

Hanson PTO Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 11, 2024

7:00 PM

Indian Head Library



+ Approval of December 2023 Meeting Minutes

- Alison D. motioned to approve
- Beth D. seconded

+ Board's Welcome & Business

- Outdoor classroom plans update – the architect's plans have been received. The plan is to meet with stakeholders including Facilities and discuss the plans.
- Bob Bethoney's Uechi-Ryu Academy Karate would like to run another karate special for grades K-4. Dates will be announced – Will post on Facebook as well.
- Raise Craze fundraiser feedback and proposed dates March 25-April 5 – the PTO Board proposes to run this closer to late March or early April. The discussion at the meeting notes that the PTO supports moving forward with running this fundraiser. More info about planning will be discussed at the February PTO meeting.
- PTO can fund any fun extras, such as the Brain Show, Extreme Science, etc. Ms. Costa can coordinate dates with us. – PTO Board members can also attend a school staff meeting to discuss the types of things we have approved for the teachers so far. Discussed attending the February 6th staff meeting.
- Electronic Sign update – we would like to mimic the e-sign at the high school with Wifi. However the sign the high school uses isn't being made anymore. The PTO will do further research on companies.

+ Principals' Update

- Dr. Jocelyn noted that teachers have been out sick.
- Doing assessments on students now. This has been aided by interventionists in the district to evaluate these assessments. The groups are built after they meet with teachers.
- WIN (What I Need) will start the first week of February.
- Reading academy has been successful and is up to 70 students now. COVID money that funds this will run out in June. The cost is \$20,000-30,000.
- The school council meeting was held today and went well. Dr. Jocelyn went over his objectives as principal including more parent events, WIN, community initiatives, etc. Now they are starting the mentoring program with teachers and students as well. He also wants to continue reading academy with funding next year. He would also like to promote academic discourse conversation in the classroom. This would help the students with their writing, social skills, math concepts, etc. It pairs kids with other kids to explain problems, so it's not just the teacher explaining concepts.
- Friday is an early release for report cards. Report cards open on 1/23.
- MCAS dates will be finalized.
- There will be a spring parent teacher conference.

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+ Treasurer's Report: Balance Update and Outstanding Obligations

See report

+ Post Event Review

- Holiday shop (Elizabeth McKinnon) – this was successful. In need of someone to run it for 2024.

+ Upcoming Events / Fundraisers – voting requests to follow

- Polar Plunge (Alison Dillon) – February 4th – 10 people have signed up and we have \$2000 in donations. Flyers and business letters are available to help drum up business supporters. Others have donated time, dj services, etc. Our expenses are \$25 per hour for a caretaker at Camp Kiwanee and \$40 for a liquor license. It will be cash bar. Meadowbrook is donating the food. PTO also ordered pop up changing tents for people to change after they plunge.
- Sweetheart Dance – February 9th – Sign Up Genius will go out for those looking to help with the committee and volunteer. We have feedback forms from last year to refer to.

+ Voting Requests (\$2,474.94) – ALL PASSED

- Budget for Sweetheart Dance – \$1000
- Grade 1 Kite Day to be held in May with families - cost of kites - \$574
- Special Ed Liaison Ms. Ryan request for visual reduction of time tools – visual timers - \$50.94
- Dollars for Scholars scholarships - Two that are \$300 each and one for \$250 - \$850

+ School Committee Rep Update – Maria Robbins

- Committee met yesterday
- Wants to expand an after school program to Hanson Middle like they have at Whitman
- Wendy Price at the high school received an award. She is a school psychologist and received the 2024 School Psychologist of the Year award by the National Association of School Psychologists.
- The make up day was set for a half day on Good Friday, 3/29 for the day missed at Indian Head
- Four vape sensors were installed at the high school for a trial period, in the bathrooms. The sensors are attached to a phone app.
- Update was given at the meeting on revenue and expenditures

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

- Polar Plunge – February 4th
- Sweetheart Dance – February 9th

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- Cyber Sense presentation on safe internet practices for kids – this is likely to be held at Hanson Middle school in March. It would last about an hour.
- Raise Craze fundraiser – March/April
- Book Fair (Andrea Cipolla) – week of May 20th
- Teacher Appreciation week – to be held in May

+ Chairperson/Committee/Volunteer Opportunities

- School Store Coordinator Erica Burke and volunteers
- Polar Plunge Committee and volunteers
- Sweetheart Dance Chairperson and volunteers
- Book Fair volunteers
- Teacher Appreciation week volunteers
- Box Tops leader Kristin Ernest
- Various other volunteer opportunities at events and fundraisers throughout the year

+ Events/Other Business

+ Open Discussion/Questions

- There was a question at the December meeting if we can get box fans for the cafeteria for the warmer months. This would help with air circulation in the cafeteria. Dr. Jocelyn asked Facilities if they have any ideas on using industrial size ones. They said just buy them at any store like Home Depot. Talked about putting one in every other window so about 6 in total. It would be better if Facilities could choose one that would work with the windows. They will pick them and submit it to the PTO for approval. Also discussed whether extension cords would be needed.
- Teachers are welcome to give us ideas for Teacher Appreciation week. Possibly discuss at the February staff meeting.
- Amy A. requested that the 4 cafeteria workers and janitor also receive t-shirts for field day.

+ Next meeting: 2/8 @ 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