

HMS PTO Meeting Minutes

October 9, 2020

9:30 am

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Attendees

Colleen Stewart	Erin Avery
Mary Beth Turner	Robyn Rudisill
Liz Dias	Hillery Efke
Suzanne Ray	Kirsten Shelton
Heather Gavin	Marianne Faribee
Kathryn Hickey	Margo Boler
Amy Cook	Leanne Howell
Michelle Mldha	Alsion Fondaw
Joy Williams	Toni Nygren
Liz Sigman	Mitzi May
Holly Joyner	Laurie Argo
Nabiha Huda	Brian Fisher

Call to Order

9:32 am by Colleen Stewart, President

Administrator's Report - Liz Dias

- Administrators are trying to keep the House System alive and happening, so they are purchasing house masks, having music in the mornings and afternoons
- 6th grade has been over the top dressed up for houses
- 7th and 8th graders are coming back to school on campus Monday through Thursday with Friday's schedule remaining the same in regards to IEP's, virtual, etc. Administrators are very excited about this.
- Transitioning slowly into getting clubs going but doing so virtually; NJHS and Beta Club sponsors are working on their application processes and planning their virtual ceremonies
- Other smaller clubs/groups are starting to come back as well
- Tutoring before and after school has begun; Ms. Pohlman has been sharing this information
- Every Friday is a Principal's meeting
- Brian Fisher -- Excited about Fall Break and kids coming back to school; feels they have created a really safe environment with PPE, more sanitizer, more cleaner, etc. from the state each month as well as 6 feet distancing and masks
- Will be using more Kelly services for subs when kids come back

- Colleen asked if Riverdale students are also going back in person on 11/2 -- yes
- Suzanne Ray asked if anything will change for 100% virtual students? No, everything will remain the same with choice in Dec/Jan to change if you want
- Mr. Fisher said they are working with teachers to streamline Schoology pages; teachers will continue updating Schoology
- Will continue 6 feet distancing and no more than 20 students in a classroom; will be making changes to buses to maintain 6 feet distancing; will continue looping in the hallways to maintain social distancing.
- Learning Lab has been successful for 6th grade, which is overflow of more than 20 kids to the library
- Students are put on a rotation for the learning lab; teachers use a live Excel spreadsheet to manage rotation schedules
- Mr. Fisher went on to say that they are working across grade levels to figure out rotations so that students will not rotate out of classes on consecutive days for the same class, so that it will be only every couple of weeks.
- Learning labs will be teacher supervised.
- Toni Nygren shared that her students have been sick but able to do all school work from home and it's been very helpful -- good job to HMS!
- Mr. Fisher said they will continue to focus on virtual learning so that students can continue to complete work and stay caught up even when sick at home.
- Heather Gavin asked if the IEP kids will participate in the Learning Lab? Yes, but Fridays shouldn't be affected except that they are trying to collaborate more, if the numbers allow. M-TH schedule should not change; they will be in rotation for learning labs on these days.
- Amy Cook asked why aren't the kids going back to school on Fridays too? Ms. Dias answered that they are taking it one step at a time; because Fridays are already in place they didn't want to upheave everything. Plus the high school is still M-TH with Fridays virtual, taking baby steps.
- Colleen asked how basketball games will look? Ms. Dias said they will look very different. The district coordinator Mr. Curtis has guidelines for each school to maintain 6 feet distancing. Going to allow only 42 people in the stands, just players' family members and not even both mom and dad for each player because tickets have to be split between both home and visiting crowds. Games will not be open to the student body.
- Colleen asked about the winter formal. Ms. Dias said no, they do not see how it will be possible but trying to come up with some alternatives. She said they know social events are so important so they are brainstorming ideas, maybe outside?
- Colleen asked about lunch in the classrooms? Ms. Dias said yes that will continue for now.
- Robyn Rudisill asked about Beta and NJHS induction and suggested that one solution could be to go to soccer fields and only invite people being invited to join, have white tents, 6 ft apart, 1 parent. Ms. Dias said she will pass ideas along to Dr. Howell and Mrs. Kemp. Robyn said they could have a rain date and she can help with tents, etc.

Approval of Minutes

Kathryn Hickey - Motion to Approve

Joy Williams - 2nd Motion.

Colleen - Minutes approved as written

Treasurer's Report

- Kirsten Shelton reported that our membership goal was reached
- She added Admin Cost passthrough account on budget for TLC Cakes and for PTO Board Shirts
- Taxes are done and will be sent in on Monday
- She is caught up on reimbursements

President's Report

- Colleen Stewart turned some things over to Kathryn when her mom became ill and thanked Kathryn for her help
- Many thank yous -- Hospitality on Teacher Conference night with Vanelli's Dinner, Haunted Houston committee, Donation/Membership committee for delivering magnets and reaching their goal, TLC Cakes, Kirsten Shelton and Amy Cook, publicity working hard
- Colleen said she appreciates each and every one of us on the PTO
- She will have a luncheon on 10/25 with the District

Vice President's Report -- Kathryn Hickey, No Report

Parliamentarian -- Hillery Efke, No Report

Membership

- Alison Fondaw reported that we have 321 members (293 family and 28 faculty)
- We have met our goal and is thankful for that
- Everyone should have receive their magnet for joining by mid-Sept
- Can still join if you would like to

Ways & Means

- Mary Beth Turner reported that the donation drive has raised \$7400
- They have finally secured a Spirit Night at Marco's on 10/21 (Wednesday after Fall Break)
- Asked everyone to go get pizza that night
- Will give us 20% of each order if we mention HMS in the store
- They are still working on getting something set up for October.

Publicity

- Suzanne Ray reported that she is here to push out information so please send an email with what you want posted including a picture to post
- She asked us not to be offended if the content is cut down

TLC Cakes

- Heather Gavin reported that the TLC Cake program is rolling now due in great part to Kirsten and Amy Cook's help
- PayPal is now set up
- We have about 87 staff to cover and have already taken care of about 70
- She said they will do another push to get the remaining people covered
- The plan is to provide every teacher and staff member a gift certificate prior to Thanksgiving to use for their cakes
- Liz Dias said they've done an amazing job and thanked them for it
- Colleen said What a pivot!!!

Haunted Houston / T-Shirts

- Kathryn Hickey reported that the logistics of Boo Fest were determined not to be a good use of time or resources.
- T-Shirt Contest with sponsors on back of t-shirt is best we can do in 2020
- Holly is in charge of the contest at school
- Kathryn is in charge of the sponsors
- Michelle is in charge of t-shirt sales
- Margo is in charge of t-shirt design
- Sponsorship update:
 - Gold \$500
 - Silver \$250
 - Bronze \$100
- 3 committed sponsors: Laura Clark, Saddle Creek Ortho, and Lauren Gilchrist Shelter Insurance
- If anyone knows of anyone local to sponsor please let Kathryn know
- Deadline for sponsors is 10/20
- Goal is \$1000 in sponsorships
- Holly -- Changed theme for t-shirt contest to All In This Together to show unity and bring in community
- Kids are excited about the contest
- Robyn -- Good way to pump up t-shirt sales is to play High School Musical song All In This Together
- Margo -- Think Threads and Bluff City Sports, sell shirts for around \$20 and make around \$12-\$14 per shirt, depending on the numbers ordered
- Holly -- will choose shirt color once the design is chosen
- Michelle -- fliers are going out as soon as they get the design (contest ends 10/23); there will be a store on Membership Toolkit and pay through PayPal
- There will be a drive by distribution of the shirts at school, and they could possibly use students who need volunteer hours for this

Health and Safety -- no report

Recognition -- no report

Teacher Treats -- no report

Clubs and Sports -- no report

Hospitality

- Toni Nygren reported that Vanelli's Deli did a fantastic job for teacher conference night and they hope to use them in the future
- Mr. Ruiz got a list of what teachers wanted, etc which made it easy and Vanelli's had good prices
- Vanelli's would have written names on the boxes to make them easy to distribute, but they didn't know that in time
- Colleen asked Ms. Dias if they still want luncheon next month for American Education Week 11/16-11/20, and Ms. Dias said yes open to anything PTO will do for them
- Toni said that they are open to suggestions of local companies to use
- Colleen said they will pick a day during American Education Week to do a raffle with gift cards; will purchase 10 gift cards

Beautification

- Colleen said that the pots in front of the school look great

Contests

- Marianne Faribee reported that she will have more details after Fall Break of What Does Diversity Mean to Me?

Honor Roll

- Robyn Rudisill reported that she got 300 free gift cards for Honor Roll for Chick Fila sandwiches
- She said she doesn't want to ask them for anything else because they are also donating 300 ice cream gift cards in January
- This is about \$1000 donation
- We can write thank you notes to support Chick Fila
- Ms. Dias will print out certificates, gift cards will be attached, and will be given out the week of 10/26
- Chick Fila's donation saved the budget with their generous donation
- Hillery said we need to do a social media shout out for Chick Fila
- Kathryn and Robyn asked if we should include them on our t-shirt; will talk after meeting
- Suzanne asked for them to shoot her an email about what they decide, etc.

Webmaster -- no report

Newsletter

- Joy Williams wants to start showcasing Mustangs (District Champions, etc) to celebrate Mustangs

- Would love to share businesses who helped in newsletter as well to give shout outs
- Needs info by Wed of each week by email

Old Business -- none

New Business -- none

Colleen Stewart adjourned the meeting at 10:31 am and stated our next meeting will be on Friday, November 13 at 9:30 am.