

HHS PTSA MEETING MINUTES – date

February 9, 2011

Call to Order 7:12 PM

Handouts: Meeting agenda; (last meeting) minutes, Red, Hot & Blue fundraising flyer

Attendees: Lee Fortna, Cindy Wei, Sue Altschuler, Kathy Blystone, William Bates, Lesley Aschenbach, Diana Fields, Gabrielle O'Bryan, Judy Murden, Tammy Lemmons, Jeannie Johns, Mary Mann, Jennifer Wilson, Elizabeth Gibson, Amy Peterson Olivia Leshock, Jordan Gilley and Hannah Frinks

Special Guest: Janie Strauss, Fairfax County 2012 Proposed Budget Presentation -

Population growth continues to grow, another 10,000 students in 2011. The expected 2012 budget is 2.2 billion, but still looking for a \$48.8 million more so the County can give teachers a salary increase. Most of the overall budget is spent on education.

In 2010 the drop out rate has decreased from 1.5% to 1.4%, the graduation rate is 92% and fewer disciplinary actions.

Fairfax County continues to outperform Montgomery County while we are still doing our best to fill the achievement gap (minorities, ESOL and learning disabilities). There is a the Priority Schools Initiative which targets resources to bridge this gap; Herndon Elementary is involved in this initiative.

In 2010 \$465 million dollars was cut, class sizes were not increased and we are hoping to cut the class sizes in coming years as well as cut the AP/IB test fees. Currently, the State Attorney General is questioning the legality of the test fees.

The curriculum will not be narrowed as to provide for the needs of the students. We would like to implement full day kindergarten in all schools and would like to reinstate summer school.

In 2012 the federal stimulus funds are no longer available. But neither the State nor the county can afford to keep all the federally funded programs going. We will not get new buses in the county and hope to re-align the teacher contract lengths.

Online SOL testing will cost \$8.1 million, and the county would like to be competitive across the state for teacher's salaries.

Final budget decisions for the budget will be made in May.

Feel free to contact Janie Strauss with any questions: Janie.strauss@fcps.edu.

Principal's Report (William Bates)

The trip to Richmond to witness the Commending Resolution was Feb. 1, 2011. Pictures are on the HHS website.

The Class of 2010 donated a flag pole which will be installed in a few weeks – it should be very nice.

New classes are in the 2011-2012 Course selection which is on the HHS website.

We were able to provide great support to needy kids with the AP test fee assistance the PTSA offered.

Science Fair winners will compete at Robinson HS in March.

Mr. Bates continues to meet with students regarding their concerns.

The Joel Newsom Memorial Fund is being established by Mr. Newsom's family. Please contact Doris in the Finance department if you have any questions or would like to donate.

HHS Graduation Task Force data does not fairly account for those that need extra time to graduate (ESOL, Special Needs, etc). In the past 4 years there have been 40 drop outs at HHS, 80% of those students were at risk or transferred out of HHS and did not enroll in another school. 70% of those students attended an FCPS for less than 5 years.

The Graduation panel (students and teachers) are trying to determine if underclassmen can have finals on graduation day since the ceremony is at 2:00. Teachers have to be done by 10:00 to make the ceremony in time. Alternatively HHS may not have school that day.

Broadcast message from Mr. Bates went over well, students have started crossing the street from the church again, otherwise no major discipline issues.

Minutes of 01/12/11 meeting (Kerri Gilmore Mesiah)

Motion to approve (M :Sue Altschuler; S: Amy Peterson), unanimous

President's Report (Lee Fortna)

Congratulations to Sonya Williams, Guidance Counselor, on her promotion to Langley HS as Director of Student Services!

Race to Nowhere film being showed on Feb 24th at 7:30pm at St. Thomas a Becket Church – buy your tickets now!

Herndon PTA Pyramid luncheon has been cancelled and will be rescheduled soon here at HHS. Please let Lesley Aschenbach know of speakers/agenda items to add to agenda for luncheon.

February 22nd – Supervisor Foust and the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will be recognizing HHS for its Centennial Celebration We are still in need of a Baccalaureate Chair – please ask around for volunteers.

Autumn Koo is the interim Guidance counselor until the end of the year.

Town of Herndon wants to do something for the 100 year highway

June 12th is the Baccalaureate date, but still no chair. If no chair then we will not have the ceremony this year.

Treasurer's Report –Diana Fields

Two teachers have requested their mini-grant funds. Casino Night deposits for the ANG fundraising was more than \$6,000.

Hospitality and DAFA will require funds in the next month.

PTSA \$21,779.36

DAFA \$20, 284.74

ANG \$8,053.40

AP \$26.37

Faculty Report (Vania Beight)

HHS Theatre will present Aladdin & His Wonderful Lamp on Feb. 18th at 7:30pm and Feb. 19th at 10:00 am. This is the annual Children's Theatre event directed by two Seniors, Chelsea Robinson and Andy Raoufi. Tickets are \$5.00 at the door.

The Fine Arts would like to thank the PTSA for the Teacher Mini-Grants. The grants have helped fill the gaps to do things in art classes they have not been able to do in the past.

The Visual Arts Department would like to congratulate the 2011 Scholastic Arts winners: Meg Carroll, Sheryl Greene, Elisha Johnson, David Norton and Maggie Middleton.

DAFA (Leslie Petty)

The 01/22/11 ANG Casino Party was a great success. Close to \$6,000 was raised. A few more fundraisers are expected for ANG: 02/24 and 4/14 Guest bartending at Jimmy's.

Combined ANG/AP fundraisers: 4/9
Community Yard Sale, Gift Card sales in March/April/May.

Next ANG meeting is 2/16, 7:00 at the Breeze. Next AP meeting is 2/15, 7:00 in the Guidance Conference room.

All Night Grad (Laura Medvene)

See DAFA report

After Prom (Jeannie Johns)

Many volunteers have offered to help with After Prom. We have subcommittee chairs identified for Decorations, Activities, Check-in/out, Prizes, Food, Coat check, and Volunteers. Judy Murden volunteered to chair Clean up during this meeting. We are still in need of a chair for Security. We also need lots of volunteers to work the day of the event, May 14, 2011.

AP is considering whether we have the manpower to successfully take on a fundraiser at the Dulles Expo Center March 25 (Friday 10 - 6), 26 (Saturday 10 - 6), and 27 (Sunday 10 - 5). The opportunity requires 20 to 30 volunteers, taking on at least 4-hour shifts, to help hand out brochures, sell shopping bags, and monitor vendors' booths while they take breaks. We would make at least \$1500 for the event. We need 10 to 20 more volunteers to make this work. If anyone can volunteer, you must contact Jeannie Johns by next Tuesday, February 15. If we don't get enough volunteers by then, we need to give up the opportunity.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 15th, at 7 p.m. in the HHS Guidance Office Conference Room. Our March 15th meeting will be held at Herndon United Methodist Church (where AP will be held). We can tour the facilities then.

Robotics (Elizabeth Gibson)

Robotics Team 116

This past Saturday the parent organization FIRST kicked off this year's game "Logomotion". After that begins a 6 week build season to complete both the robot and a 30 second animation film. Ship date for the robot is Feb. 22. The team will be attending the competition in DC at the convention center on March 24-26 and the Bayou Regional outside of New Orleans, LA on March 17-19. Competition events are free and open to the public.

Band (Tammy Lemmons)

02/09 Fundraising dinner raised between \$700 – 800.

March 18th Bingo night at HHS from 5:30 – 9:30.

March 2nd Pre-Festival Concerts
Disney trip the end of March.

Drama (Courtney Nyren)

Children's Theatre presents Aladdin.

Class Liaisons

Senior Class (Karen McDonald)

ANG events are the only items going on for the senior class.

Junior Class (AnneMarie Ruskin)

On Jan. 14th Juniors made \$405. by working the concession stand. Prom theme is: A Night Under the Stars. Ticket price is yet to be determined.

Sophomore Class (Kathy Blystone)

Sold bags at the Blackout Dance and made \$220.00.

SGA (Olivia Leshock, Jordan Gilley and Hannah Frinks)

Junior class fundraiser is Herndon Idol being held on March 8th.

Interest meeting for SGA and Class Officers elections is 3/10. Applications due 3/21.

Planning for 2011 Homecoming.

Adding a Sadie Hawkins dance on 4/01.

Mayfest is 5/27.

Pyramid (Lesley Aschenbach)

4 potential meeting dates to be held at HHS.

Reflections (Jeanne Talbot)

02/17 reception for Fairfax County winners.

Orchestra

NJROTC (Bernice Williams)

Parent Education (Jennifer Boyska)

Race To Nowhere will be screened 2/24 at St. Thomas a Becket at 7:30 pm.

Membership (Sue Altschuler)

Membership:

367 Parent Members

136 Faculty Members

Will list members names to the HHS website.

Superintendent Parent Advisory (Cindy Wei)

The January was cancelled due to snow, next one is 02/22/11 at 7:00.

Volunteers (Sue Altschuler)

There were 2 volunteers for the Vision/Hearing screening this week.

Grocery Store Receipts (Claire Levin)

There is a Safeway promotion coming, look for details.

Hospitality (Beth Krauser, Jennifer Wilson and Gail Russell)

Hospitality will host the annual Teacher Appreciation Luncheon (day TBD) during the week of May 2 – 6th, National Teacher Appreciation week. Requests for food donations and gift cards will go out closer to the date. This is a great way to say "Thank you" to our wonderful teachers and staff.

Sports Boosters (Kathy Blystone)

Winter Sports banquet tickets are on sale.

Guitar (Dana Harold)

Guitar dinner at HUMC on 3/2 at 6:00.

2/20-22/11 fundraising at Red Hot & Blue, 15% of all sales will go to Guitar. Must present the fundraising flyer.

Newsletter (Jeannie Johns)

Thank you for contributing articles for the last newsletter. Articles for the March/April 2011 PTSA Newsletter are due February 21. The newsletter will be published March 1, 2011.

Calendar (AnneMarie Ruskin)

Feb 18	Children's Theater
Production 7:30 pm	
Feb 19	Children's Theater
Production 10 am	
Feb 19	STOMP FEST 7 pm
HHS Auditorium	
Feb 21	School in session
(make up snow day)	RED DAY
Feb 21	Spring Sports Begin
Feb 23	Registration for Rising
11th graders begins (thru 2/28)	
Feb 23	Orchestra Concert 7 pm
Feb 24	"RACE TO NOWHERE" Documentary sponsored by HHS PTSA at St. Thomas a Beckett Church 7:30 pm
Feb 25	Pyramid Chorus
Concert 7 pm	
Feb 28	Winter Sports Banquet
6:30 pm	
Mar 1	Winter Sports Banquet
6:30 pm	
Mar 2	Band Concert 7 pm
Mar 3	Rising 10th Grade
Registration Mtg (seminar)	
Mar 3	Honor Roll Reception
2:30 pm	
Mar 4	Rising 10th Grade
registration begins (thru 3/9)	

Mar 4	Creative Coffee House
7:30 pm	
Mar 7 - 11	Writing SOL Testing
Mar 7	Spring Sports Parents
Meeting 6:30 pm	
Mar 8	Herndon IDOL 7 pm
Mar 9	PTSA Meeting 7 pm
Mar 10	Chorus Concert 7:30
ppm	
Mar 12	SAT
Mar 14	Sports Boosters
Meeting	
Mar 16	ASVAB Test (pre-reg
required in Career Ctr)	
Mar 16	Senior Cap & Gown
Pictures (by appt)	
Mar 17	Fashion Show 7 pm
Mar 18	Most Improved
Breakfast 7:45 am	
Mar 23	Fundraising Dinner for
After Prom at the Herndon UMC 6-7 pm	
Mar 23-26	Spring Music Trip
Apr 1	End of 3rd Quarter

Old Business None

New Business

Town of Herndon significantly modified the street solicitation ordinance. Students will be able to stand on the sidewalk to advertise for car washes and other fundraisers.

Looking for a Nominating Committee for 2011-12 PTSA officers.

Feb. 7 – 11, 2011 is “National Counselors Week”.

Adjourn time 9:30 pm

Next Meeting:

March 9th, 2011 at 7:00 in the cafeteria. Allison Ayoub from HHS Student Services (Guidance) will speak to us about all the events/programs Student Services provides for our students and families.

Submitted by Kerri Gilmore Mesiah

Recording Secretary