

**HHS PTSA MEETING MINUTES –
September 16, 2009**

Call to Order 7:00 PM

Handouts: Meeting agenda; (last meeting) minutes, budget, "Responsibility: A good thing for our Kids" flyer

Attendees: Ann Marie Ruskin, Lee Fortna, Jeanne Loveland, Dana Harold, Augustin Martinez, Kirsten Frostad, Susan Harford, Sriya Suraweere, Elizabeth Gibson, John Dudzinsky, Mave-Therese Rancourt, Cindy Wei, Judy Murden, Tracy Shannon, Bob Fortna, Kara Rider, Albert Hayres, Diana Fields, Cheryl Rodakowski, Barbara Zicari, Gail Weber, Don Weber, Debbie Ollerhead, Kerri Gilmore Mesiah, Jennifer Boysko, Gabrielle O'Bryan, Vania Beight, Deborah Vega, Dara Pagann, Kathy Blystone, JoAnn Skinner, Lesley Aschenbach, Sue Altschuler, Mary Glenn Mancini, John Dudzinsky
Special Guests: Marty Smith, Jack Brown, Scott Davis, Jim Hannon, David Paganin and William Bates

Minutes of (05/13/09) meeting (Kerri Gilmore Mesiah)

- Motion to approve (M Elizabeth Gibson,
- S JoAnn Skinner), unanimous

Special Guest: Marty Smith

Principal Selection process overview

This is not a normal timeline for hiring or departing, so job posted for an additional month until October 20th.

Letters are being sent to community for specific dates:

Oct. 14, 2009 Assistant Superintendent, Cluster 1, meets with Parents, Students and Staff

Oct. 19, 2009 All input/feedback due to County.
Panel Info due to County.

Oct. 21, 2009 Letters sent to those chosen for panel

Nov. 9, 2009 Principals Interview Panel

Would like to have new Principal in place before Thanksgiving.

Garland Cooper will be the interim Principal starting

Oct. 1, 2009. Cooper is no stranger to HHS.

Augustin Martinez will assist with the transition.

Special Guest: Jim Hannon- Junior AP

Attendance office is in Room 151, staffed by Mrs. Barlow. Hope the attendance will be more proactive rather than remedial.

Use of the HHS Attendance Tracking Program
Truancy is 6 days a school year.

New Call Out system for Student absences, automated phone calls in the home language. If message is incorrect contact the attendance office.

Special Guest: Jack Brown – HHS Security

Please become acquainted with traffic pattern. Kids must use cross walk if they are dropped off at the church.

Pay attention to Mr. Brown's traffic signals and buses have the right a way.

Parking Spaces: each student and staff have assigned spots. Allows security to know who is in school and who is not. Warned if parked in wrong spot. Please register ALL vehicles can only have one family car on one permit.

Permit can hang on rear view mirror.

Visitor parking: 6 spaces in front side lot, 30 mins. Time slot.

Bus pass needed to ride the Late bus. Get the pass from the teacher you stayed after school with.

Special Guest: Scott Davis SRO

Assigned parking spots help with hit and run incidents. Also kids are speeding through surrounding neighborhoods.

Special Guest: David Paganin – Dir. Of Student Services

Grading scale – minuses and pluses are now added.

Not retroactive, scale took effect in September.

AP Courses get an additional 1.0 and Pre-AP get an additional .5 for core classes only.

School Profile needs to be updated by county, still waiting for the information from the county.

County sent every College Admissions office info on new grading scale.

Senior transcripts now have asterisks instead of a plus sign.

Treasurer's Report –Jeanne Loveland

- AM Ruskin moved to accept the 2008 -2009 Audit Committee Report (completed by Kristy Freeman, Cindy Wei and Kara Rider on 08/19/09). Vania Beight seconded the motion and PTSA unanimously accepted.
- Tax Return is being done by Linda Bertoia
- PayPal update: hope it is online by end of September
- PTSA cash on hand is \$12,208.34
- DAFA cash on hand is \$16,297.34
- Only ANG has incurred expenses thus far
- ANG and AP budgets will be presented at October meeting
- Budget presented and posted on the website, will vote on it at October meeting. Did well due to an extra \$5,000 from Store Incentives Program. (Thanks to Claire)

SGA Elena Currence

- Homecoming theme is Child's Play
- Still in need of volunteers
- 9/28 -10/02 is Spirit Week
- 10/03 Homecoming game and Dance

Principal's Report (Agustin Martinez)

- Teachers must update Blackboard due to H1N1
- Masks for H1N1 are being sent out to schools. Purell was purchased, each teacher gets a bottle
- There is a designated place to isolate kids with H1N1 symptoms, details are still being worked out.
- Staff Development DL Workshop: Motivating Unmotivated Kids.
- Several Smart Boards were purchased
- Late buses are one day a week: Thursday.

Faculty Report (Vania Beight)

- Nothing to report. Faculty has not yet met.

President's Report (Lee Fortna)

- PTSA would like to thank Mr. Martinez for his 2 years of service at HHS. We wish him the best of luck in his new position.
- Thank you to: Claudia Elsayw and Alicia Schmitt (Hospitality Welcome Back Breakfast), Gabrielle O'Bryan (Directory), Audit committee (Kara Rider, Cindy Wei and Kristy Freeman), Jeannie Johns

(Newsletter), Brynn Walker (Website Coordinator), All the officers for their work over the summer and especially Ann Marie Ruskin, and Sue Altschuler and Sarah Rousset (Membership and Volunteers).

- Special Recognition to Claire Levin for her outstanding work on the Grocery Store Incentive Programs last year. The program earned over \$11,000 last year.
- Thanks to everyone who helped stuff packets and envelopes.
- Please make sure you have joined the PTSA – all committee chairs must be members.
- Parent Pledge names will be included in Nov/Dec newsletter
- Please check website frequently for the many Parent Seminars coming up
- Back to School Night is September 23. Come early to shop and visit all exhibitors.
- Homecoming is October 3.
- New Assignment Books have an error on the Red Day/Black Day calendar. Change days beginning October 12th, Oct. 13th is a RED day. Website has the correct calendar.

Committee Reports

DAFA (Leslie Petty/Lisa Fagan)

After Prom Celebration (Laura Medvene)

Need volunteers to chair various committees. Expect to meet early October as a group.

Planning to use Reston Community Center for the event.

Budget was forwarded to Jeanne Loveland for review and hope to present at upcoming meeting.

All Night Grad (Lisa Fagan)

- Selling blankets and raffle tickets for a quilt to raise money for All Night Grad
- Wednesday night dinner 10/07 at the church: \$15.00 per family
- Glory Days fundraiser
- Always need volunteers

Baccalaureate (Dana Harold/Open)

- This position still needs to be filled. Recommendation that this position not be held by a Senior Parent.

Band Liaison (Tammy Lemmons)

- HHS held a successful Tag Day on 09/12/09 with a performance at Dulles Town Center on 9/13/09.
- 13th Annual Showcase of Bands is on 09/26/09, this is one of the bands greatest fundraisers.
- The Pride will perform in the Homecoming Parade.
- HHS Band will begin its competition at the Oakton Classic on October 17th. List of performance dates:
 - Parade of Champions at JMU October 17th
 - October 24 to see the State Marching Festival
 - VBODA State Marching Festival on Oct. 31st.
 - USBBA National Finals at Navy Marine Corps Nov. 7th

Chorus Liaison (Kara Rider)

- Chorus will have a car wash fundraiser 9/19 at the Sunoco gas station.
- First concert of the year is the Fall Sampler Concert on 10/22/09

Class Liaisons

Senior Class (JoAnn Skinner)

- Working on their float

Junior Class (Karen McDonald)

- Kids are working hard on homecoming float and need Junior Parents to sell concessions at the Powder Puff game on 9/30/09.

Sophomore Class (Ann Marie Ruskin/Lesley Aschenbach)

- Working on their float

Freshman Class (Kathy Blystone)

- Car wash at Herndon Auto on 09/05/09, made \$508.00
- Blystone's hosted the Freshman Homecoming float
- Freshman class officers elections will be held after homecoming

Cluster Advisory Council (Judy Murden)

- Last spring meeting included presentation by Marty Smith on Service Learning initiative for FCPS. Next meeting is 10/28/09

Drama Liaison

- Auditions ongoing for Oklahoma, cast list posted 09/17/09
- Advance theater performing 10/30 at VA Theater Assoc. events at the Reston Hyatt 10/30 – 11/01; at Creative Coffeehouse in Nov.
- Theater will have a float at homecoming

Membership (Sue Altschuler)

- Collecting memberships

Minority Parent Advisory Council (Bernice Williams)

- Last meeting was 5/28/09 at McLean HS. Audra Sydnor presented grading scale changes, discussed school budget cutbacks and future topics.
- Audra Sydnor discussed her retirement.

Newsletter Editor (Jeannie Johns)

- The Sept/Oct Newsletter will be posted online soon. Printed copies will be available at Back to School night.

NJROTC Liaison (Bernice Williams)

- 10/17/09 GW Academic and Athletic Meet

Parent Education (Jennifer Boysko)

- Made announcement about the October 8th Parent Education seminar titled: "Responsibility.. It's a Good Thing for our Kids"
- Working on a Parents' Drivers Education event with Mr. Fulcher, the driver's education teacher at HHS.

Reflections (Shaw Berke)

- A flyer has been placed in the backpack mail and via email to jjohns regarding Reflections deadlines.

Robotics Team Liaison (Elizabeth Gibson)

- Team meetings start 09/17/09 in the drama room for returning teams.
- Freshmen and new students can join the team at the recruitment meeting 09/24/09.

Touching Bases (Barb Zicari)

- Fall Touching Bases is scheduled for 11/13

Volunteers (Sarah Rousset)

- Please contact Sarah when you need volunteers since she has the master volunteer list.
- 35 volunteer forms were submitted to her on 9/11/09

Old Business None

New Business

Corresponding Secretary

Adjourn time 9:45 pm (M – , S –)

Next Meeting: date: October 14, 2009 following the community input for the Principal Selection Process held at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria. PTSA meeting will present the results of the 2008 FCPS Youth Survey which covers depression, alcohol use and other risky behavior in our Pyramid.

Submitted by Kerri Gilmore Mesiah
Recording Secretary