

Hanson PTO Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 12, 2023

7:00 PM

Indian Head Library



+ Approval of September 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Amy A. motioned to approve
- Jenna P. seconded

+ Board's Welcome & Business

- CORI reminder – see Ms. Costa or Lyndsay for intake of form
- Kindergarten t-shirt delivery update – delivered 10/23 to Beth, then to school. 46 in total.
- Fun Run t-shirts – Beth to bring to school in time for the Fun Run.
- Outdoor classroom plans update – Beth has a contact who is an architect who will draw up plans for free (Steve Egan, Jr.). He will need 2-3 weeks. Dr. Jocelyn doesn't want it to look exactly like Duval because we have a different type of space for it. He would like higher walls and built in benches. The architect should meet with Dr. Jocelyn, a teacher and the PTO to discuss plans. Beth will set this up.
- Changes to PTO event checklist – Tina updated emails and superintendent. We should send checklists to superintendent at least two days prior to sending out to give him time to review the event request. This timeframe also works for any messages PTO wants to send via school messenger.
- Discussion – Red Sox block ticket special – PTO can choose the day for a block of tickets.
- PTO would like to gift teachers/paras/specialists \$100 each to the Scholastic website to order items for their classrooms
- Bob Bethoney from Uechi Karate wants to run a special with PTO to help students and parents get to know his martial arts school – 6 weeks for 2 times per week from 5:30-6:30, located in Hanson. \$69 for 6 weeks – all proceeds go to PTO. Only for first time youth and adults. A flyer will be posted on Facebook.

+ Principals' Update

- WIN (What I Need) has started. This is the third year.
- MCAS reports will be sent to parents the week of Oct. 30 (current 4th graders). The school did well at MCAS and special ed students exceeded the state target.
- iReady diagnostics and a two page explanation will be sent home.
- Asks that 4th graders not wear Apple watches to school. Kids are using smart watches to take pictures and text. There is a concern that it is distracting. Dr. Jocelyn will also send a note to parents.
- The former PTO storage area was converted to two intervention classrooms with new desks. The new PTO closet is near the library.
- 493 students are enrolled
- New e-boards will be ordered – touchview. Every class will have one plus EL and intervention.

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+ Treasurer's Report: Balance Update and Outstanding Obligations

See report

Alison noted that the balance is closer to \$50,000 because an entry was double counted.

+ Post Event Review

- Hanson Day (Tina Arsenault) – held September 23rd indoors. Event went well. Gave away almost all the leftover socks.

+ Upcoming Events / Fundraisers – voting requests to follow

- Monster Mash Dance (Tina Arsenault/Committee) – Paris gave the update. Flyers went out October 12 and will repost Friday. Fire and police know about it. Asked if Ms. Costa can be there for crowd control (as she is state approved). DJ is set. An additional post will go out for volunteers. The monster is ready too for the food donations. 81 people have signed up. They also asked the National Honor Society to volunteer. Asked that teachers remind students to bring in a food donation. They plan to have inflatable games in the cafeteria. Kids can go where they want, it is not timed. Outside Charlie Brown movie will play. There will be a scavenger hunt for 8 items to help with crowd dispersion. There will also be a coloring poster in the sensory hallway. Lastly there will be a photo selfie station. The tables in the cafeteria should be put away.
- Book Fair (Andrea Cipolla) – the week of October 23-27. Sign Up Genius was posted on October 9th on Facebook. Posters will be placed throughout the school to get kids excited. Teachers will be notified to bring their classes down. A PTO letter will be emailed by the school (and via Facebook) the week of October 16th to let caretakers know how to set up e-wallet, or they can send in cash or a blank check. Kids will visit the book fair during their library time the week of October 23. A sign up sheet was also provided at the PTO meeting for any sign ups tonight. The email to parents should be sent for approval to the superintendent, his assistant Jennifer, Ms. Costa and Dr. Jocelyn. Ms. Costa asked if “blank checks” could be provided for kids who do not have funds. Note that tax is also charged, and will be covered a little using Scholastic Dollars.
- Fun Run (Beth Devine/Andrea Cipolla) – kick off October 27th. Fun Run event on November 7th. Fundraising goal of \$30,000 is for an outdoor classroom. Apple Pay will be a new feature. Parents are welcome to watch on Nov. 7 if it's held outside. A Facebook poll will go out for parents (with help from their kids!) to vote on incentives for hitting Fun Run goals. Ten students from the National Honor Society will be available to help during the Fun Run. The shirts will not be marked, just timed. Also Dr. Jocelyn is ok with the idea of riding his bike around inside the school as an incentive.
- School store (Coordinator Erica Burke) – starts October 10th. Will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Erika made a calendar. We also have a cabinet for school store items in the PTO closet.

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- Hanson Holiday Fest (Tina Arsenault) – December 2nd. PTO is signed up for a table. Request for \$250 for fireworks donation. Noted also that donations for fireworks are being accepted at the fire station.
- Holiday Shop (Chairperson Elizabeth McKinnon) – update and voting request to stock up. This is Liz’s last year so she will need a co-chair. Kids can purchase presents for the holidays.

+ Voting Requests (\$32,435.81) – PASSED

- Announcement Board for in front of the school - \$15,362. (Need to find out if Facilities will take care of the electricity hook up or if PTO will need to fund that.)
- Fireworks donation for Hanson holiday fest - \$250
- Grade 3 teachers – ten 12-piece chairback buddy pocket charts organizers (Amazon)- \$649
- Siobhan Ryan (Special Ed) – 20 pack one finger spacer handwriting tool for dyslexia (Amazon) \$9.99; two sensational sand (2 lbs) for multisensory assistance \$36.20 - \$46.19
- Grade 4 teachers – 4th grade fun day at Camp Kiwanee 6/6/24 (activities, ice cream and supplies) - \$1200
- Grade 4 teachers – 110 copies of “If Things Aren’t Going Right Go Left” book gift to 4th graders as they leave Indian Head – \$1775.40
- Grade 4 teachers – yearbooks for all 4th graders (115 in total, \$22 each) - \$2,530
- Kindergarten teachers – 5 wireless presenter clickers (\$79.95) and 5 wireless mouse (\$49.45) for Google slides - \$128.80. Question was asked if these will work with the new touchboards.
- Kindergarten teachers – musical performance by John Kelleher (Johnny the K) - \$750
- Grade 2 teachers – field trip to Hanson landmarks (bus cost) - \$744.42. Will visit sites like the fire station, police station, town hall, etc. to learn about Hanson history.
- PTO Holiday shop budget - \$9,000

+ School Committee Rep Update

- Conley 5th graders presented a project on their ideas (like Shark Tank).
- Discussed the public comment period protocol.
- Wants an open meeting vote rather than a representative.
- Discussed Whitman middle school.
- High school committee provided an update from student reps.
- WIN blocks update.
- School committee discussed behavior expectations, such as no deals outside of the committee, better collaboration, and keeping an open mind.
- November 4 is the Whitman town meeting to vote on the middle school.

+ Future Events/Fundraisers (to be discussed at future meetings)

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- PTO Holiday Fundraising – Toy Box fundraiser for November 27 (Kristin Ernest). A flyer will be sent out which gives 20% back to PTO.
- Raise Right gift card fundraiser (Alison Dillon). A portion of the gift card purchases go back to the PTO. Next week Alison will make sure our account is still open and we will post to the PTO Facebook page. PTO can deliver gift cards if needed.
- Polar Plunge – hoping to hold this in February. Alison will provide an update at the November meeting.

+ Chairperson/Committee/Volunteer Opportunities

- Monster Mash volunteers on October 20
- School Store Coordinator Erica Burke and volunteers
- Book Fair volunteers
- Holiday Shop Chairperson and volunteers
- Polar Plunge Committee and volunteers
- Sweetheart Dance Chairperson and volunteers
- Teacher Appreciation week volunteers
- Box Tops leader
- Various other volunteer opportunities at events and fundraisers throughout the year

+ Events/Other Business

+ Open Discussion/Questions

- There is a question about a book vending machine. Kids would use a token to get a book. It costs \$6,000-7,000. Based on reward system or birthday, including summer birthdays. Would Scholastic Dollars be able to be used to buy the books?

+ Next meeting: 11/9 @ 7pm Indian Head Library

+ Monthly meetings for 2023/2024 school year – 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14, 1/11, 2/8, 3/14, 4/4 & 5/9