

Holmdel High School PTSO
March 9, 2015

Karen called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The PTSO meeting took place in the auditorium. Karen pointed out the fire exits and asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence. Linda Jackman made a motion to accept the February minutes. Darlene Kiss 2nd. All approved.

President's Report

The time to start thinking about the PTSO leadership positions for next year has arrived. I hope you have all put your names forth as you are able to Lucia Van Name, chairwoman of the Nominations Committee. Nominations will close this month and the slate will be read at the April meeting to be voted on at the May meeting. All positions are open to being filled. I sent out requests for nominations for the PTSO elected board positions to the entire HHS population via the newsletter as well as the PSG newsletter for 8th graders. I still have some forms with me if you could have possibly missed it. Please volunteer if you are able.

Chartwell's Food Service. I will be meeting with them in May if you have compliments, concerns, or suggestions.

The lower schools are still rallying their communities for the upcoming Battle of the Faculties selling color coded t-shirts and other paraphernalia. It should be a big deal. Our own Project Graduation has a way for high school students to be involved.

Battle of the Faculties is planned for March 26.

5K race around Bell Labs property on May 31

HFEE is encouraging people to use their Matching Gifts benefits to donate to HFEE—Do that for PTSO to.!

Vice Principal's Report – William Bonner –

- Currently interviewing for a new athletic director
- PARCC NEWS: After speaking with parents, students and staff we have flip- flopped the original PARCC schedule. There will now be 100 minutes of testing each morning from 7:25a.m to 9:05a.m. All Students must report to their period 1 class by 9:09 a.m. Seniors with senior option come to period two as usual. Class periods will be shortened to 33 minutes each. Students are welcome to take the bus

in at their usual time (7:25) and review periods will be offered during testing if they are unable to get a ride in for the 9:09 start time.

Because of the snow days last week we only have 3 days of testing complete. The revised testing schedule has been sent via email to all HHS students and he will send an E-Blast out to parents today.

- Boys Basketball (15 seeded) defeated second seeded Red Bank Regional in the first round of the NJSIAA Tournament, Group 3, Central Jersey.
- Girls Basketball will play in the first round of the NJSIAA tonight.

GUEST SPEAKER - Mayor Eric Hinds – “Thank you for dedicating your time, commitment and energy to the school.” “I have a personal goal to better connect the town and the school system” Mayor Hinds shared some examples of how he would like to accomplish this goal:

1. Providing recognition to students for academic and extra-curricular activities at the high school. Please contact him directly if you know of anyone who needs to be recognized.
2. Encouraging the high school community to sign up on the township website to get updates on township events and township meetings.

Teacher Representative - Sherryl McBride and Kristin Boca-

Science League

On February 12th, the meet of the New Jersey Science League for Area 22 was held at Marlboro High School. True to form, HHS again swept all six categories, taking first place in Bio 1, Bio 2, Chem 1, Chem 2, Phys 1 and Phys C.

Student Achievement

- Congratulations to David Lin, whose paper, “Investigating the Application of Cellulose in Biodegradable Flame Retardant Polymer Blends” was chosen 'Best in Advanced Materials Science and Manufacturing' by the United States Army Picatinny Arsenal and ARDEC (US Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center). David did this work last summer at Stony Brook University. He investigated the use of modified cellulose as a flame retardant in an effort to move away from the traditional halogenated flame retardants which are highly toxic and will wreak havoc on the ozone layer when released to the atmosphere. He will receive the award from the US Army at a Banquet at the Eatontown Sheraton on March 19.
- Congratulations to Joe Blazer who qualified to take the second examination of the 2015 United States Physics Olympiad. He is one of the 350 students nationwide

(among thousands who competed in the first examination) who has been invited to take the semifinals. From this pool of students will be chosen the top twenty who will compete to be part of the US Physics Team who will be competing in the International Physics Olympiad, held this summer in Mumbai, India.

Officer's Reports

VP Membership –Allyssa Coffaro – 2 new families joined bringing membership up to 286 families and 35% of HHS families.

VP Fundraising – Roseanne Wriedt and Robin Andersen – Over \$1,000 raised in response to 2nd request letter.

Treasurer's Report – Robin Grossman- Robin read the Feb Report.

Income (Membership, Annual Fundraiser, Pathmark Script, Bake Sales, photocopier).....\$657.16
Expenses (Year Book Donation, Hospitality, PayPal Fee).....\$310.49
Ending Balance as of Feb 28\$18,544.54
Debbie Bergamotto made a motion to accept the February Treasurer's Report. Carol Lyons 2nd. All approved.

Corresponding Secretary – Dani Page – No report

Recording Secretary – Michele Shields – No report

Committee Reports

ARISE Liaison – Ana Vander Woude- The Basic Rights Workshop hosted by SPAN was excellent. Another workshop is planned for April 16 at 9:30 a.m. on Least Restrictive Learning Environments.

Bake Sales – Deidre Kane and Jennifer Yan – No report

Dates: The third Tuesday of the month.

March 17 April 21 May 20

BOE –Ana Vander Woude – Met on Feb 25. Hired a new assistant business administrator. The Calendar for the 2015/2016 school year has been approved. The first day of school will be Sept 8 and the last day will be June 22. Spring Break will take place March 25 to April 1. Regarding the Athletic Director position, the board had hoped to have a candidate for the next meeting, but all of the snow days prevented interviews from taking place so the decision may have to be bumped to the next meeting. (There was a discussion about the rotating schedules lack of momentum following Ana's report.) She addressed the issue by commenting that

the group of parents, students and administrators who have been working on the rotating schedule need to reconvene and present their findings to the BOE. No date has been set as of yet.

Booster Liaison – Roseanne Wreidt – No Report

9th Grade Class Liaison – Dina Hamwi- Mr Gurney – The Freshman class has made history this year raising the most funds ever by a single class!! Valentine candy sale went well. Planning a Spring Pie Sale for the upcoming holidays featuring delicious Dearborne pies. All orders are due March 23. Other fundraisers are in the works.

10th Grade Class Liaison – Lisa Cronin – Alana Lazar –Currently running their Spring Candy Sale. Proceeds from this should be \$950 or more. If 10th grade parents would like to purchase candy for their Easter Baskets, please contact Lisa ASAP!

11th Grade Class Liaison – Mary Lou Moramarco – Lauren Lepore – Students are getting ready for the prom.

12th Grade Class Liaison – Donna Disko – Sean Dowd – No report

Facebook – Vicky Entwistle - Thank you for regular updates. It is a very useful site.

HCAA –Cindy Manning– Nice article in the Holmdel Journal about the Teacher Talent Show - thanks to them for that.

Upcoming: District Art Show 3/11-3/14, including the Transform a Tee Project. National Art Honor Society took our "Got Talent?) tees and transformed them into original works of art. They look awesome! Come out and vote with your donations for your favorite.

HTG musical - Anything Goes - 3/12-3/14 7:30 pm \$5 for students/seniors \$12 general

Village 3rd grade musical 3/13

District Music Concert - 3/24 we will be selling concessions that night, including some dinner options

HCAA is accepting submissions for board positions. Contact Cindy Manning.

Our scholarship forms are available for the students in the guidance office.

We will be sponsoring a Photo Contest open to students in grades 1-12. It will run April 1-30. Look for more info soon.

HDAA – Kristin Echavaria – No report

HFEE –Tom Minerva–No report

Hospitality – Emma Butler – No report

Newcomers – Colleen Fischer – No report

OneCause Fundraising – Kim Jeanos – No Report

Photocopier –Cindy Manning– The copier made \$3.60

Programs – Darlene Kiss and Darlene Field – No report

Project Graduation – Linda Jackman and Debbie Bergamotto –

- Sent letter to parents of seniors asking for donations. 31 parents sent in money, so far \$1,535 raised.
- Selling foam fingers for Battle of the Faculties for \$5 each. Sold 158 so far mostly to Village and Indian Hill. .
- Flyers for Graduation lawn signs will be sent out after spring break. Satz 8th grad and HS senior signs will be available. \$25 non-personalized and \$30 personalized.
- Shop Rite and Stop and Shop gift cards are still available.
- Next meeting is March 25 in the library conference room.
- Contact holmdelprojectgrad@gmail.com for any information

Publicity – Joanne Colella – No report

Special Projects –Emma Butler- No Report

Student Directory –Teresa Slade and Alisha Baylock – No report

Sunshine – Alyssa Coffaro – No report

Website – Jennifer Yan - Thank you for updating the website

Provisional Business – Continued concern over the PARCC testing was shown at the meeting. Several issues were discussed including

- Can retired teachers proctor tests so our teachers have more time to focus on teaching?
- Although a few parents have opted their children out of taking the test, overall attendance has been excellent.
- Because class time has been reduced to 33 minutes a lot of teachers are splitting regular exams into two sections. Some parents worry about this affecting student's grades.
- Although the revised PARCC schedules have been sent to all of the students email addresses, a request was made of Mr. Bonner to send an E-Blast to parents as well
- How will the PARCC exams count in rating and evaluating students and teachers? As of right now there are no definite answers to these questions.

New Business – Teresa Graw informed us of the Holmdel Town Hall Flag Sunburst beautification project her son is doing for his Eagle Scout Project. Daniel will be constructing steps, landscaping, and a patio with commemorative bricks around the flag at Town Hall. For more information and if you would like to purchase a commemorative brick please contact Teresa a dgraw30@gmail.com.

Parents voiced their concern that the funds for the PTSO gift from last year, to set up a lounge area in the lower commons, have yet to be utilized. An update from administration is needed on this issue. Dina Hamwi and other members discussed possibly helping to implement these funds and order furniture and equipment for the lounge. before it is too late for senior students to enjoy.

Debbie Bergamotto made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Darlene Kiss 2nd. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

The next PTSO meeting will take place on April 13 at 9:30 a.m. in the Holmdel High School Auditorium.