



HVES PTA
PLANNING MEETING
NOTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2019
HVES MEDIA CENTER

Meeting called to order at 7:17

1. Welcome: Taylor Stager, PTA President
 - Taylor gave a brief introduction and thanked attendees.
2. Principal's Report: Galit Zolkower, Principal
 - As of this morning, 410 students.
 - Reading specialist needs help distributing benchmark materials. She is here M, T, Wed., Friday
 - No School **9/30 or 10/9**
 - Interim report cards go home **10/10**. There will be no reading or writing interim grades, as they are establishing routines in the new skills instruction.
 - Student pictures on **10/11**
 - HVES has been allocated additional paraeducator hours.
3. Budget: Jenny Blasdell, Treasurer
 - A financial review is required each year, and Jenny Blasdell presented the review to the Board of Directors, per the bylaws requirements. FY runs from July 1 to June 30.
 - Proposed Budget: Was put together over the summer and will be voted on at the October 1 general meeting. Increases in HoopEd scholarship money, staff appreciation, 5th grade activities. KAH babysitting may be increased. \$1,000 Grant for Action for Healthy Kids will be added. The PTA will discuss with 5th grade teachers whether the PTA should fully subsidize the purchase of t-shirts for the 5th grade class, instead of requesting that parents purchase the shirts.
4. Membership Report:
 - Goal is 200 members.
5. Bylaws Update: Caroline Broder, Secretary
 - This is the year we update the bylaws. Stay tuned for more information.
6. Committee Pilot: Taylor Stager
 - Taylor introduced the committee approach to volunteers. This is new. It's intended to spread the work around. The various committees were explained. Looking for more people on the membership committee. The nominating committee will need additional support to explain PTA roles.
 - Brian Dooda suggested a beautification committee. There could also be a tie in for Earth Day.
 - There are opportunities to volunteer in a classroom. Galit explained that teachers work with parents in their classroom.

- It was raised that there is an overflowing trash bin off school property, that is on the route that many kids take as they walk to school. The PTA will partner with families to help address this with elected officials at the county level.
7. Spiritwear: Kristy Morales
 - The forms have been sent. Orders due by 9/27.
 8. Cultural Arts: Caroline Broder
 - Caroline explained the cultural arts assemblies, which range from music, to theater to dance. Jill Siegelbaum volunteered to help.
 9. Cluster Report: Ashley Franzel
 - Explained the Downcounty Consortium and cluster activities. It's part of a structure for MCCPTA for advocacy. She spoke about the advocacy that has been done. Cluster coordinators coordinate advocates. The coordinators work with the PTA and advocacy. We have delegates this year.
 10. Volunteers & Training: Jana Rhone /Paul Rodriguez
 - Jana and Paul are meeting this week to coordinate amongst themselves and will send information about volunteer training, which will take place in October.
 11. Dine-Out Night: Jenny Blasdell
 - Our first dine out night is on September 25 at Matchbox, from 5-9 pm. We are planning to schedule another dine out night in October, hopefully on October 17, when KAH is offering Kids Night Out.
 12. Walk to School Day: Sage Hulsebus
 - Sage has been working hard to prepare for Walk to School Day. She has prepared bilingual fliers for Thursday folders and will follow up with Taylor on Amharic translation.
 13. Action for Healthy Kids Grant: Rita Carreon
 - Rita explained that the new Action for Healthy Kids grant allows for up to \$1,000 of spending to support activities that promote nutrition or healthy activity for our children. A sub-committee will explore different options that include both English and Spanish-language activities for parents, and may be centered around the Fall Festival, Heart Healthy Dance/month, and Carnival for kids' activities.
 14. Staff Appreciation Dinner: Sunshine Committee, Ingrid Lund
 - The Sunshine Committee is planning the annual appreciation dinner for teachers during parent-teacher conferences.
 15. Proposal for 5th grade play: Jill Siegelbaum
 - Jill presented a proposal to begin a 5th grade play starting in the 2020-2021 school year. The PTA would apply for a grant with Round House Theater, which would support the school with scripts, staff, and more. The PTA would pay a reduced rate to Round House for these services, and would also cover room rental, costumes, sets, and more. Jill will seek committee members who will focus on pursuing sustainable sources of funding for this annual activity so that all students may participate free of charge and who will come up with plan for parent support for this initiative. Jill has already identified seed money for the first year. All preparation for the play would take place after school, so it would not interfere with instruction time.
 16. 5th grade end of year activities: Fran Waltermann

- Fran will reach out to 5th grade teachers and those who supported 5th grade end-of-year activities to hear what went well last year and what might be helpful this year. She has received a quote for t-shirts and will discuss with the teachers whether it would be advisable for the PTA to fully subsidize the t-shirts, and buy them early in the school year.
17. Directory: Lyle Turner
 - Lyle has begun working with Ms. Bridgewater on obtaining information for the PTA director, which publishes contact info for families who have given MCPS permission to share it for this purpose. Last year, we ran into technical issues and were not able to publish a directory. This year, we will carefully consider the merits of a hard-copy vs. electronic directory before deciding on an approach.
 18. STEM carts: Taylor Stager (Larrissa Strout)
 - The PTA will replenish STEM cart supplies as needed and has allocated budget for this. School staff will review needs and let the PTA know what additional supplies might be required. Larrissa has volunteered to help purchase what is needed.
 19. New ideas/Any Other Business
 - Michelle Tebor shared that she had recently begun reviewing the HVES PTA Facebook page and offered suggestions to revive and improve it. Michelle will follow up with the exec board on how to re-establish this page.
 - The group discussed a desire to improve the public communications available for parents and to better orient parents to HVES. The PTA will seek volunteers to work on this over the next year.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dining out - Matchbox
 General Meeting
 Walk to School Day

Wednesday, September 25th
 Tuesday, October 1
 Wednesday, October 2nd

SUCCESSFUL HVES EVENTS:

Kindergarten Pizza Party
 Ice Cream Social

Are you staying connected via the PTA Community Listserv?
 Please contact Lyle Tuner at admin@hves-pta.org
 Are you a member of the PTA? Please visit www.hves.my-pta.org to join!