

Hanson PTO Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 13, 2025

6:30 PM

Indian Head Library



+ Approval of February 2025 Meeting Minutes

- Alison D. motioned to approve
- Tina A. seconded

+ Board's Welcome & Business

- Outdoor classroom plans update – sonar tubes were poured. The PTO will be returning the fencing until the structure build begins. It is not necessary at this stage. The plan is for SSVT to build in the fall unless a client cancels and we can get moved up.
- Gift of Scholastic Dollars to Indian Head teachers; order was placed 2/28. New balance is now \$7,432.78. Andrea will email the teachers to pick up their items.
- Bob Bethoney's Uechi Karate special until March 15th - 6-week program on Tuesday and Thursday nights (60 Monponsett Street, Hanson). The cost for the program is \$69 for the 6-week session. Open to grades K-8. The PTO can keep this as a rolling offer. Mr. Bethoney donates the \$69 to the PTO and keeps the fees after the promo if the student decides to stay on with karate lessons.
- Our April meeting is April 3, which is the first Thursday of the month. We moved it up a week for parent-teacher conferences.
- Board elections for all positions will be held at our May PTO meeting. Email HansonPTO@yahoo.com to add your name to the ballot. Andrea and Tina will not be running again for Secretary and Co-treasurer.

+ Principals' Update

- The district has been discussing a Road to Kindergarten event for all elementary schools. This would be leading up to the first day of school. It will involve: 1) meet up at Hornstra Farm for ice cream, 2) visit to Channell Farms, and 3) welcome night social and story time with tshirts for all the kindergarteners. Ms. Costa or Mr. Tranter will read the story book. The social night and story would be the Thursday night before school starts, when the PTO normally does its welcome social event. There may also be an event at the high school. Mr. Tranter asked if the PTO would be interested in funding this. All three elementary school PTOs would pick up the costs. They will also need a volunteer from the K teachers and from the PTO. The cost per PTO would be \$1700, or less. The PTO discussed that we normally purchase ice creams or slushies for the kids at our welcome night, so the ice cream for Hornstra would replace that. We also normally have the parents purchase the tshirts, so the PTO would cover that now as part of the \$1700. We also discussed if the book that can be purchased could come from the Scholastic catalog so the PTO can use Scholastic dollars. The PTO will vote on it at the April meeting.
- We discussed the request for a middle school PTO. The middle school has asked if they can combine into the Indian Head PTO as one organization. This used to be combined many years ago. The request is because the middle school is in need of a way to raise funding for programs. Since the middle school has received a grant for after school programs and

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busses, and no longer charges families for after school activities, there is no source of income anymore to help fund school events. Discussed that we would need more info and work out logistics. Discussed keeping bank accounts separate so you don't mix funds but under the same legal entity for tax purposes and financial statements. Mr. Tranter thinks next school year is too soon because you want to do it right. Also discussed how PTO would need much more parent involvement to support two schools. Noted it could be the same PTO meeting combined. Discussed how some parents might like that because they have kids in both schools. Discussed that if the middle school created their own PTO they would need a new 501c3 which can be complicated. Discussed that to amend our bylaws, would file with the Secretary of State. Discussed having a bigger Board or contingent for each during the meeting. The PTO's concern is making sure people are involved. Mr. Tranter will ask the Acting Principal and Vice Principal which parents are interested.

+ Treasurer's Report: Balance Update and Outstanding Obligations

- See report
- The Valentine's dance DJ cost \$600
- We are paying \$6000 for the outdoor classroom footings
- Noted we did not have the Polar Plunge fundraiser to add to the balance
- Teachers are welcome to contact the PTO with fun ideas for spending

+ Post Event Review

+ Upcoming Events / Fundraisers – voting requests to follow

- Raise Craze fundraiser (Chair: Tina Arsenault) – starts March 10th
 - Raise Craze family craft night (Tina Arsenault) – March 12th 6:30-8:00 pm
 - Tina noted we have got off to a slower start than years past. At this time last year we had 650 AOKs vs. 300 this year. 100 people have registered. The craft night was good and the showing was good, with many kids staying the whole time. Tina will drop off the donations to the organizations. Discussed how it coincides with the Heart Challenge and maybe people aren't donating as much. Announcements are made each morning for the "pot of gold" classroom winner. The teachers also hand out stickers for kids doing nice things. Tina will do another flyer for winning the trophy and also winners will get gift certificates for the May book fair. The fundraiser ends next Friday, so we will see how things go over the weekend with registration and AOKs. The school will get a slushie party too. Kate said she will post to the Facebook page again.
- Brain Show – Tina is trying to lock down a date with the company

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- Teacher Appreciation week volunteers – May 5th-9th - Kate will do the sign up genius. The PTO can also post to Facebook a poll to ask for treat ideas. We will vote on the budget at the April meeting.

+ Voting Requests (\$7,323.23)- ALL ITEMS PASSED

- PTO (all grades) – Brain Show gameshow assembly - \$3,100
- Grade 1 (all) – field trip to Soule Homestead Farm and buses - \$1704.26
- Grade 2 (all) – field trip “around town” on 3/28 via buses - \$765.84
- Grade K (all), Grade 2 (all), and Siobhan Ryan - continue the current Scholastic subscriptions we have for Let’s Find Out and Scholastic News for 2025/2026 year - \$1753.13

+ School Committee Rep Update

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

- Teacher Appreciation week volunteers – May 5th-9th
- Book Fair volunteers (Chairpersons Andrea Cipolla & Heather O’Neill) – week of May 19th
- Kindergarten welcome event - August

+ Chairperson/Committee/Volunteer Opportunities

- Outdoor Classroom Committee (Chairperson Chris Peffley)
- School Committee Rep (Maria Robbins)
- School Store Coordinator Erica Burke and volunteers: grade 1-4 once per month, 2 days per week
- Holiday Shop Chairperson and volunteers (Chairpersons Kaity Crowley & Tiffany Taber)
- Polar Plunge Committee and volunteers
- Sweetheart Dance Chairperson and volunteers
- Book Fair volunteers (Chairpersons Andrea Cipolla & Heather O’Neill)
- Teacher Appreciation week volunteers
- Box Tops leader
- Various other volunteer opportunities at events and fundraisers throughout the year

+ Events/Other Business

+ Open Discussion/Questions

+ Next meeting: April 3 at 6:30pm