

HMS PTO General Meeting Minutes – October 14, 2009

Attendance: Ruben Pena, David Beener, Alice Willis, Christine Allen, Tammy Mason, Lili Holland, Stephanie Domiano, Corey Huth, Julie Liesse, Liz Monson, Lynne Bloomfield, Ginny Lorenc, Nancy Hamp, Mary Cass, Cindy Scalzo, Susan Cook, Patty Cirmino, Pam Keseric, Inga Haveri, Susan Krupp, Cathy Foderaro, Nancy Pollak, Yvonne Mayer, Joanna Jacobs, Linda Tetreault

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Stephanie Domiano, Co-President, at 9:34 a.m.

Recording Secretary's Report: The HMS PTO General Meeting Minutes from September 9, 2009 were distributed by Nancy Hamp, Co-Recording Secretary. Ginny Lorenc moved the minutes be approved; Liz Monson seconded. The minutes from September 9, 2009 were unanimously approved.

Presidents' Report: Stephanie Domiano welcomed all to the meeting. She shared information from the combined PTO Presidents' meeting regarding the approval of a deficit spending budget that will tap into the District reserve. The approved Administrative and Principal goals will be accessible on-line. The search for a new Superintendent continues on schedule with a wish list on-line. The CCSD 181 District Board is looking for feedback on what the community values in education as they continue to look for ways to reduce the budget deficit.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Liz Monson circulated the monthly Budget to Actual as of October 14, 2009. Liz pointed out that we are \$1200 favorable to Budget for Directory and Dues. Magazine Sales will be favorable to Budget when on-line orders are reflected. School supplies are favorable to Budget. Liz also informed the group that the PTO Executive Board approved spending up to \$1500 in Blue Ribbon celebration items for the staff and students. Blue Ribbon shirts will be available for purchase in the Shack soon.

Principal's Report: Ruben Pena explained that MAP testing is complete and they are now analyzing the data to better understand how to move students from meets to exceeds expectations. ISAT results will come home with report cards to save money on postage. A parent may pick up the results in the office. Ruben also reminded us that volunteer forms are needed for all volunteers.

Ruben discussed the main points from the October 13, 2009 District 181 Board Meeting. The Board has asked the District to provide possible cuts in \$500k increments by next month related to the \$3.8 million deficit in 2010/2011. It appears grade-level centers have been taken off the table. A factor

contributing to the deficit is the difference in the budgeted (2.5%) vs. forecasted (.1%) CPI. The state mandated tax revenue follows CPI. The budget must be finalized by the spring of 2010. While there is funding in the District 181 reserve, the District loses its bond rating if the reserve drops below \$15 million. Only 100 people attended the meeting and the Board encourages residents to attend or to send emails to BOE@district181.org with comments and suggestions. Yvonne Mayer suggested contacting Rita DuChateau, Director of Communications in District 181, or any of the Board Members, if you see or hear inaccurate information being circulated.

Ruben also informed the group that the construction continues on the front office and all windows are now in place. HVAC balancing continues. Ruben also informed us that Dr. Junker will not finish out the school year. Out of respect for his long service to the District, Ruben asked that all rumors be put to rest. His early exit was not a result of any criminal action.

Committee Reports:

Magazine Sales: Ginny Lorenc reported that over 20 subscriptions were placed for the VA Hospital in Chicago. The Hospital thanks everyone at HMS. The inflatable party has been rescheduled twice due to weather and will hopefully take place soon. On-line orders are accepted through November. Ginny would like feedback from parents and students as they will be doing a process check.

Grade Level Reps: Lili Holland said that each representative and their volunteers have adopted all the new families. A New Family Coffee will take place on Thursday, October 15 at 9am. Another New Family Coffee will be scheduled in January. There are approximately 25 new families.

SELAS: none

Directory: David Beener reported that printing will be complete this week and that directories will come home through the student's advisory.

Teacher Appreciation: The committee has been showing appreciation with monthly treats and birthday raffles.

Spirit Wear: Lourdes Beard will be selling spirit wear October 22 and 23 at lunch. The Shack will return post construction.

Community Service: The Outerwear Drive will begin October 15.

Plant Sale: Forms are on the website and also at Vern Goers' Greenhouse. The committee is working on a winter plant sale.

Buildings and Grounds: Everyone agreed that the Carusos have done an outstanding job with the flowers and landscaping around HMS! Thank you to the Carusos.

Spirit Club: Susan Krupp informed the group that the committee had gone to the Clubs and Activities Fair at CHMS. She thought this might be good for HMS. The committee is meeting to come up with their plan for the year.

District 181 Foundation:

The District 181 Foundation is excited to partner with Velocity Sports Performance in hosting our first ever Fitness and Sports Performance Expo. Oct 21 is the sign-up deadline. A new Weather Bug was procured for HMS that will supply weather information for science units. This \$17k investment was part of the Foundation's Science Initiative. The Foundation will sponsor an Earth Day program in April.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Speakers:

Joanna Jacobs – As an HMS 7th grade student, Joanna asked for suggestions for her Bat Mitzvah service project. She wants to get the word out for All Kids, a state health insurance program for uninsured children under the age of 18. The PTO suggested using the PTO website and a lunchtime announcement.

Linda Tetreault, MRC Director – Linda demonstrated and passed out information for the on-line resources available to HMS students. These resources contain safe, reliable, focused and accurate information targeted to various school age children. The resources can be found in the Student Handbook on page 4. She also reminded everyone that all the textbooks used at HMS are available at the Hinsdale Library.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Nancy Hamp and Mary Cass, Co-Recording Secretaries
10/21/09 2:06 PM