

Hammond Middle School PTA

Meeting Minutes for August 14, 2013

Attendees:

- Joanne Ashton, President
- Daphne Stanley, 2nd Vice President
- Karin Bruce, 1st Vice President
- Tricia Miller, Treasurer
- Pat Johnson, Secretary
- Heather Witt, Membership Chair
- John Woodson, PTAHC Representative #2
- Kerry Dufresne, HMS Principle
- Sam Davis, HMS Assistant Principle

Minutes

- The meeting was called to order by PTA President, Joanne Ashton.
- Board members were introduced
- The June meeting minutes were reviewed and updated. Daphne Stanley made a motion to approve the updated minutes; Heather Witt seconded; the motion passed.
- **Treasurer's Report (Tricia Miller)**
 - Tricia presented this year's PTA Budget. She reviewed the last 3 budgets to develop this year's budget.
 - Adjustments were made to the budget with input from the board members.
 - We are starting the year with \$6,750 in the checkbook.
 - *New this year:* All contracts must go through Ron Miller, HPCSS Manager for Safety, Environment and Risk Management.
- **Confirm & Review Board and Committee Chair Positions (Joanne Ashton)**
 - Copies of the 2013-2014 HMS PTA Board and Committee Chair Listing were handed out to everyone.
 - A new Webmaster has been identified, Frank Castro.
 - We still need a Volunteer Coordinator.
 - Please note the following updates to email addresses:
 - Heather Witt – witts5@verizon.net
 - Pat Johnson – patjohnson1@comcast.net
- **Principle's Report (Kerry Dufresne & Sam Davis)**
 - Teacher Moves
 - Ashley Dau will replace Ms. Maddox who retired last year. (6th & 7th Reading)
 - Ben Shipley will replace Ms. Nersessian. (Art)
 - Lora Koehler will replace Ms. Levin who retired last year. (Media)
 - Cecilia Haley will replace Derek Toth, who is moving to Oakland Mills. (English)
 - Jenny Canfield will be the new 6th grade Team Leader.

- New this year: The Guidance Counselors will stay with the students throughout middle school. The counselor assigned to the 6th graders this year, will stay with them through 8th grade.
 - Patty Smith – 6th Grade
 - Patty Smith – 7th Grade (A-L)
 - Fulani Staten – 7th Grade (M-Z)
 - Fulani Staten – 8th Grade
- Back to School Night is September 19 @ 6:30pm.
- Eric Minus is the new Middle School Director, replacing Dave Bruzga who moved to a High School Director position.
- Frank Eastman is the new Executive Director for School Improvement.
- A letter went out to parents this week (August 14) on class schedules.
 - 6th Grade can pick-up schedules during 6th grade orientation (August 23)
 - 7th and 8th Grade can pick-up schedules at the school on August 21-22 from 8-10am.
- The PTA will host a Staff Luncheon on Thursday, August 22.
- HMS Enrollment is lower this year.
 - 146 students in the 6th grade
 - 162 students in the 7th grade
 - 157 students in the 8th grade
- The bench looks great in front of the school. Thank you so much!
- Two canopies were added to the front of the school this summer.
- The parking lots were re-blacktopped this summer.
- Hammond Elementary School has a new Principle, Kim Pratesi. Aaron Tark is still the Assistant Principle.
- Kerri requests the PTA clean-out the metal cabinet outside the Media Center and move the items into cabinets in the Media Storage room.
- A stream restoration project will cause construction equipment to narrow the roadway near the school. It will be narrow, but buses will be able to get through.
- HMS will have a breakfast program this year. It will cost \$2 per student. Breakfast items include milk, juice, muffin, cereal, yogurt (varying menus each day).
- Both Kerry and Sam are excited for the new school year.
- **Draft Calendar for 2013-2014 (Joanne Ashton)**
 - The calendar will be similar to last year.
 - PTACH Coat Drive – Woody to get a box out soon.
 - Healthy Howard Program wants to talk to us at an upcoming PTA meeting.
 - Back to School Night Topics
 - Education Rebates (Giant, Harris Teeter, Food Lion, Target)
 - Membership
 - Woody would like a few minutes to ask for parent volunteers to be basketball coaches for the Howard County Youth Program.
 - Adapt-a-staff and PTA membership will have a table at Back to School Night.
- **6th Grade Orientation (Joanne Ashton)**
 - Joanne will be at the 6th grade orientation.
 - There will be a table for PTA membership at the orientation, staffed from 12-2.
- **Website Updates (Joanne Ashton)**
 - The website needs to be updated, as it was not done last year.

- Joanne will work with Frank Castro (new webmaster) and Julie Dhanraj (old webmaster) to initiate the updates.
 - **Future Meetings (Joanne Ashton)**
 - PTA Meetings will be held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the HMS Media Center.
 - Meetings will be kept to 1 hour in length.
 - September 10, 2013
 - October 8, 2013
 - November 12, 2013
 - December 10, 2013
 - January 14, 2014
 - February 11, 2014
 - March 11, 2014
 - April 8, 2014
 - May 13, 2014
 - June 10, 2014
 - **Roundtable**
 - Heather – if membership is lower, do we need to increase membership fees?
 - Woody – lots of changes coming with enrollment numbers for next year, due to redistricting.
 - Woody made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Karin seconded; motion passed
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Minutes respectfully submitted by Pat Johnson, HMS PTA Secretary.