

**HHS PTSA MEETING MINUTES –**  
September 14, 2011

**Call to Order:** 7:10 p.m.

**Handouts:** Meeting agenda; May 11, 2011 minutes; Proposed 2011-12 Budget; Previous 2010-11 budget; Calendar

**Attendees:** Lee Fortna, Kerri Gilmore Mesiah, Ann Marie Ruskin, Diana Fields, Jennifer Boysko, Carol Sinclair, Jerri Ricks, Kevin Wallace, Laura Wateman, Margo Sagan, Tammy Lemmons, Judy Murden, Cindy Wei, Sue Altschuler, Alan Altschuler, Patchan, Stacy Montandon, Indira Sidhu, William Bates, Courtney Nyren, Huong Ton, Beth Krauser, Ritzya, Karen Harrison, Polly Arojado, Dennis Vance, Gabriele O'Bryan, Laurie Dodd, Jennifer James-Samuel, Hilary Bradley, Lesley Aschenbach

**Minutes of 05/11/2011 meeting (Carol Sinclair):**  
Motion to approve minutes (M: Ann Marie Ruskin  
S: Judy Murden), unanimous.

**Principal's Report (William Bates):**

- New staff to Herndon: Laura Waterman (9<sup>th</sup> grade administrator), Vicky Kagan (Interim DSS), Dave Quarto (Security Specialist), Kelly Winningham (Guidance Counselor).
- Stephanie Stewart is the new website curator. The website will be changing.
- Co PTSA reps Kevin Wallace and Margo Sagan will provide faculty updates and PTSA membership
- Video announcements are up and running (Allison Petruzzi in main office)
- We have 2220 students at start of year, which is higher than the spring projections. Therefore we will be adding a couple of sections; English 12 and an ESOL math. Letters will be going home with affected students.
- Ordered 2 new parkos.
- Fall sports season is in full swing and the classes are beginning their plans for homecoming. 9<sup>th</sup> grade parent volunteers

for a house and to assist with float building (see Ms. Waterman)

- PTSA funding was used for tools for custodians, hanging whiteboards, additional electrical outlets for guidance suite, repairs to security golf cart.
- Traffic seems to be running smooth lot is clear by 7:15
- Continue to remind students to drive safely in the parking lot and use crosswalks.
- PSAT day on October 12 for 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- School wide SR&R September 15 for all students
- Federal survey forms will come home in October.

**Teacher Presentation (Ms. Erin Thurston-Sikes):**

- Science trip during Spring Break with students in AP Environmental Science and Oceanography and would like PTSA support.
  - Costa Rica (study sea turtles)
  - Florida (study sea grass and coral reefs)
  - Florida (tourist science)
  - Bahamas (Society of Ocean Sciences)

**Student Government/SGA Report:** no report

**President's Report (Lee Fortna):**

- Thanks to those who helped with Back to School Stuff: Hospitality Committee – Welcome Back Breakfast for Staff – huge success; Ann Marie for helping with Freshman Parent Orientation and getting the website organized; Officers and Sue Altschuler for being the “President by Committee” so far to take care of business for the opening of school; Margo Sagan and Kevin Wallace for kicking off PTA Staff Membership drive
- The Kevan Ulsacker Technical Assistant Award (Scholarship) that the PTSA sponsors was given to Martin Anilane – Class of 2011.

- The recipient of the Joel Newsome Scholarship was Francesco Yopez-Coello who graduated this June 2011.
- The Grocery Receipts Program brought in \$5327 from Giant, and \$3414 from Harris Teeter in 2010-2011 School Year
- We still need a President and After Prom chair (Junior Parent) – all other positions are filled.

**Faculty Report (Margo Sagan):**

- Thank you to the PTSA for the breakfast.
- The teachers have between 40-50 PTA members to dates.
- The freshmen need a Homecoming location. Lee explained the activities involved with homecoming, including Powder Puff game, bonfire, parade, game, dance.

**Treasurer's Report (Diana Fields):**

- The proposed budget was passed out.
- Last year we had a budget of approximately \$15,000. The PTSA donates to building facilities, staff development, teacher mini-grants, technology scholarship, and a student fund. Last year the student fund was used for AP testing. There was a discussion on using this item for planners that were provided to free/reduced lunch students. This hasn't been budgeted in any funds. A question was asked why the PTSA doesn't pay for everyone's – this is because the total cost is around \$8000 which the PTSA doesn't have enough funds to absorb this cost. Mr. Bates noted that the planners are considered instructional materials and therefore they cannot profit from the sales of planners. The schools raw cost for the planners is \$4.67.
- Dues will remain the same.
- Parent volunteers are needed for an audit committee.

**DAFA (Leslie Petty):**

- About 20 ANG tickets have been sold.

- There will be a kickoff meeting soon.
- There will be a fundraising dinner at Herndon United Methodist Church on September 28 at 6 pm.

**Baccalaureate (Laura Hellstern):** no report

**Band Liaison (Tammy Lemmons):**

- The band played at the first football game.
- TAG day was September 10<sup>th</sup> and they raised \$21,000.
- The new uniforms are in.
- The Showcase of Bands will be on September 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Competitions will be held on October 1, 15, and 29
- 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary concert will be on November 5.

**Chorus Booster Liaison (Courtney Nyren):**

- There will be a concert on October 20<sup>th</sup> 7 pm with all four choirs.
- There will be a fundraising dinner on October 26 at Herndon United Methodist Church.
- They will be doing the White House ornament fundraiser again this year.
- April 12-14 will be the Nashville trip.
- Seniors will go to Longwood University to audition for honors choir on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Senior Class Liaison (Lesley Aschenbach):**

- Parent's meeting was held on Sept. 13.
- Working on float at Hill's house with the theme of animation.

**Junior Class Liaison (Kathy Blystone):**

- The class will be selling water at Back to School night.
- They may be having a car wash on September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- Parent volunteers are needed to sell water and staff the bag check at the Homecoming dance.
- Information about the Powder Puff football game is TBD.

- Float building will begin; the class theme is 'western'. They are requesting gift cards and cash to purchase materials.

**Sophomore Class Liaison (Courtney Nyren):**

- There will be an interest meeting on September 22 in room 119.
- At float building, either a class sponsor or the Assistant Principal must be there.
- Reminder about the Parent/Student Driver's Education class.

**Freshman Class Liaison (Jerri Ricks):**

- Need class sponsors

**Cluster Advisory Council (Judy Murden):**

- The Cluster Advisory Council, composed of PTA representatives, meets quarterly with Marty Smith, the Cluster superintendent, for an update on current issues affecting our schools and the cluster and to provide input on those issues. The next meeting will be November 16 at 7pm and everyone is invited to attend.

**Directory Report (Gabriele O'Bryan):**

- The directory is going to the printer on Sept. 15. The cost will be \$5 and it will be on sale at Back to School night.

**Drama Booster Liaison (Courtney Nyren):**

- The theme this year is Season of Transformation.
- The fall production will be Beauty and the Beast and will be on Dec. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10. They will need help constructing the sets.
- The spring production will be Pride and Prejudice.
- The final production will be MacBeth.
- The children's show is to be determined.

**Grocery Receipts Programs (Sue Altschuler):**

- HHS is currently registered in the following programs:
  - Harris Teeter Together in Education
  - Giant A+ Bonus Bucks

- Safeway eScrip Program
- Bloom Breeze Card for Schools

- Participants must reregister their cards each year, which can be done online, or by filling out the form on the PTSA website and sending it to Sue.
- She is investigating Verizon's long distance fundraising program.

**Guitar Booster Liaison (Dana Harold):**

- Their first parent meeting will be on Sept. 27.
- They will have a fundraising dinner on Nov. 16 at Herndon United Methodist Church.

**Hospitality (Beth Krauser):**

- Back to School breakfast was a success.
- Next event will be Touching Bases on November 11.

**Landscaping (Jeanne Talbot):**

- Weeded and mulched before start of school. Sign need to be repainted and resealed.

**Membership (Sue Altschuler):**

- There are 49 parent members and 5 staff members (and more turned in)
- All PTSA Chairs must be a member of the PTSA.
- Those interested can join via PayPal or send in cash/check with form on website.

**Newsletter Editor (Jeannie Johns):**

- Deadline is September 15

**Newsletter Folding (Susy Nixon):** No report

**NJROTC Liaison (Gabriele O'Bryan):**

- Tag Day is September 17.
- They have a trip planned Nov. 5-7.
- There will be a field meet on October 15 at Herndon.

**Orchestra Booster Liaison (Open):** Need Liaison

**Parent Education (Jennifer Boysko):**

- October 26: Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention program

**Pyramid Coordinator (Lesley Aschenbach):**

- There will be 2 meetings this year (October and March). October meeting may be at Herndon Middle School.
- This is an opportunity to network other PTA's and listen to a speaker.

**Reflections (Jeanne Talbot):**

- HHS deadline is October 21<sup>st</sup>. Information is on HHS PTSA website; flyers will be posted; also in Daily Announcements.

**Robotics Team Liaison (Tammy Lemmons):**

- There will be freshman new person interest meeting in the near future.
- Their outreach includes Air & Scare, Relay for Life, Herndon Festival and White House
- They are in an organization stage at this point.
- They may go to a competition with the old robot.

**Special Education Liaison (Sylvia Richardson):**

No report

**Sports Booster Liaison (Kathy Blystone):**

- Sports Booster meeting originally scheduled for Monday September 10 is rescheduled to September 19 at 6:30 pm in the Career Center.
- 1<sup>st</sup> phase of 100<sup>th</sup> year highway is complete, but bricks can still be bought.

**Superintendents' Parent Advisory Council (Cindy Wei):**

- Similar to Cluster Advisory Council, but with Superintendent. They meet 4 times per school year.

**Touching Bases (Claudia ElSawy/Laurie Dodd):**

- Will be held November 11 from 7:30 – 9:30 a.m.. There will be a delayed opening for students.

**Volunteers (Karen McDonald):**

- Only 7 volunteer forms received.
- Most immediate need is for Vision and Hearing Screening on September 27 & 28; look for email blast.

**Calendar Update (Ann Marie Ruskin):**

On website – click the top right

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Sept 14   | PTSA Meeting 7 pm                                     |
| Sept 22   | Back to School Night 6 pm                             |
| Sept 24   | Showcase of Bands                                     |
| Sept 28   | ANG Fundraising dinner                                |
| Oct 1     | SAT   |
| Oct 4-6   | Senior Portrait Make up                               |
| Oct 10    | Columbus Day Holiday                                  |
| Oct 12    | PSAT Testing (no school For seniors)                  |
| Oct 12    | PTSA Meeting 7 pm                                     |
| Oct 18-22 | Spirit Week   |
| Oct 20    | Chorus Concert 7:30 pm                                |
| Oct 21    | Bonfire 7-10:30 pm                                    |
| Oct 22    | Homecoming Parade 9:30 am<br>Game 1 pm; dance 8:30 pm |

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:**

- There are bond referendum handouts and copies of the calendar
- Back to School Night is Sept 22 and volunteers are needed to help at PTSA booth; arrive at 5:30 pm in the main gym

**Next Meeting:** October 12, 2011 at 7:00 pm in the Cafeteria.

**Adjourn:** 9:15 pm

Submitted by Carol Sinclair, Recording Secretary