

## HPTO General Meeting Minutes – Monday, March 6, 2017 at 7pm

**Attendees:** Heather Fiedler, Amanda Kovach, Kristin Matthews, Kristen Gulakowski, Dana Fortun, Elizabeth Klamut, Veronica Harris, Sarah McNaughton, Danielle Bradley, Charity Branscum, Lisa Hnatow, Janet Fazzini, Dayna Shelkey-Bray, Lynne Shurina, Karina Chavez, Paula Grimsley, Cara Koloshinsky, Dana Boychuk, Bill Sparks, Michele McKee, Gwen Gdovichin, Amanda Loludice, Sara McMahan, Jaime Zuri

- I. Welcome and Opening comments- Heather Fiedler welcomed and thanked the attendees present. She introduced Elizabeth Klamut from District Forum, who discussed the purpose of District Forum in Fox Chapel. She is asking for two more representatives from Hartwood to join. There are 4 public meetings a year and 1 monthly standing meeting (Wednesday mornings at 10am at Cooper Siegel Library). District Forum has been credited in swaying Senator Vulakovich's decision to vote against SB 76, which resulted in the bill not being passed. Minutes from each District Forum meeting are posted on the District Forum website ([www.foxchapeldistrictforum.com](http://www.foxchapeldistrictforum.com)). Michele McKee reported that the last meeting reviewed all the technology that each school is using in our district that parents may not be aware of. On April 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm, there will a meeting to discuss legislation. Elizabeth Klamut then introduced Veronica Harris, from the DMS PTO. She encourages middle school parents to stay involved, continue to volunteer, and attend DMS Parent Nights. Veronica reported that the DMS PTO is sponsoring Student Socials for the first time this year.
- II. Treasurer's report- Kristen Gulakowski presented updated financials on Alison Persichetti's behalf detailing actuals versus budget. At this point, everything is occurring as expected in the budget.
- III. Events and activities-

### *Recaps:*

- **Valentine's Day Parties:** Kristen Gulakowski thanked all volunteers. She reported that Alison will use a Sign-Up Genius to gather volunteers next year, which will "go live" on a specified time and date to make it fair for all interested volunteers to sign up.
- **Magnificent Mondays:** Sarah McNaughton shared that PTO made approximately \$2,200 and that 130 plus students participated. She thanked all of the volunteers and instructors. She announced that she needs more volunteers for next year and would like to get feedback on this year's program. Sarah reported that she would like only have 6 class options again next year. Parents were pleased with the dismissal procedures, as it worked much better than in past years. Sarah bought extra supplies for the art classes, which she placed in the PTO closet for next year.
- **Penny Wars:** Kristin Matthews reported that this program raised more money than expected. It raised more than \$734. There were more than 25,000 coins that needed to be counted, so Carla needs a committee installed next year.

Suggestions for next year: timelines for kids to deposit money, lids with slits on the jugs (with duct tape), and clarify specific dollar amounts that allowed to be used on the flyer (more than \$1 bills). All proceeds will be used for the "Hartwood Helping Hands Fund" to help students/families in need at our school.

*Upcoming:*

- **Art Show (3/9):** Paula Grimsley reported that there will be 17 volunteers at the Art Show from the National Honor Society at High School. They will report to the school at 5:45pm, prior to the Art Show, to be given instruction. There will be tables spread out throughout the school with crafts and stations. There will be colored balloons corresponding with each activity. The show starts at 6:30. Mrs. Galizia still needs more help preparing for the show.
- **Family Fun Night (3/17):** Charity Branscum shared that Kindergarten voted on the movie TROLLS. She reported that we currently have one popcorn machine but that we may need more due to the number of attendees. Ringpops, decorations, flyers, and posters will all be used as well. Kristin Matthews will pass out flyers at Kindergarten Storytime this Friday, so that incoming Kindergarten families can attend.
- **Staff Appreciation Luncheon (3/24):** Dayna Shelkey-Bray spoke on McKay's behalf. She reported that Kendra Lapiana, Carrie Classen, and Jennifer Squeglia are helping McKay on this committee. John Anthony's in Plum is catering the event. Dayna reported that there is a SignUp Genius to sign up to bring in a dessert for the luncheon. There are 5 desserts as of now and more are needed. In addition, there will be a sheet cake for retirees. This luncheon will also include party favors, centerpieces, and coffee.
- **Adult Night Out (4/1):** Lynne Shurina reminded attendees to sign up for the event via EventBrite. She reported that the event is BYOB. There will be a DJ, candy bar/dessert table as well as many gaming tables. Doors will open at 6:30pm. Gaming tables will be open from 7-10pm. Lynne shared that there will be no cash prizes, however, participants will receive Chinese auction tickets. There are more than 75 vendors donating baskets/items as of now. This committee is meeting this week. Much of the food is being donated by vendors such as Feast on Brilliant, Loafers, and Ordinary Joes. Lynne will have a table set up at the Art Show on 3/9 for people to sign up.
- **Running Club:** Heather Fiedler reported that Running Club will start on April 27 and end on June 1. It will take place over the course of 6 Thursdays. Participants will get a t-shirt and water bottle. She will need volunteers to help at each session.
- **Field Day (6/8):** Kristin Matthews reported that this event will take place on June 8. This is the first year we are piloting doing it the day before the last day of school. She and Andrew Krushinski are forming sub-committees and will be asking for many volunteers on the day of the event.

- **Family Pool Party:** Gwen Gdovichin is chairing this event and reported that it will take place at Chapel Gate on Saturday, June 10 from 5-8pm. It will cost \$3/person.

#### IV. Fundraising-

##### *Recaps:*

- **Holiday Sale Proposal:** Lisa Hnatow reported that in the past we have done the Penguin Patch. This committee and the PTO are proposing a holiday craft and gift night during first week in December. Crafts will be made by students after school. They will choose from 5-6 crafts and they will get a snack. There will also be a gift shop.
- **Sarris Candy:** Kristen G. reported that 43 families ordered (49 total order forms). We sold \$5,924.36 worth of Sarris products. The PTO will receive 35% of the total sale, which is more than last year. Every child that sold over \$50 gets a coupon for the Science Center. Dana Fortun suggested that those families with memberships donate their coupon to others in the school that may not have one.

##### *Upcoming:*

- **Dine and Donate- Gators (3/8):** Kristin Matthews reported that last Gators Dine and Donate will be this Wednesday. This has been a successful fundraiser for Hartwood. The first 2 events made \$400 for the PTO in total. The Spring Emmerling Dine and Donate will take place on June 1 after the chorus concert.
- **Gift Baskets (3/9):** Heather Fiedler reported there was \$492 deposited from basket sales during lunchtimes. She shared that the majority of the tickets will be sold the night of the Art Show. The donated School Spirit gift basket was already announced last week and was given to a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader.
- **Yearbook:** Heather shared that orders are coming in. She will take orders up until Spring Break. Yearbook Club has met twice. They meet on Fridays during lunch and recess. Prices for the yearbook have stayed the same as in the past.
- **Square One Art:** Cara Koloshinski reported that Mrs. Galizia has the artwork ready. The artwork has to be shipped by the March 13<sup>th</sup>. Families will get a flyer at the end of March. Parents can order items online. Orders are due April 5<sup>th</sup>.

##### *On Going:*

- **Box Tops:** Danielle Bradley reported that she made a submission recently for \$638.10. The total for the year is \$893.70
- **Shoparoo** – Danielle reported that we have more money than expected.
- **Labels for Education** – Danielle shared that we need 70 more labels in order to get a \$100 gift card for our school.
- **Giant Eagle Apples for the Students** - Danielle reported that we have 995 points this year so far.

V. Board Information-

- **TAG-** Danielle Bradley will be stepping down as the chair of TAG after this year. She introduced Amanda Loludice, as next year's TAG chair.
- **Staff Mini Grants-** Heather reported that Ms. Moller requested help for the visiting author to pay for his rental car. As a recipient of a previous grant, Mrs. Fazzini thanked the HPTO. She reported that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade is doing a community service project in which they are learning to sew and sewing pillowcases for cancer patients.
- **Board Position Openings for 2017-2018-** Heather reported that the VP/President-Elect and Treasurer positions are open for the upcoming year. The PTO will accept nominations to be on the ballot.

*Thank you for taking the time out of your busy lives to attend and contribute to our meeting that benefits the amazing children and staff at Hartwood Elementary. Our programs would not be possible without your support and involvement. Please visit our website [www.hartwoodpto.org](http://www.hartwoodpto.org) and our Facebook page @fchartwoodpto throughout the year for more information.*

*Minutes prepared by Amanda Kovach - HPTO Secretary*