

HMS PTO Minutes  
September 14, 2017

I. **Present:** Rachel M., Susan P., Alison, Ann, Randi, Rochelle, Catherine, Lexy, Angela, Dunja, Elizabeth M., Laurie

II. **PTO News**

- a. **Funding Update:** Ann, Treasurer: The PTO had \$4,600 this past summer and funded the new athletic field with \$2,000. They're seeding it this week, ready for spring. The kiln shed was built; costs still coming in. The yearbook fund-raiser accrued \$807 for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class trip to Philly. Currently, the PTO has about \$686.20.
- b. **Oct. 12 Community Event:** Susan P. is organizing an all-parent event to supplement Community Night. The event will present the different sub-committees, perhaps extracurricular programs, etc. It will be combined with a movie night, and the PTO will run that and do childcare in the dance studio.
- c. **PTO Meetings - childcare for under 4s:** Rachel M. suggested that some of the 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders, as part of their community service hours, could provide childcare to parents who attend the PTO meetings and have kids under 4 (they're too young for after-care during afternoon meetings). This is being explored. Rachel V. will be approached. Also, Rachel M. reiterated that parents with children over 4 who attend afternoon PTO meetings don't have to pay for after-care for their child. When they sign out the child, they just have to tell the after-care coordinator that they were at the PTO meeting and note it on the after-care sheet.

II. **PTO Sub-committee Reports**

- a. **Online Auction:** Steph sent word that she's seeking volunteers for the Auction Sub-committee. Those interested can email her at [auction@highmeadowschool.org](mailto:auction@highmeadowschool.org). She needs people to get auction items, enter items into the web site, and pick up and deliver items. Based on feedback Steph received last year, this year we won't do a silent auction of items made by the kids or a big auction party. The plan is for a smaller party more focused on artwork, possibly to be held at the new coffee shop, Carthaigh, next to HMS; owner has been approached. The auction is March 10-18; art show is March 17<sup>th</sup>. Catherine and Laurie will contact Steph to potentially assist.
- b. **Meadowfest:** Rochelle: There are two open houses a year, and the first is Meadowfest. This is the second annual Meadowfest to be held Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Teachers are doing a Literary Week leading up to it. In the PAC will be lots of comic book artists; papermaking with Rebecca Thuss; collective community poetry wall. Music outside, and a literary walk on the nature trail, with literary characters. A Quidditch game with Bill Harry Potter

artists; papermaking with Rebecca Thuss; collective community poetry wall. Music outside, and a literary walk on the nature trail, with literary characters. A Quidditch game with Bill. Harry Potter experiments in the science room. A popup café. A used book sale. Volunteers are needed to plan and work at the event. Looking for literary themed ideas, or writers/illustrators who can work with the kids, etc. Contact [rochelle@highmeadowschool.org](mailto:rochelle@highmeadowschool.org) or [Carriew@highmeadowschool.org](mailto:Carriew@highmeadowschool.org)

### III. **HMS Events and Programs**

a. **Field Goods:** Does the PTO want to do the Field Goods promotion? Rachel M. handed out flyers. Explained the fund-raiser. For Field Goods, Amazon Smile, and Boxtops: funds collected all go to PTO. Boxtops collections take place in the folders at the entrance of the buildings or in the Main Office. Rachel M. will get links at bottom of PTO emails to go to all these fund-raising pages.

### IV. **PTO New Business**

a. **Creation of Art Sub-committee:** Rachel M. suggested an Art Sub-committee be created. They would draft on the success of the school calendar with student art created this year, and carry on that tradition, plus assist Tracy the art teacher in her endeavors. A vote was taken: Yes.

b. **Clothing Swap:** Rachel M. suggested a clothing swap. Rochelle said they've been done in the past, and can raise a lot of money, but also take a lot of work. She suggested it might be good to do one on Earth Day to highlight the themes of re-use and recycle. Should it be done by the bag or the item? People will be needed to take it on. Susan P. suggested it could be done at the Oct. 12 event.

c. **After-school program snacks:** Rochelle suggested there may be a good opportunity for a PTO fund-raiser if the PTO is willing to provide snacks for after-school programs. Maybe set up a table with pre-purchased healthy snacks.