

HMS PTO Meeting

October 7, 2022 9:00AM

HMS Cafeteria

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Toni Nygren, Vice President
- II. Approval of the Minutes: 9-9-22 Meeting
 - A. Motion: Amy Cook; Second: Ginger Neas
- III. Administrator's Report
 - A. Brian Fisher
 - a. Successful 1st quarter.
 - Points to rethink for next year:
 - Start elective selection earlier (February).
 - Build on high interest in Spanish as an elective (eg, offer both Spanish I & II Exploration).
 - Reach out to teachers now for input for next school year – what worked well with the new elective selection?
 - b. Grades for 1st quarter will be set the week after fall break
 - c. Building addition coming along well!
 - Existing building (inside) will be re-painted for a refresh, to align with new addition project
 - d. Haunted Houston – Teacher involvement?
 - PTO: Please clarify directly with Admin if you would like teachers to attend/help (separate internal sign up for focus areas would be more helpful, than the general volunteer sign up)
 - e. Accolades to Carrie Alley for her new role as Tutoring Teacher at HMS. Positive reactions from students to have this new resource.
 - f. Rewards for Principals List and Honor Roll
 - Suggestion: Cart to go around to different classes
 - No more paper certificates. (PTO meeting attendees confirmed paper certificates are not necessary.)
 - List of names for honor roll to be posted in Pony Express & PTO newsletters
 - g. Mayor Palazzolo visiting today in the HMS Leads class, and other local and regional leaders will be coming to visit that class
 - B. Sara Strickland
 - a. Dessert & Dialogue with Davis was successful. Thank you to PTO for their help.
 - Another date - potentially early December
 - b. Request from Admin to PTO: Volunteer needed - Photocopying for teachers – 1x per week. PTO Board – please contact Ms. Strickland as to which parent would be willing to do this. Would really appreciate this help from PTO!
 - c. House System Rewards
 - **1st Quarter Award for House (?):** Chick-Fil-A cookie & chips (delivered by PTO Board Member – Reveal & Recognition)
 - New format for House Council this school year – 8th grader will be picked to lead the group
- IV. Reports

- A. President's Report -- Erin Avery (read by Vice President Toni Nygren)
 - a. GMC PTO Luncheon, Tues., Oct. 4 was a success – HMS PTO had the largest representation!
 - b. Dialogue & Dessert with Davis, Tues., Oct. 4 – Good turnout and respectful atmosphere. All three admins were present to lead table discussions, as well as Counselor Christian
 - c. Haunted Houston Update
 - Decorations: Volunteers decorated last Sun., Oct. 2. Unfortunately, wall decorations fell down. On Mon., utilized students from Civics & HMS Leads classes to help redecorate.
 - T-shirts: Thanks to Juliann for organizing the delivery of the t-shirts
 - Is there an opportunity to sell leftover t-shirts from last year? Don't want to detract from sponsors on this year's t-shirt. Haunted Houston Committee to discuss this possibility.
 - d. Beautification – Lovely fall pots outside in front of the school
 - e. Teacher Treats Cart – Delivered every 3 weeks and the teachers are very appreciative.
- B. Vice President's Report -- Toni Nygren
 - a. First PTO Coffee Talk, Tues., Sept. 27, hosted by Ginger Neas. Well attended, social & informative. Thank you to Ginger!
 - b. Care & Compassion (Melanie Gattas) – Teachers who have babies, or have had a loss. What ideas do we have what to give the teachers in these situations?
- C. Treasurer's Report -- Amy Shackelford
 - a. Reimbursement checks are coming.
- D. Parliamentarian Report -- Mandy Vezina
 - a. No report.
- E. Membership -- Christine Woods, Karen Viotti
 - a. No report.
- F. Ways and Means – Sara Lee, Kristen Stadleman
 - a. Report: Donation drive numbers, donut incentive parties and top three teachers
 - b. Report: Spirit Night, Tues., 10/4, 4-9 PM – Memphis Pizza Café. \$550 earned (15% of all sales)
 - c. Upcoming Spirit Night: Thurs., 11/3, 5-9PM – Let It Fly. 15% of all sales will go to HMS PTO
- G. Health and Safety -- Nancy Vaughan
 - a. No report
- H. Reveal & Recognition -- Elizabeth Gates, Angie Shipman
 - a. Report: NJHS Induction, Mon., Oct. 3. Helped decorate before the event, and had cookies & waters available for students to celebrate.
 - b. Upcoming: Beta Club, Mon. Oct. 20 – Induction ceremony
 - c. Concern from PTO meeting attendees: Communication about admission to these two clubs still seems selective. How to address this?
 - Admission information about both was posted on Schoology. Parents need to check Schoology regularly and follow up per information posted there.
 - How do students who are new to the school apply, whose

grades from last year aren't at the school? They weren't considered this year. This is a question for Admin.

- I. Haunted Houston – Juliann DeMatteo
 - a. Date Set – Sat., Oct. 22, 2022
 - Need tents for the day of the event
 - Pre-sale wrist band for inflatables and pre-sale tickets will be available at lunch the week before the event
 - b. Oct. 17 - Auction goes live.
 - Juliann continuing to solicit businesses for auction items. If you know of possible businesses, please reach out to her to ensure that we're not duplicating efforts
 - New auction item: Fast Pass for Haunted Houston Maze. Specifics on this are still being ironed out.
 - c. Sign Up Genius to volunteer for the event – please sign up and promote this! Lots of donations and volunteers still needed. As a PTO Board member, please volunteer 2-3 hrs. of your time to this event.
 - Always need help cleaning up
- J. Teacher Treats -- Melissa Salazar, Laurie Wissman
 - a. Teacher treat cart delivered every three weeks to teachers' classrooms.
- K. Hospitality -- Angie Childers, Jenna Cox
 - a. Report: Snack Bar for Conference Night 9/14.
 - b. Upcoming: Holiday Lunch. Details to be determined.
- L. Special Needs Liaison – Angie Childers
 - a. Emailed teachers and will reach out to them after fall break to hear what their needs are.
- M. Clubs and Sports – Kathryn Hickey
 - a. No report
- N. Beautification -- Stephanie Edwards
 - a. No report
- O. Contests -- Karen Ivey
 - a. Spotlight on Fine Arts Electives to start in October.
- P. Care and Compassion Coordinator – Melanie Gattas
 - a. No report
- Q. School Dances – Stacey Malone, Carmen Leister
 - a. No report
- R. Honor Roll -- Carey Alley, Leanne Howell
 - a. Quarterly reward for 1st Quarter Honor Roll: Treat cart will go down hallways during Focus time, and teachers will have a list which students to receive a treat from the cart. Date to be determined.
- S. TLC Cakes -- Ginger Neas
 - a. Waiting on staff list from Admin to create Sign Up Genius.
- T. Teacher Appreciation Week – Wendy Camamile
 - a. No report
- U. Webmaster -- Amy Cook
 - a. No report

V. Publicity – Kristin Albaugh

a. No report

W. Newsletter -- Nabiha Huda

a. Please have all submissions to Nabiha by Tuesday for the Thursday newsletter.

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

VII. Adjournment – 10:01am

Attendance

Administration:

Brian Fisher
Sara Strickland

PTO Board Members:

Carie Alley
Wendy Camamile
Angie Childers
Amy Cook
Juliann DeMatteo
Stephanie Edwards
Elizabeth Gates
Sarah Goralewski
Leanne Howell
Kathleen Huisman
Karen Ivey
Bre Lacey
Sara Lee
Ginger Neas
Toni Nygren
Amy Shackelford
Angie Shipman
Kristen Stadleman

Parents:

Dorian Campbell
Liz Coverdale
Megan Federico
Shannon Pressler

Important Dates

- Monday, October 10 – Friday, October 14 – NO SCHOOL (Fall Break)
- Saturday, October 22, 12-6 PM – Haunted Houston

- Tuesday, November 8 – NO SCHOOL (Election Day)
- Monday, November 21 – Friday, November 25 – NO SCHOOL (Thanksgiving Break)