

## Holmdel High School PTSO

Oct 15, 2014

Karen Strickland called the meeting to order at 9:35 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 for Timmy McDonnell. Darlene Kiss made a motion to accept the September minutes. Lisa Cronin 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

### President's Report

- Thank you to our wonderful hospitality staff for another wonderful BTS Teacher's Tea:
- All Board Positions are now filled thanks to Ana Vander Woude and Cindy Manning
- Superintendent's Meeting:  
Discussion: Disclaimer on handouts you physically give to students should read "THIS EVENT IS NOT SPONSORBY THE BOE" instead of the old "ENDORSED By. This does not apply to emails or handouts we directly mail to parents. Availability of insurance for events and leaders of groups discussed.
- News From Other Schools:  
**Village:** Ladies Night Out Oct 23, information on website.  
**W.R. Satz:** Oct 20 Alex & Ani Event- dinner at Bistro and shopping after. 15% goes back to Satz.  
Nov 10 -15- Fall Clothing Drive- put outside door 26 in well tied garbage bags.  
Nov 24 – Harlem Wizards Game – Save the Date

### Superintendent's Meeting:

#### Important Dates

*All PTSO meetings are on Monday Morning, 9:30 a.m. unless otherwise noted.*

October 25: **6:30 p.m. Comedy Night, Holmdel Fire House**

Nov 10: 7:00 p.m. PTSO Evening Meeting – HS Auditorium followed by

8:00 p.m. Parents' College Night: "**Demystifying the College Process**"

Dec 8: 9:30 a.m. PTSO Meeting-HS Auditorium

Jan 12: 9:30 a.m. PTSO Meeting-HS Auditorium

Feb 9: 9:30 a.m. PTSO Meeting-HS Auditorium

March 9: 9:30 a.m. PTSO Meeting-HS Auditorium

April 13: 9:30 a.m. PTSO Meeting-HS Auditorium  
May 6: 10:00 a.m. Teachers Luncheon-HS Commons  
May 11: 9:30 a.m. PTSO Meeting-HS Auditorium  
June 8: 9:30 a.m. PTSO Breakfast Meeting

Principal's Report - William Loughran –

## Principal's Report – 15 October 2014

### National Merit Scholars

We congratulate twenty-eight (28) seniors as on their performance in the National Merit Scholarship Competition. The competition is based on students' performance on the PSAT exam last year as juniors. In order to be recognized as a "Commended Student", a student must score among the top 50,000 from among the 1.5 million students who take the PSAT each year. Two (2) of the students are being recognized as "Semifinalists", meaning they scored among the top 16,000 students in the nation. The students will be treated to a bagel breakfast and study break next **Wednesday, Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>**, and then will be honored at the BOE meeting later that evening.

### HHS Open House

We will be hosting an "Open House" on **Wednesday, Oct. 29<sup>th</sup>**, **beginning at 7:00 pm** in the auditorium. It is open to everyone in the community, but is especially geared for 8<sup>th</sup>

grade students and their parents - essentially, it replaces the meeting we hold in January each year. Look for more information in the near future.

## A Proposal for Time: Considering a Rotating Schedule at HHS

As part of the district's goal of investigating instructional time allocations, we will be investigating the possibility of a rotating schedule at Holmdel High School. A general information session is planned for **Wednesday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup> @ 7:00 pm in the auditorium**. Look for more information to follow in the near future.

## Enrollment (15 Oct. 2015)

12<sup>th</sup> - 262

10<sup>th</sup> - 229

11<sup>th</sup> - 258

9<sup>th</sup> - 214

Total - 963

## Dates of Importance

### October

14 - HS Bus Evacuation Drill (7:00 am)

15 - Transitions Mtg. (Pd. 2 - 8:15 am)

15 - PTSO Mtg. (9:30 am) /

- 18 - PSAT Testing (8:00 am)
- 21 - Project Graduation Mtg. (7:00 pm)
- 22 - National Merit Scholars' Breakfast (Pd. 2) / BOE Mtg. (7:30 pm)
- 23 - Parents of Sophomores Mtg. (Guidance Dept. - 7:00 pm)
- 25 - PTSO Comedy Night (Colts Neck Fire House - 6:30 pm)
- 29 - HHS "Open House" (7:00 pm)
- 30 - HTG's "Haunted High School" (6:00 pm)

**Teacher Representative** - Sherryl McBride and Kristin Boca- October 15, 2014 –  
PTSO Faculty Representative Report

**Thanks for the Tea!** Once again PTSO did a fabulous job. So many wonderful dishes and decorations to jump start us for the new school year. The faculty truly appreciated it.

**Shore Math League team** competes in a county-wide league. On Monday, 9/29/14, the 12-person team traveled to Marlboro High School and were one of three teams with a perfect score at the first meet of the 2014-2015 school year.

### **Poetry Out Loud**

In addition to pursuing other units of study, most English classes are preparing for the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest. Students select, study and recite a poem from memory. Last year Lucy Wang won the HHS level and regional level and then went on to earn a 2nd place award in the State Competition. During the previous year, Julia Shapiro also competed at the NJ State level. We're very excited about students having the opportunity to showcase their talents in this way; more importantly, however, is that all students who participate in this program have an opportunity to engage in the study of poetry in a meaningful way.

### **Psychology**

In psychology, students just completed a brain project. Students could choose from creating a parody movie poster highlighting a part of the brain, creating a brain-based board game, researching a case study, or creating a model brain. Students created spectacular projects!

### **Politics Club**

The Holmdel High School Politics Club hosted a discussion with local Democrats Karen Strickland and Janet Burke on Monday, October 6, as well as Republican Mayor Impreveduto and Republican Gregory Buontempo on Wednesday, October 8. These candidates will be running in this year's township elections, which will be held on Tuesday, November 14.

With elections rapidly approaching, these local politicians had the opportunity to explain and support their stance on some of the important local issues impacting Holmdel, including: open space, Lucent, campaign contributions, emergency services and taxes, amongst others. Additionally, the politicians also fielded questions from members of the Politics Club on a variety of topics and matters, from current issues in the community to how they got involved with politics. It was a very unique, insightful and invaluable chance for the Politics Club to meet and discuss pertinent local issues with their current and prospective township officials.

### **Officer's Reports**

**VP Membership** –Allyssa Coffaro – Lots of new families joined at our Back To School Nights. We currently have 266 families who have joined bringing us to 33% of all HHS families. 53 HHS teachers have joined as well. The winner of the membership raffle for two tickets to “Comedy Night” was drawn at the meeting. Congratulations to the Hyde family for being chosen.

**VP Fundraising** – Roseanne Wriedt and Robin Andersen– Everything is set for Comedy Night on Oct 25 at the Colts Neck Fire House on Route 537. It will feature 3 comedians this year and a delicious buffet dinner catered by Demarcos. Comedians are nationally known opening up for Eddy Murphy, Adam Sandler as well as one serving as the regular warm up comedian on the Rachel Ray Show.

**Treasurer's Report** – Robin Grossman- Robin read the Sept Report.  
Income (Annual Fundraiser, Membership, Comedy Night, Pathmark Script).....\$2,590.00  
Expenses (Void Check- security deposit last yr comedy night, security deposit-comedy night, P.O. Box rental, PayPal fees, Office supplies).....\$207.98  
Ending Balance as of Sept 31.....\$11,416.75  
Expenses for gifts to school 2013-2014.....\$7,700.00  
Available Balance .....\$3,716.75  
Darlene Kiss made a motion to accept the Sept Treasurer's Report. Lisa Cronin 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
All approved.

**Corresponding Secretary** – Dani Page – No report

**Recording Secretary** – Michele Shields – No report

### **Committee Reports**

**ARISE Liaison** – Ana Vander Woude- ARISE is a group that supports students with special needs. The next meeting is rescheduled from Oct 23 to Oct 28 at 7p.m. in the

HHS library. It will feature a reading workshop hosted by Janice Miglazzio founder/owner of “Neighborhood Lit”. The website is officially up and running.

**Bake Sales** – Deidre Kane and Jennifer Yan – Sales will begin Oct 21 and will be held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. They have received a great response and have plenty of bakers. A suggestion was made to post upcoming bake sales on Facebook and the website as a reminder to parents.

**BOE** –Ana Vander Woude –

- BOE Retreat was held on Oct 8.
- Gifting Policy was amended. Those who wish to make a gift to a school must first speak with the superintendent and principal of the school.
- The HTAA contract was approved for administrators.
- Co-op Ice Hockey Program with Marlboro School District is under review. Working on a shared service agreement.
- Should we retroactively apply changes to new grading system at HS?
- Audio Recordings of meetings are available on Website

**Booster Liaison** – Roseanne Wreidt – No Report

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Dina Hamwi- Mr Gurney – Freshman class will host a Halloween bake sale on Oct 30 in conjunction with Haunted High School event. They will also run a Thanksgiving Pie sale, their first ever, featuring freshly baked Dearborne pies. Forms will go out shortly with the HHS monthly newsletter and be available in the main office as well.

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Lisa Cronin – Alana Lazar - Starting preparation for the upcoming Powder Puff game. Sophomore class donates food for the concession stand and is also responsible for staffing it that evening. Lisa will be setting this all up, but needs a volunteer to run the event that evening. Everything will be set up for you in advance. Anyone interested in helping out please contact Lisa ASAP.

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Mary Lou Moramarco – Lauren Lepore – Gave advice to incoming liaisons on Powder Puff event. Sophomores raised \$1,300 last year with the snack bar proceeds. Be cognizant of the weather that evening when pre-buying food for the stand. Yankee Candle fundraiser coming to an end. Should have final numbers on that next meeting.

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Donna Disko – Sean Dowd –Working on Senior T-Shirt designs.

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

**HCAA** –Dina Hamwi– HCAA supports all of the arts in all 4 schools, and has a particularly great relationship with the HS. They fundraise throughout the year and awarded \$1900 in student scholarships last year. Everything goes back to the

students. Please consider joining. Working on hosting an educational artistic residency program that all students will benefit from. HCAA will be running a dedication plate fundraiser on seats in the HS auditorium. A \$25 donation will get you an engraved plate on a seat in the auditorium. Act quickly as there is a limited amount of seats available. Meetings are the first Monday of the month at 9 a.m. in the HS library.

**HDAA** – Kristin Echavaria – HS Youth Alliance was very busy in October. Last week they promoted “Respect Week” and next week is “Violence Awareness Week”. Oct 23 – 31 is “Red Ribbon Week” The 2014 theme is “Love Yourself, Be Drug Free”. The HDAA ordered 100 red t-shirts for the youth alliance to wear. The back of the shirt reads “What you do matters” This the 29<sup>th</sup> year of Red Ribbon, the nations largest and oldest drug prevention campaign. Heroes & Cool kids, funded by HDAA, starts next month with the first training at Vonage.

**HFEE** –Tom Minerva– No report

**Hospitality** – Emma Butler – Great Job on the Teacher’s Tea!

**Newcomers** – Colleen Fischer – No Report

**OneCause Fundraising** – Kim Jeanos – No Report

**Photocopier** –Cindy Manning– Collected \$4

**Programs** – Darlene Kiss and Darlene Field – “demystifying the College Process” presentation is set for Nov 10 at 8 p.m. immediately following our Evening PTSO meeting. This is a presentation set up by parents for parents with basic and helpful information about how to navigate the getting into college process. So far we have two speakers. Looking for a few more presenters, hopefully one for sports scholarships and Karen suggested a parent of a child who did not get in...a “what not to do” presentation.

**Project Graduation** – Linda Jackman and Debbie Bergamotto – Kidstuff book sale ends in Nov. Five hundred books have been sold to date. Next fundraising event is Skylr, scheduled for Dec 3. It is an extremely popular event here at the HS featuring a popular hypnotist and is open to students in **all grades**. Will start selling candy and water at the event. PG is looking for members of the senior class to become more involved in the planning of Project Graduation. Mr. Loughran welcomed the group to come speak at the next Senior class meeting to drum up support. Community service hours will be awarded to all students who volunteer to help.

**Publicity** – Joanne Colella – We need a representative to gather information on PTSO events, take pictures etc.. and send information to Joanne at the Holmdel Journal for FREE PUBLICITY!

**Special Projects** –Emma Butler- Checking into Holmdel Day

**Student Directory** –Teresa Slade and Alisha Baylock – Enrollment is very low, only 550 entries. Registration was extended to Oct 15.

**Sunshine** – Alyssa Coffaro – No report

**Website** – Jennifer Yan - Thank you for updating the website

**Provisional Business** – The audit committee is in the process of reviewing the treasurer’s books and will report back next month. Still working on getting a copy of the By-laws posted on the website.

**New Business** – Darlene Field is trying to get a presentation on “Distracted Driving” set up at the HS and Satz this year. This is supposedly a fantastic presentation that has been seen in every other school district in the state except for Holmdel. The presenter is a young musician who lost vision in both eyes due to a car accident caused by distracted driving. Jeanne Gross as well as other parents expressed a desire to help the McDonnell family out with the financial burden of feeding the hundreds of HHS students who have kept vigil at Robert Wood Hospital over the past few weeks. Michele Shields agreed to inform Tim McDonnell of our intent and collect the donations. Mr. Loughran said he would be in charge of collecting from the teachers as well.

Darlene Kiss made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mary Lou Moramarco 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

The next PTSO meeting will take place on Nov 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the Holmdel High School Auditorium. It will be immediately followed by the Demystify the College Process Presentation for parents at 8 p.m.