

### **Holmdel High School PTSO September 12, 2011 Meeting Notes**

Mary Lou Moramarco called the meeting to order at 9:40 p.m. The PTSO meeting took place in the HS auditorium ., Mary Lou welcomed everyone and asked all to stand for the pledge of allegiance. Tammy Boyle made a motion to accept the June minutes.

Susan Miceli 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.**Presidents Report**

- The new Executive Board was introduced:  
1<sup>st</sup> VP Membership... Vicki Entwistle  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP Fundrasing... Teri Perez  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP Fundraising... Roseanne Wriedt  
Treasurer... Karin Swan  
Corresponding Secretary... Cindy Spalliero  
Recording Secretary... Michele Shields
- Back to school packets were done in June this year, which worked out well considering the hurricane and power outage that took place in August. We will make copies again in June and try not to interfere with HS exams.
- Freshman New Student Orientation was rescheduled for Sept 6.
- HHS Teachers Tea is September 21 at 1:50 p.m. The hospitality committee is looking for both food and monetary donations for this event.
- Parents of Seniors Night is September 13 at 7 p.m.
- Parents of Juniors Night is October 4 at 7 p.m.
- Parents of Sophomores Night is October 25 at 7 p.m
- The last BOE meeting was August 7 and there are two more this month on September 14 and 21.
- HHS Library needs new parent volunteers,
- Underclassman picture day is September 23.

**Principal's Report** - Mr Loughran welcomed everyone back by sharing some of his favorite back- to- school ads

- Juvenile Officer Cusick announced that he is retiring at the end of September and will be replaced by Jeff Ackerson. He will handle all juvenile cases in the district and act as a liaison between the school system and the Holmdel Police Department.
- The new HS nurse Mary Carllson was introduced
- The new HS guidance counselor Tracy Morgan was introduced.
- New HS staff members were announced including:  
Linda Billi – Main office  
Trevor Cahill- 9<sup>th</sup> grade English  
Sean Dowd – 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade English  
Tara Goldheimer – Special Education  
Sal Guastella – Social Sciences  
Claudine Sportelli – Special Education

- The High School Proficiency Assessment scores are in and 97% of HHS seniors passed the Language Arts and Literature section and 94% passed the Mathematics section. All seniors are expected to pass by the end of the year.
- 91% of HHS students earned passing grades on their AP exams. N.J has the highest AP scores in the country with 72% of students passing their exams.
- Thanks to NJEA we were able to upgrade hardware or replace all desktops in the library, staff rooms, and the computer lab in the graphic arts department.
- HHS hopes to take all existing CD projectors in the classroom and place them up in the ceiling.
- HHS gets a face lift with retaining walls and plantings.
- HHS served as a hurricane shelter during Hurricane Irene. Custodial staff worked around the clock with the Red Cross and the Salvation Army to maintain the shelter. Over 500 people used the facility.
- “Turnitin” Software for Academic Integrity is being used by all teachers. Students can upload their paper and print out an originality report. The program deters plagiarism by identifying where the information in each paper comes from.
- The new Bell schedule was presented and can be found on the HS website. School begins at 7:25a.m. and ends at 2:01p.m. Half day schedule will be 7:25a.m. to 12:43p.m. Delayed opening schedule will be 9:25a.m. to 2:01p.m.
- Collaborative Team Teaching Professional Development Programs are set up for staff and will be run by Monmouth University.
- Public Portal reviews are in and very favorable. Timeliness of grade recording was the number one comment from parents. Mr. Loughran communicated this concern to the teachers. If you have a concern with timeliness, school policy is that you contact your teacher first and address that concern with them directly, before moving up the chain of command. The 2<sup>nd</sup> comment about the portal stressed that teachers need to communicate directly with parents if students are not doing well and that the portal does not take the place of contacting the parent. Teachers are instructed to communicate with parents either through phone or email to address such concerns.
- Staff is analyzing the data from last year and trying to make recommendations about possible changes in the way we weigh and administer mid-term and final-exams. It may be more effective to replace these exams with instruction time.

**Vice Principal’s Report:** - Mr. Katz welcomed everyone back.

- Attendance policy was reviewed. More than 18 unexcused absences in a full year can result in a loss of course credit.
- Students need to be in their first period class by 7:25 a.m. 5 tardies in a semester can result in a conduct report. After 7:30 a.m. all doors will be locked and your student will have to be signed in by the main office.
- If you are picking your child up early please send a note. Your child must bring this to the attendance office and get a pass to leave the building. You do not have to come in to the building to sign them out unless you *forget to send a note*.
- The drug and alcohol policy was reviewed. Any off campus drug or alcohol police charge results in a 60 day suspension from all athletic or extra-curricular

activities. Any student found under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school grounds or a school field trip will be suspended for 5 days.

- The prerequisites for the National Honor society were presented and are available on the school website.

- 

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Principal's Report** – Mr. Bals-

- New legislation on bullying was discussed. You can no longer anonymously report an incidence of bullying. The new policy will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting
- HHS was invited to participate and be a pilot school in a project on ethical decision making sponsored by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. We will be collaborating with several other school in the area including CBA, The Hun School and Hi-Tech H.S.
- HHS has a goal of adding 23 additional sound field systems to the classroom. This will amplify the teachers voice so all students can clearly hear and allow freedom of movement. It also allows for great showing of DVD's and other media in the classroom.
- Daily announcements are posted to the website and sent to each students email account.

### **Teacher Representative Report-** Jackie Peters-

- Meet the Coaches night was held on Sept 8. Athletes from all three seasons attended with a parent
- Class meetings were held on Sept 9
- Several 9/11 commemorations took place at the high school including a moment of silence and the incorporation of a 9/11 curriculum "Learning form the Challenges of Our Times: Global Security, Terrorism and 9/11 in the classroom". It includes 56n lessons for kindergarteners to high school seniors. Our very own Jill McCracken is the author of some of the work in these lesson plans. She is being honored this month in Trenton for her hard work and will be interviewed by various media outlets
- Jill McCracken is the program moderator for a tribute to 9/11 Ordinary People- Extraordinary Action/A Tribute to 9/11 First Responders on September 19, 2011, 7:00 p.m. at Brookdale Community College
- Jill McCracken helped to bring the Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Education Center to Brookdale Community College.

**Officer's Reports****VP Membership** -Victoria Entwistle –Great start to the new year with 103 new families joining.

**VP's Fundraising – Teri Perez/Roseanne Wriedt- Great start with over \$3500 collected for the Write a Check Annual Fundraiser.**

**Treasurer's Report** – Karin Swan- Karin read the June, July and August report. Mary Pomarico made a motion to accept the report. Donna Disko 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved. Karin presented the 2011/2012 budget. More than 80% of all funds donated are directly given back to the school enhancing the education experience for all. Treasurer reports are available to all membership at the monthly meetings. Teri Perez made a motion to accept the proposed budget. Lucia Van Name 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved. Auditors will review last year's tax return and books.

**Corresponding Secretary** – Cindy Spalliero –

- **Committee Reports**
- **Arise- Need a liaison**

**BOE** – Barbara Daly- Mr. Saponaro resigned as Vice Principal of Indian Hill. The curriculum guides for AP French and Graphic design were approved, Dr. Antonio Martinez was appointed Interim Supervisor of Math and Science. Schedule B positions for the year were approved and can be viewed online.

**Bake Sales** – Debbie Bohny- 1<sup>st</sup> bake sale is Oct 15. Contact Debbie if you can bake.

**Booster Liaison** – Karen Mansuri- No report

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Donna Disko– Mr. Dowd is the new advisor.

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Lucia Van Name- No report

**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Debbie Bohny– No report

**12<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Liaison** – Pam Lynch- Senior Class T-shirt sale starts this month. Shirts are \$20 each. See Pam for order forms.

- **HCAA – Tammy Stanziale/Veronica Weber** –Meetings are the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month in the upstairs library. The Ad- Journal fundraiser is underway and is their biggest of the year. A \$40 ad in the journal comes with 2 free tickets to all shows for the season.

**Historian** – Lisa Ching- No report

**Holmdel Alliance** –Kristen Echavaria

**HFEE** – Roseanne Wriedt- 2012 dinner dance will be held on March 10, save the date.

**Hospitality** – Chris Hazel – No report.

**Newcomers** – Colleen Fisher – All 35 new students and their families were contacted and welcomed to the district. Working on new ways to help families adapt including giving them a student directory and a local contact sheet.**Operation Get out the Vote** – Need a liaison

**OneCause Fundraising** – Joan Scocco – We need a new liaison to take Joan's place.

**Photocopier** - Cathy Sorice- No Report

**Project Graduation** – Need liaison and members- This year’s venue for the project will be the “Club at Woodbridge”**Special Projects** – Emma Butler- Emma will book the table for Holmdel Day**Student Directory** –Theresa Slade- Website is open.**Sunshine** – Laurie Fontana- No report

**Website** – Tammy Boyle- Forms will be put up on the web page so we can avoid paper mailings next year. **New Business** –After hearing Mr. Loughran and Mr. Bals opinion that the sound field systems were a priority over the PTSO original gift of computer labs, Laurie Tascione made a motion to rescind our original gift of computer labs. Roseanne Wriedt 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved. Barbara Daly made a motion to approve the purchase of 4 sound-field systems for HHS classrooms @ \$7,300 and 3 benches to be placed in front of the school @ \$3700. The benches are part of the beautification project taking place at the school.

Karin Swan 2<sup>nd</sup>. All approved.

The next PTSO meeting will be on a Wednesday, Oct 12 at 9:30AM.