

Holmdel High School PTSO
April 9, 2014

Mary Lou Moramarco called the meeting to order at 9:45 p.m. The PTSO meeting took place in the auditorium. Mary Lou pointed out the fire exits and asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence. Darlene Kiss made a motion to accept the March minutes. Donna Disko 2nd. All approved.

Presidents Report -

- Mary Lou and Karen were unable to attend the President's Council Meeting. There was discussion at the meeting about the parent group's table at Community Day. Last year the table did not run well and one person was left to man it for most of the day. New ideas for revamping the table and the responsibilities for each individual parent group are being discussed.
- The Next President's Council meeting is tomorrow.
- Still looking for volunteers to fill next years PTSO board positions.
- Please support **Project Graduation** and purchase tickets to see the musical Shrek at Count Basie Theatre on May 2.
- **Project Graduation** is also running a Shoprite gift card fundraiser. Purchase Shoprite gifts thru the committee and 5% goes to supporting Project Graduation.
- Village School is holding it's 'Village Idol' on May 2. Hoops for Heart program and Kindergarten registration are currently underway.
- Drug and Alcohol Alliance is holding Sudden Impact on June 6 and is in need of volunteers. They can use college students. The event will run from 8:30 to 11:30a.m.
- **The PTSO COMEDY NIGHT is set for April 26.** It will be a **fun filled casual** evening featuring the comedy of Mike Marino and live music from the Paul Marino Band. The event will be held at the Greek Church in Holmdel. Buy your tickets from Robin Grossman or via the PTSO website on PayPal. We need to sell more tickets!
- The next **Chartwells** meeting is May 14 at 11 a.m. at the HS. Submit your concerns to either Mary Lou or Karen. Margie Davino sent an email suggesting that they use dishes made of sugar cane VS Styrofoam. These dishes can be composted when they are done.

For extra information visit the Parent Groups website at holmdelparents.org/Holmdel-high-school/

Important Dates:

Comedy Night April 26

Next PTSO Meeting: May 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Principal's Report – William Loughran –

A presentation on a possible rotating schedule was provided and the information will be posted on the website as well as sent out to the HS community shortly.

A ***Safe Not Sorry Program*** sponsored by the Holmdel Police Department is set up specifically for 12th grade girls. Girls must sign up with Holmdel Police Department in advance. It will focus on how to stay safe while living at college. Contact the Holmdel PD for more information.

A ***Heroin Presentation*** is set for May 1st at 6:30 pm in the High School auditorium. It is designed for parents and students from Grade 6-12... a flyer will be going out soon....

William Loughran
Principal, Holmdel High School
732-946-1832 (w) 732-946-0093 (fax)

Teacher Representatives - Sherryl McBride and Ann Raneiri -

April 9, 2014 – Faculty Report to PTSO

In Class Experience

Ms. Cogger reports that the classes of French III created new adventure books for Caillou (Canadian cartoon) learning about French speaking islands and mountain resorts while practicing the vocabulary of the extreme sports.

Field Trip Experience

Acting Classes

Ms. Connelly reports that this today, April 9th, the acting classes are spending the day in New York City with a focus on improvisational Acting and the Broadway musical. Students will have a one-hour workshop with professional improv actors, learning skills associated with this creative and challenging style of performance. Afterwards, the students will have thirty minutes to interview the professionals about their training and personal experiences in theater. Classes will follow this with lunch before heading to the St. James Theatre for the matinee performance of *Bullets Over Broadway*. Students will return to campus around 6:30 PM. A field trip such as this provides unique opportunities for students to learn from professionals in the field while they enjoy a Broadway performance. For some students, this will be their first time going to a Broadway show, and the hope is that these experiences will lead to life-long appreciation of the arts.

Italian classes

- Italian students from levels 1,2 and 3 went on a field trip to see *Sempreverde*, a bilingual production sponsored by IACE which taught lessons on being green and saving the environment. The musical production, attended by many NJ and NY schools, was enjoyed by all as well as the lunch that followed.

- Italian 4 Honors students attended ITANJ's cultural immersion day at Montclair State College and performed two songs, Che sara` and Pulcino Pio. Schools from all over NJ performed and competed by highlighting changes between Italy's past and its present, the cultural theme of this year's event.

Club News

World Language Honor Societies

All the World Language Honor Societies held their annual International dinner which continues to be a well attended and successful annual event. Members of the societies enjoyed a delicious international dinner prepared by students and moms. Dinner was followed by singing and dancing performances of each group in their respective languages. Students, teachers, and administrators alike had a great time!

Class of 2017

Ms. Lazar reports that the freshman, the class of 2017, are selling t-shirts for the color wars in May. All information was sent out on the computer to the class and order forms are available in the main office. It is a great design and the price is \$15. Also, we are selling Gertrude Hawk chocolate candy bars for our spring sale.

CONGRATULATIONS to the following faculty & students!

Faculty Scholarship Earned

Marie Kousoulis was one of a select few to receive a full scholarship to attend The Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute in Early American History for High School Teachers. The Institute is designed to enable teachers to collaborate and formulate interdisciplinary approaches to teaching social studies. Teachers, throughout the session, will visit historic Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Richmond. Ms. Kousoulis with 24 other teachers will explore and debate thematic topics and issues including unity vs. diversity, private wealth vs. commonwealth, law vs. ethics, and freedom vs. equality from Colonial America through the Cold War.

Poetry Out Loud

Congratulations to senior **Lucy Wang** who placed 2nd overall at the NJ State Finals in the "Poetry Out Loud" competition!!

New Jersey Science League

The March meet of the New Jersey Science League was held on 3/13 at Freehold Borough High School. Holmdel took first place in Bio1, Bio2, Chem1, and Phys 2, and second place in Chem 2 and Phys1.

Shore Math League

Eight members of our high school math team attended the countywide Shore Math League Awards party earlier this week at Monmouth Regional High School. The team collected their 2nd

place trophy (High Tech was 1st) for the season which they earned by competing in six meets throughout the school year. Congratulations to our math team who were the top non-magnet school in the county this year!

Monmouth Junior Science Symposium

Congratulations to Rajeev Erramilli who won honorable mention at the poster contest at the Monmouth Junior Science Symposium on 3-27.

Delaware Valley Science Fair

Congratulations to Nandini Krishnaswamy who won Honorable Mention (fourth place) in the Computer Science Category of the Delaware Valley Science Fair last week. An estimated 1000 students participated from three states, New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania, with entries in fifteen categories. Nandini's project was her Honors Advanced Research project from last year, 'Can Computers Understand Music'. We are very proud to say that this project was purely home grown, done without any help from any outside institution.

Chemistry Olympiad

This year's Chemistry Olympiad started off with the open exam in which the best and brightest chem students from Monmouth County compete for a chance to move to the semifinals. For the first time (apparently!) there was a three way tie for first place in Monmouth County and two out of the three are from HHS! Congratulations to Ray Wang and Jeffrey Lu for their first place finish in the United States Chemistry Olympiad Open exam!

They will take a grueling 5 hour competition in April (half written and half lab work) which will determine the twenty national finalists from which four students will be chosen to represent the US in the International Chemistry Olympiad held this summer in Hanoi, Vietnam.

World Civ Projects contributed to the 100 days of Silence Art Exhibit on the

Rwandan Genocide

Students in Ms. Lepore and Ms. McCracken's World Civ class have submitted projects to the Center for Holocaust, Human Rights and Genocide Education's (Chhange) 100 days of Silence Art Exhibit on the Rwandan Genocide, 20 years ago. They took human shaped silhouette's standing approximately four feet high, creating artistic symbolic representations of the Rwandan genocide via paintings, pencil, markers, photographs, primary sources, poetry, and other creative depictions. Their work will be on display at Brookdale Community College through July 2014. The grand opening of the exhibit was Sunday, April 6, 2014 at the Center in the Bankier Library building. Congratulation to all 28 of the students involved in this worthy project: Courtney Barbato, Ashley Burns, Jenny Chu, Natalie Cianci, Samantha Ciervo, Bianca D'Acunto, Amanda D'Amadeo, Liza Divinigracia, Michael Giordano, James Guerin, Catie Guilfoyle, Dan Gulko, Mariam Habek, Jennifer He, Sydney Hogan, Shravya Jasti, Aisha Jitan, Brendan Kaston, Erica Lin, Nicholas Lovoulos, Patricia Luk, Ryan Lupo, Danyal Malik, Jordan Malik, Samantha Moryto, Sam Phillips, Andrew Schiappa, & Tara Shenker.

Jersey Shore Science Fair

The Jersey Shore Science Fair was held on March 22nd at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. We entered four of our Honors Advanced Research projects (current and/or last year's). There were over 600 projects presented from 40 Jersey Shore schools, in 16 categories. While we have had several

entries from HHS the past years, this is the first time we have entered our HAR projects in the competition, and we did phenomenally well for newbies! The following are our entries in the competition:

Computer Science:

Second Place: Nandini Krishnaswamy: 'Can Computers Understand Music?'

Honorable Mention: Karin Smith: 'Encryption: Enhancing the One-time Pad'

Behavioral Science:

Honorable Mention: Mihika Gupta: 'Can Music Improve Mental Capability: a Study on the Effects of Music on Motor Skill, Cognitive Ability, and Memory'

Medicine:

Honorable Mention: David Liu: 'A Study of Bacterial Contamination in Rarely Washed Fabrics'

Nandini moves up to the States Competition which will be held at Drexel University in April.

VP Membership – Alyssa Cofarro – Some new membership has come in and a second request letter was sent out.

VP Fundraising –Teri Perez, Roseanne Wriedt – Everything is set for Comedy Night on April 26. Volunteers are needed to help out that day and evening. Demarco's is catering a delicious buffet dinner. We will be selling water and soda for those who do not BYOB. Anyone who would like to bring a dessert is welcome to. Ads will be put into local magazines and journals to promote the event. Donations of 2 cases of water and diet soda are needed. \$2000 has come in for The Write A Check fundraiser since the second request letter was sent out.

Treasurer's Report – Robin Grossman- Robin read the March Report:

Income (Pathmark Script, Membership, OneCause, Comedy Night, Write-A Check, Photocopier, and Bake Sales).....2,196.40
Expenses (Comedy Night, Second Mailing, Hospitality.....19.98
Ending Balance as March 31.....\$12,728.68

Teri Perez made a motion to accept the March Treasurer's Report. Linda Jackman 2nd. All approved.

Corresponding Secretary – Dani Page – No report

Committee Reports

ARISE Liaison – Darlene Kiss- No report

Bake Sales – Deidre Kane and Jennifer Yan – \$57 raised last month. They will be soliciting bakers for the next sale on April 22.

BOE – Abbi Finch – Contract was ratified. Next meeting is tonight.

Booster Liaison – Roseanne Wreidt – No report

9th Grade Class Liaison – Lisa Cronin – No Report

10th Grade Class Liaison – Mary Lou Moramarco- Running a flower bulb sale this month.

11th Grade Class Liaison – Donna Disko – The talent show was postponed to April 23.

12th Grade Class Liaison – Lucia Van Name – Milkshake sale went well. A bean bag toe touch fundraiser is set to April 10.

Facebook – Vicky Entwistle - Thank you for regular updates. Our social media team is on top of things.

HCAA – Julie Stolker –The One Act Festival is May 8, 9 and 10. Rehearsal will start this week. The HS TV Film Festival is April 25 at 7p.m.

HDAA – Kristin Echavaria – This month is Alcohol Awareness Month. Representatives from HDAA and the HS went to a conference on Heroin on March 21. The Sudden Impact Program is set for June 6. We have 2 speakers set to go and need volunteers to work the event that morning. There are 251 “new” illegal drugs that were introduced in 2013, worldwide; 158 in the U.S. alone.

HFEE – Tom Minerva – The Gala was well attended and a big success. The new sound system is installed at Indian Hill and works great!

Hospitality – Emma Butler – Teacher Appreciation Luncheon set for May 7. We need donations and help setting up and breaking down. Contact Emma if you can help.

Newcomers – Colleen Fischer –No Report.

OneCause Fundraising – Kim Jeanos – Received some checks

Photocopier – Vicky Mazzei – No report

Programs – Darlene Kiss, Darlene Field and Lisa Lograno – No Report

Project Graduation – Linda Jackman - Debbie Lynch – Shrek raised \$400. Please purchase Shoprite and Stop-n-Shop gift cards to benefit PG. There is no charge to you, but we get a percentage back from each gift card redeemed. Contact Linda Jackman or Debbie Lynch for details.

Publicity – Joanne Colella – Comedy Night was advertised in the Holmdel Journal.

Special Projects – Emma Butler- No report

Student Directory – Teresa Slade –The committee was able to fill all necessary positions to produce next year’s edition of the directory.

Sunshine – Laurie Fontana –

Website – Jennifer Yan and Kim Jeanos – Doing a great job of keeping the site up to date.

Provisional Business –

New Business – We need volunteers to help set up for Comedy Night on April 26. We will meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. Mary Lou read the 2014 Nominating Slate and asked for any nominations from the floor. None were offered. The slate will remain open until the May meeting when we officially vote on it.

2014 Nominating Slate:

President: Karen Strickland

Vice President: Roseanne Wriedt

Treasurer: Robin Grossman

Membership: Alyssa Cofarro

Recording Secretary: Michele Shields

Corresponding Secretary: Dani Page

Robin Grossman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Teri Perez 2nd. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m. The next PTSO meeting will take place on Monday May 12, at 9:30 a.m. in the Holmdel High School Auditorium.