

Hammond Middle School PTA

Meeting Minutes for September 10, 2013

Attendees:

- Joanne Ashton, President
- Karin Bruce, 1st Vice President
- Daphne Stanley, 2nd Vice President
- Tricia Miller, Treasurer
- Pat Johnson, Secretary
- John Woodson, PTAHC Representative #1
- Deveonne Hamilton-Stokes, PTAHC Representative #2
- Sam Davis, HMS Assistant ~~Principle~~ Principal
- Amy Shugar, Restaurant Night Chair
- Samantha Callahan, Shopping Benefits
- Youfeng Jiang, Student/Teacher Basketball Game Chair
- Mary Beth Waak, PTA member
- J. Jaeger, parent

Minutes

- The meeting was called to order by PTA President, Joanne Ashton.
- Everyone introduced themselves. Joanne thanked everyone for attending.
- The August meeting minutes were reviewed, no updates were made. Joanne Ashton made a motion to approve the updated minutes; Daphne Stanley seconded; the motion passed.
- **Treasurer's Report (Tricia Miller)**
 - Current balance is \$6,594.32.
 - We had one expense, a building use fee from last year.
 - Tricia presented the updated PTA Budget for this year.
 - The board discussed Box Top and Shopping Rebates income. Should they go to the PTA or directly to the school? ~~Last year, the school received the Box Top income and the PTA received the Shopping Rebates income.~~ Previously, the school received the Shopping Rebates income. The Box Top income will go to the PTA. We will continue with that model this year.
 - Tricia requested the names of the team leaders, so she could proactively work with them to use their funds this year.
- **Membership Report (Tricia Miller for Heather Witt)**
 - We currently have 146 PTA members.
 - Dues income: \$1,350
 - Viking Club income: \$1,100
- **Principle's Principal's Report (Sam Davis)**
 - Magazine Kickoff is September 18, 2013
 - Same company as last year.
 - Same magazines.

- They have added giftcards, flower bulbs, candy and more.
 - New this year: Instead of getting trinkets for selling items, the students can use the money saved (from the trinkets) and donate it to purchase live chickens for people around the world.
 - HMS is a MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) School. MAP measures the reading and math growth of students over time.
 - MAP will supply HMS with 90 Dell laptops in 4 mobile labs to speed-up the testing process.
 - After testing, the laptops will remain at HMS and for instructional use.
 - MAP testing is scheduled to begin on September 23, 2013.
 - Fall Fling
 - The staff would like to tie-in community support to the Fall Fling by having a canned food drive at the event.
 - Picture Day will be September 26, 2013. The school needs volunteers to help.
- **PTAHC Delegate's Report (John Woodson and Deveonne Hamilton-Stokes)**
 - PTAHC is over budget. They plan to whittle-down the budget over the next few years.
 - PTAHC is considering a new fee structure.
 - Current: flat fee
 - Possible: fee based upon PTA population (larger population = higher fee)
 - PTAHC requests schools do not abuse the "no fee for school use" policy this year.
 - Dr. Foose gave a 1 hour talk on the "Common Core." Also mentioned changing the teacher evaluation process.
 - PTAHC Coat Drive starts October 1, 2013.
 - PTAHC is looking for volunteers for committees. See their webpage (www.ptachc.org) for more information.
 - PTAHC voted on new PTA Howard County officials.
 - PTAHC wants to network across school systems on common efforts. For example, get all the membership chairs together to share ideas.
 - PTAHC now has Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- **Presidents Report (Joanne Ashton)**
 - Back to School Night
 - Let Joanne know if you want a table at BTS Night -or- if you would like to speak at BTS Night.
 - Website Updates
 - Frank Castro is updating pages.
 - Send any updates you have to Joann. She will review, obtain any necessary approvals and work with Frank to post.
 - PTA Communications protocol – emails & flyers
 - Send your emails & flyers directly to Joanne Ashton for approval. She will work with the school to get approval.
 - The school works with "Outer Office" on Lime Kiln Rd in Fulton for printing services.
 - Joanne plans to send out monthly PTA Newsletter, similar to the one sent out on September 9, 2013. If you would like anything included, please let her know.
 - The PTA is still in need of a Volunteer Coordinator.
 - Howard County Drug Free Program.
 - There is a lot of information available on this program in emails (Howard County Public School System "Weekly News" emails.)

- **Volunteer Status – Interim Heather Witt (Joanne Ashton)**
 - Heather is working on volunteers for the Vision Screening program on October 2, 2013.
 - We will also need volunteers for picture day, September 26, 2013.
- **1st VP Report (Karin Bruce)**
 - Volunteer Updates
 - Volunteer forms when home last week.
 - Staff Appreciation & Adopt a Staff
 - Karin is working with Felicia Friedman to get Staff Appreciation up and running. Felicia is working on an “Around the World” theme for this year.
 - They are also working on something for Back-to-School Night.
 - The PTA catered lunch (Mama Lucia) for the teachers the week before school started.
 - Spirit Wear
 - Nothing to Report
 - Box Tops
 - Nothing to Report
- **2nd VP Report (Daphne Stanley)**
 - Cultural Events
 - Daphne will work with Kerry Dufresne (HMS Principle) on potential events and grants for this year.
 - Restaurant Night (Amy Shugar)
 - Amy is planning a restaurant night for 15 October at Chick-fil-A.
 - She is also considering future nights at:
 - Uno Pizzeria at the Columbia Mall
 - Red, Hot, & Blue in Laurel
 - She requested suggestions for other restaurants.
 - Community Relations
 - Nothing to Report
- **6th Grade Fundraiser (Pat Johnson)**
 - Pat proposed a Gift Card fundraiser to help off-set the costs of the Outdoor Education program for the 6th Grade.
 - Great Lakes Scrip Center (www.glscrip.com) has a program that allows PTAs and schools to earn money while selling gift cards.
 - Parents order gift cards and pay full price.
 - The PTA buys gift cards from Great Lakes Scrip at a reduced price (ie 95% of face value).
 - The PTA keeps the difference (ie 5% of face value)
 - The % varies, depending upon the vendor (2%-18%)
 - The proposal is for a one-time event, selling gift cards around Thanksgiving, in hopes of getting holiday shoppers.
 - Tricia Miller noted that if the PTA chooses to do this fundraiser, the budget will need to be updated.
 - Pat estimated it would bring in \$1,000.
 - All funds received for this effort would go directly to the Outdoor Education Program.
 - Deveonne Hamilton-Stokes made a motion support this fundraiser; Amy Shugar seconded. The motion passed.

- **Fall Dance (Jen Larsson)**
 - Fall Dance will be October 25, 2013
 - **Directory Update (Kris Woodson)**
 - Nothing to Report
 - Deveonne Hamilton-Stokes made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Joanne seconded; motion passed.
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Minutes respectfully submitted by Pat Johnson, HMS PTA Secretary.