbers

413 parent members

47 staff

Total 460 members

IA letters (disbursement of funds PTA allocates to help cover staff expenses) were sent out last week. A few glitches. One teacher was not included and we will have that letter out tomorrow.

Saral has an update on dining for Dollars with Glory Days. She would like to ask for a volunteer to help her coordinate.

Council Delegate's Report

Nicki Mantzouris

Nicki attended the November 2nd PTACHC meeting

Homewood School overview and how PTAs can help

Suzanne McMurtray, Principal, and Suzi Young, a Homewood teacher, spoke to the delegates about Homewood, and that they reach out to all Howard County PTAs for help recognizing staff and funding programs. Homewood has no PTA of its own - the school is populated by students across the county, and the majority are on the free/reduced lunch program - those 2 factors are believed to be the reason no PTA has ever been formed. Homewood is asking for help from all PTAs - could be in the form of gift cards, money - anything they can use to help recognize staff and fund programs. In addition, each year Homewood has a "Recycled Treasures" sale for their students - the staff collects donated items (e.g. new/gently used toys, stuffed animals, new clothes (with tags), DVDs, video games, etc.) for this sale. Through the year, students earn "money" they can spend at the sale - they can purchase items for themselves, for siblings, parents, etc. Staff and volunteers wrap the gifts for the students - it's been noted that often these are the only presents a family might receive at the holidays. Homewood is asking all the PTAs for help with this sale - collecting items for the sale, and/or gift bags/tissues for wrapping gifts. They are also happy to have volunteers. Items can be donated until 12/15. Suzi Young (suzi_young@hcpss.org) is the POC for the Recycled Treasures sale.

Homewood's 11th Annual Recycles Treasure's Sale

Flyers can be found at www.ptachc.org (Ms Jacobs to include link in The Wire)

Event is Dec 11th Students earn money up until the sale. On the 22nd the students go in and "buy" - usually for their family.

Superintendent's Report, Joan Foxx, HCPSS

Federal Impact forms went home - please encourage military and federal families to fill out and return. She also spoke about Financial Aid seminars coming up (for college) - 11/5 Marriotts Ridge HS, 11/16 Oakland Mills HS, 12/2 Hammond HS

Board of Education Report, Christine O'Connor

Summaries are posted to PTACHC website.

Discussion regarding school start/dismissal times has been tabled.

There are 418 homeless students across the county.

Discussion of mold situation in HCPSS schools, Bill Santos led the discussion
Mold has been confirmed in Glenwood MS, Mount View MS
A very detailed timeline was presented regarding the series of events leading to mold being identified and remediated at Glenwood MS. (attached separately.)
School system has created an Indoor Environmental Committee - goal by January 2016 is to design a framework of plans and protocols to provide information to parents
HCPSS has hired Building Dynamics to study the problem and make recommendations - the president of the company has been to GMS, and talked about different types of mold, how it can grow, building conditions that are conducive to mold growth. GMS rep mentioned that there were recently 2 roof leaks, and did not seem to believe Building Dynamics rep when he said that the leaks were due to "sweating pipes," and that both leaks had been handled.
Q & A with HCPSS reps Mr. Eastman, Mr. Gist, Ms. Foxx
GMS rep asked if an independent study could be conducted, rather than a study done by an HCPSS contractor
Glenwood parents are still very unhappy. Issues began in 2008 and ongoing to present
Parents feel fed up and feel that have been given the run around

Committee Reports

Reflections

Jen Donahoe happymom93@verizon.net

Going very well. 100% of teachers participated! This is the first time in the last few years we have had 3 individually composed music compositions. Only glitch right now - nobody coming out yet for entertainment at recognition ceremony. Still working to see what can be arranged. Invitations went out to every child who submitted an entry as well as every child whose teacher submitted an entry on behalf of the child. May have received two invitations if submitted by both teacher and child. Mrs. Jacobs will read all of the names. Gift cards have been purchased. Kelly is co-chairing and has committed to chairing next year. Suggested for Spanish teachers to do salsa dancing as part of the entertainment. Bernadine Zissy will check in with Spanish teachers. Kelly Balchunas is checking with Jen Bavaro regarding her daughter's dance troop.

Book Fair

Cristen Boarman

The Book Fair will be February 22-26th. It is a full week of school Dani Boarman needs to check and confirm that the media center is reserved and there are no conflicts (including as needed after school/evening hours). Tues and Wed evening 4-6pm. Ice cream social in evening hours on Friday. No theme yet. The Book Fair will be dropped off on February 18th.

Cultural Arts

Ellie Paczkowski

Kim Warren is finalizing the Blue Skies (character building) assembly. Will be a one day assembly school wide. Could be the week of Jan 18th or 25th. Administration prefers it to be the later week.

Ready to book our author for May 5, 2016. Her name is Lulu Delacre and will cost \$800 for 2 assemblies. k-2 assemble and 2-5. She is bilingual. Check her out at luludelacre@vrizon.net Ellie will take the day off to be her liaison. Ellie will see Karyn and Dani to go over other author day details (including lunch)

Ellie has delegated one person to each grade to get the assemblies planned for each grade.

Field Day is scheduled for 5/27 with a rain date of 6/3. Ellie is looking for fun requests for entertainment (TKD or Karate troop?). Ellie will see Mrs. Jacobs or L. Heisey for scheduled indoor times. Typically 1 act/entertainer doing 2-3 "shows" back to back.

Science fair - date coming soon. The science fair introduction (Mr Eisentrout) is Jan 5th during the school day. The science fair kick off is Jan 6th (administration expressed concern bc now have Blue Skies potentially the week of the 18th)

Directory/Handbook

Olga Zavialova

IS ready! They are in the bins to go into Friday folders. Thank you, OLGA! Will be more expensive this year because 700 printed this year - last year only 600. Olga to pass bill onto Saral.

Fifth Grade Activities

Munns, Laura

\$900 budget from PTA - completely used up for t shirts

Is there another budget line for congressional hearing? Yes - included in special days and it is \$500

Continuing to work on t shirts. PTA pays for each 5th grader to have a t shirt. Cost of each t shirt was \$6. There was a design contest for the t shirt and Aashika Balajis won. Thank you to Mrs Soklow for all of her help with t shirt ordering and the contest.

Ready to tackle Congressional Hearings and Pool Party.

Holiday Shoppe

Kelly Balchunas

Dates are Friday, Dec 4 from 6:30-8:30pm and Saturday, Dec. 5 from 9:30-11:30am in the cafeteria only.

- Advertising in the weekly pta emails and in Mrs. Jacob's Friday Wire has begun.
- Liz Page will contact After Care regarding ability to start setting up in the cafeteria at 5pm so we are ready for the 6:30pm start time.

Committee recap . . .

1. Using the same vendor, Penguin Patch.

2. Boxes are scheduled to arrive soon for us to sort the gifts by code. They will be organized in boxes by code for easy set up. I have already contacted the front office staff so they are aware boxes are coming.
3. Once we have items, we will decorate the Hallway Display Case.
4. Flyer: Flyer to promote the event will go home in Friday folders on Nov. 20. We will not send home shopping envelopes this year. Instead, they will be given to students when they arrive at the event. If a child needs help shopping, we will fill out the envelope with their parent and place the child's money inside.
5. Parent volunteers: we will create a Sign Up through Sign Up Genius as in the past. We will have that ready for the Weekly PTA email that is sent out this week on Nov. 15 or Nov. 16.
6. Student volunteers: two options to consider. We may recruit MRHS and Mt. Hebron HS students again. Or, we are thinking of recruiting girl scout troops of 6th grade age and above to help our elementary school students shop.
7. Decorations: Winter theme. Use Wildcats again and put hats and scarves on them. White balloons to create an entrance. Paper snowflakes.
8. Food: Our committee will make a decision about food, but we may decide to not have pizza or donuts.
If we order pizza for Friday, we will keep the quantity low. Maybe 6 or so pizzas. We ordered way too much last year and took a loss.
If we order donuts for Saturday, it will also be minimal.
9. Girl Scout troops Bake Sales:
I have been contacted by two girl scout troops who would like to have Bake Sales on Friday and Saturday morning. I said that it could work and each troop could take one day.
10. Cash Box:
We will need to get starting cash for the registers and will work with Saral on the request.

Old business

PTA shed -- Dani Boarman found that the PTA is responsible for repair if the PTA decides to keep the shed. Concern expressed that in it's current condition the shed really needs to go. PTA needs to decide if it's worth getting a new shed or could the items in the shed be stored elsewhere. Decided to send out an email looking for a shed committee/parent volunteers to build a shed. Also need to deal with removal of shed. Fall Fest committee is on board to do it another year. So Fall Fest items in shed will be needed in the future. Solicit general population to see anyone responds to help with the shed.

New Business

Ellie Paczkowski - Cultural Arts committee member asking about sponsoring another school's assembly (if they don't have their own funds). Manor woods did a pay it forward to a needy school. Would need to be voted on by BOD. Ellie will ask for data and for person to come present to BOD. Could possibly look into doing with another or other schools. Pulling resources makes for greater potential.

Also can look into sharing assemblies between schools and authors. Sometimes presenters are willing to negotiate knowing they have an am and pm assembly scheduled.

Also, thinking about 418 homeless children in the county and how to be a resource. The PTA currently donate to HoCo Scholarship Fund and Prepare for Success (supplies in backpack).

Micky Coughlin - Keys for Reading program

No accountability for how many students went last year (to Frederick Keys game).

Confirmed that we will not do the assembly and just circulate the flyers this year.

Bernadine Zissy - Fundraising Event possibilities

Pinot's Palette - Family night - 20% go to school (excluding alcohol - PTA can not accept money from alcohol sales) - 40 is biggest group they can accommodate - if 20 or fewer people, not a private event.

The Pottery Stop and Coffee Shop - if item cost \$6 then the PTA can charge \$6 +\$x and receive \$x profit/item. Owner will do something at the school - ornaments, mugs, plate etc - could make it a family event and charge per person. Could be an activity during screen free week or Holiday shoppe or w 25th anniversary - do paw print at fun run . . .

Karyn looking into this.

Mrs Jacobs checking on strings concert dates

Adjourn