

## HHES PTO General Body Meeting

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

7:04 pm

- I. Welcome – Nicole Roberts, President
  - a. Teacher return to school day-- PTO “elves” put out some welcome back signs
  
- II. Approval of Minutes – Nicole Bartels, Secretary
  - a. Approval of the Minutes for February Meeting-- Approved
  
- III. Approval of 2020-2021 Budget – Yolanda Peele, Treasurer-- Approved
  
- IV. Fundraising – Shavon White, VP Programs
  - a. Scholastic Book Fair-- Virtual, again upcoming (May-- dates to come)
  - b. Mid-Atlantic-- Candace Dent brought to our attention and we are hoping to see it do well here. All virtual, no need to worry about shipping or delivering, etc. Out of MD state, does pay cost, but instate does not. (Will be in April)
  - c. Hoping that both will be able to continue to raise a good amount of money for the rest of the year. For what?
    - i. Teacher Appreciation Events
    - ii. 5th Grade Graduation Events (Virtual Musical)
    - iii. PTO Operating Costs
  
- V. Spirit Wear – Gladys Erives, Parliamentarian
  - a. Preliminary update-- new vendor; all virtual/online store (no merchandise delivery). We will get about 10% of the sales (and that will allow you to have it delivered right to your door; we do make less, but more options (including masks)).
  - b. No UNIFORM requirements for the rest of the year.
  
- VI. PTO Committees
  - a. Class Liaisons/Kudos Committee – Hassana Blackwell, VP Membership
    - i. Hassana has been spending lots of emails to the Liaisons (sorry); most have received and sent out Google Docs to

Teachers and Parents for feedback. Hoping with the parent liaisons will allow us to have more contact information from parent form. We've asked teachers to email the form out to ALL; some have, some have not responded. They will be posted on FB and on our website (after tonight). Not meant for spam, but meant for a way to plan for students extra activities, or also teacher appreciation events. Second grade is already hitting it out of the park, especially on collaborative and socialization events.

- ii. Kudos-- Was supposed to be monthly, but we were set back since we didn't get submissions from all teachers. Hoping to solicit it again for the past month; Hassana will send ONE email to all teachers (and Ms. Manuel), in hopes that they will submit.
  1. Karen P.-- asked about which emails she needs to send (and that she hasn't had a great amount of interaction with teachers as the liaison). Edith already sent out to Specialist (and many of them already responded).
  2. Prior months kudos submissions?-- Hassana will take it into consideration on whether or not to include ones that were previously submitted (possible to have recognition of several in one month).-- OR possible to recognize by QUARTER instead of the month? (Likely the best way to proceed)
- b. Teacher Appreciation – Latreava Whitted, Member-at-Large
  - i. Committee has already started meeting. Looking to recognize teachers in a “big way” in May during Teacher Appreciation Week (May 3-May 7).
  - ii. If anyone would like to join the committee, please reach out; or if you have any ideas or connections, please reach out. (Catherine Knight Steele was interested (in the chat)).
- c. Ms. Manuel joined that meeting-- after a long day
- d. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion/Celebration – Nicole Bartels, Secretary
  - i. Hoping to put together a memory book (with help from Ms. Bartley, from pictures from past years)
  - ii. Any official guidance from the county on “stepping up ceremonies”?

1. Still a bit early in planning stages and guidance from the school/county.
  - iii. If students who didn't sign-up to go back hybrid, would they still be allowed to go back for some sort of event or distribution (swag bag, t-shirt)?
    1. Depends on the conditions on the ground.
  - iv. Hoping to get in touch with all 5th grade parents for moving forward (likely from parents email address from the form).
  - v. PLAN things virtually; we can always flip to something in-person later
  - vi. Any 5th grade parents who would like to join, please do so.
  - vii. IF we use pictures, we will need 5th grade parents to sign a release form.
- VII. Questions from the membership:
- a. Kelle Harper-- New to HHES this year; three girl scouts attend HHES and wanted to see if we could put a lending library on HHES grounds. Hoping to have support from the PTO as well. They will pay for the lending library and they will stock it and keep it maintained.
    - i. PTO support-- have the scouts actually present their position and speak to the board. \*Nya and Rachel\* Rachel read her letter that she wrote asking for our support. (Ms. Davis' Homeroom).
      1. Ms. Manuel supports and think its a "good idea"
        - a. Will follow-up with some information on school grounds, etc.
      2. What does a "lending library" look like (Nicole R)?
        - a. Box with doors and will have a sticker so people would know where to return the books.
        - b. Maybe looking for a spot on school grounds (Ms. Manuel)
      3. Kenilworth did something similar-- that's where all the girl scouts came from
      4. Vote for support for the "lending library" project from the PTO-- in favor-- unanimous
      5. Kelle Harper will send information on the project to HHES PTO and we will help spearhead it with the administration.

- b. Becky Yoblin-- Anything that we can do to help the students that are coming back?
  - i. No contact games that are SAFE and FUN-- Manuel is looking to “come up with a list” and share it with us.
  - ii. Or if there are any classroom needs-- on-going-- Keep the PTO/Parents posted (Ms. Manuel).
- c. How many students are coming back?
  - i. Majority of students are remaining virtual (same number in both cohorts)
- VIII. Next Meeting-- AFTER the return of students-- so great time to come for feedback and other ideas for support!
- IX. Adjourned (7:50 pm)