

HMS PTO Meeting
April 8, 2022, **9:00am**
HMS Cafeteria

- I. Call Meeting to Order
 - A. Welcome by President Erin Avery – 9:05 a.m.

- II. Administrator's Report
 - A. Ms. Strickland – TCAP testing: April 19-28. Need test proctors, at least 12. Sign up Genius went out yesterday for volunteers to be test proctors. There will be a training day in advance of volunteering as a test proctor. Date and time to be announced.
 - B. Mr. Fisher
 1. April 11: New schedule options will be released. Message with the new scheduling approach: Want to get back to the “why?” Middle school is an opportunity for kids to be exposed and grow. Schedule offerings will be vertically aligned with those available at Houston High.
 - a) Positive improvements anticipated from these schedule and elective changes: 1) Creative and mental release; 2) Move some of the after school Fine Arts to be during the school day, to take some of the after school burden off both students and teachers; 3) Teachers & kids will get to know each other better, with kids being more engaged; behavioral problems will hopefully subside with the increased connection; 4) Social-emotional benefits – fresh start each semester, with new classes and a new group of students.
 - b) Skyward Alert will go out Mon., 4/11 with new schedule options. By April 24 – parents should enter options into Skyward and students should give homeroom teacher a completed paper form of scheduling requests.
 - c) Want to change the focus of the academic school experience: expose middle school students to a variety of subjects and experiences. Less focus on grades and rigor for elective courses. This will allow academic rigor to be focused on ELA, Math, Science & Social Studies, rather than electives. STEM offerings will be aligned with future curriculum in high school. Examples of possible electives: World Cultures, US Government & Civics. Teachers' course description of electives is exciting.
 - d) If a student chooses a year long elective (eg, band, orchestra, art, choir), then she will have two other semester elective choices. When scheduling, provide three semester choices (two top choices and one alternative).
 - e) Example: Art will be combination of both traditional and graphic art combined into one course (to relieve the demand to get into graphic art). Two options for art: semester sampler, or a full-year (5 days per week), which will need a signature from art teacher to gain acceptance (to show commitment)
 - f) Block A & B, before and after lunch. Mustang Move: 25 min. block at lunch time. (25 mins. Lunch in cafeteria, 25 mins. Recess) Unstructured physical activity time. Unstructured, but not unsupervised.

- g) WIN (“What I Need”) is the new RTI. RTI is required by state law. There are requirements that each school district has to meet, with three tiers. WIN may be during one of the student’s elective periods, if needed through their IEDP.
 - (1) Students with gifted IEDPs can request an exemption from Gifted RTI, in order to take advantage of elective opportunities.
- h) Focus: 25 min. block at end of day with homeroom teacher. Agenda books are coming back and will be reviewed by both students and teachers during Focus. Options during Focus: Test corrections, make up work, homework, additional RTI support if needed

III. Approval of the Minutes: March 11, 2022 Meeting

- A. Motion – Debbie Brown, Second – Holly Joyner. Minutes approved.

IV. Reports

A. President’s Report -- Erin Avery

- a. Thank you to everyone for all the hard work. Your efforts do not go unnoticed!
- b. March 31st PTO Presidents Luncheon with Jason Manuel, Kate Crowder
 - i. Received GMSD notebook (similar to what the GMSD Board receives) with various information about the district.
 - ii. Slide show
 - 1. Now that COVID has subsided, GMSD really focusing on connections, especially at the high school level. Everyone becomes a Mustang, regardless of which GMSD school you are at.
 - iii. HMS Expansion – Delayed completion. Hopefully to open in November 2022.
 - iv. HHS Expansion – Renovating track to be 8 lanes, new Wolf River Blvd. entrance, new gym, additional parking lots. Big question, though: how will it be funded? Now with the recent improvements at the elementary schools, as well as the new Forest Hill Elementary, and HMS expansions, the focus can be on improving the high school
 - v. 3 Gs (eg, Germantown Elementary, Germantown Middle and Germantown High, which are all now part of Memphis/Shelby County School District): The situation is confusing. No rezoning for current GMSD families in the near future
 - vi. Concern about new 3rd grade state law: Per the current standards, approximately 1/3 of GMSD students would be held back in 3rd grade. “Below or approaching grade level” per TCAP test scores are the students that would be held back.
- c. 6th Grade Dance, 6-8pm. Glow in the Dark Semi-Formal. Glow sticks & concessions will be sold. Need volunteers – set up concessions, decorate, chaperones. Advanced purchased tickets are required. (Tickets available on GoFan.com.)
- d. Upcoming PTO Social. Details coming soon.
- e. Immense gratitude to the Nominations Committee. Not an easy job.

- B. Vice President's Report -- Toni Nygren
 - a. May 13th PTO meeting at Grove Park Clubhouse: Combined current and incoming board. Email Toni if you'd prefer breakfast or brunch.
- C. Parliamentarian Report -- Mandy Vezina
 - a. Slate of Proposed HMS PTO Board 2022-2023 (see attached at the end of the minutes)
 - i. Motion – Karen Viotti, Second – Juliann DeMatteo. All – aye. No nays. New slate approved.
- D. Treasurer's Report -- Amy Shackelford
 - a. Provide more mindful, accurate budget for next year for your specific role.
- E. Secretary's Report – Sarah Goralewski
 - a. No report.
- F. Membership -- Hillery Efke, Christine Woods
 - a. No report.
- G. Ways and Means -- Leanne Howell, Katie Crews
 - a. Sky Box Spirit Night (April 4) went well – No figure yet on amount fundraised.
 - b. Upcoming Give Back Days: Josef Jewelers (April), Kendra Scott (May 5 & 6)
- H. Reveal & Recognition -- Elizabeth Gates, Angie Shipman
 - a. No report.
- I. Haunted Houston -- Debbie Brown, Holly Joyner, Melanie Gattas, Denise Stumph
 - a. Need big stuffed animals for Spin the Wheel game. Anyone who can shop the day after Easter and find cheap options, those donations would be greatly appreciated.
- J. Health and Safety -- Nancy Vaughan
 - a. No report.
- K. TLC Cakes -- Ginger Neas
 - a. No report.
- L. Teacher Treats -- Chrissy Tashie, Melissa Salazar
 - a. Teacher Cart every 3rd week: This morning went door to door to the teachers' classrooms with sausage biscuits, donuts & orange juice.
 - b. Suggestion for coffee for teachers: Get donations to help supplement Teacher Treats budget. The coffee has been a huge hit with the teachers and it could be challenging to be financially sustainable with the current budget.
- M. Clubs and Sports -- Wendy Percoski
 - a. No report.
- N. Hospitality -- Karrie LaCroix, Angie Childers

- a. Teacher lunch from Jason's Deli, Thursday April 14th: ham/turkey sandwich boxed lunches with chips/cookie/pickle. Karrie will make pasta salad and lettuce salad to go with them (total \$732+cost of salad ingredients). Drinks will be donated by families. (See Sign Up Genius.)
- b. Teacher Appreciation Week - May 2 to 6th:
 - i. Monday, May 2nd: Breakfast (Casseroles from Katie's kitchen, guesstimate \$500), donations for pastries, etc.
 - ii. Thursday, May 5th, Mempo's popsicle stand. Teacher/staff get to pick a popsicle flavor (\$375 for 100 popsicles)
 - iii. This should leave approximately \$1200 in the hospitality budget....Trying to a food truck at end of year for the teachers, but they are pricey. Will check into this versus another lunch to close to the end of the school year versus an end of year gift instead of food.
 1. Already have gift cards being donated by Miccos (not sure quantity/value). Will pick them up Monday. If they are for all of the teachers/staff, considering ordering nice beach towels and attaching the gift cards as a summer happy as an alternative to food for closing out the year

O. Beautification -- Janna Hacker, Stephanie Edwards

- a. No reports.

P. Contests -- Karen Ivey

- a. Fine Arts Spotlight this month – Ms. Jackson (Visual Arts)

Q. Honor Roll -- Carie Alley, Michelle Midha

- a. The Honor Roll treat for 3rd quarter will be candy (SweetTarts). The students like the instant gratification, versus a gift certificate.
- b. End of the Year reward of students that made the Honor Roll all 3 quarters (as 4th quarter grades won't be available yet). Maybe MemPops?

R. Webmaster -- Amy Cook

- a. No report.

S. Publicity -- Suzanne Ray & Kristen Albaugh

- a. No report.

T. Newsletter -- Nabih Huda

- a. No report.

V. Old Business

VI. New Business

VII. Adjournment

Important Dates

- Friday, April 15 and Monday, April 18: No School (Good Friday & Easter Monday)
- Sunday, April 24, 12-3pm – GMSD Stampede Run
- Saturday, April 30, 6-8pm – 6th Grade Dance

- Birthdays
 - April 20: Karen Ivey
 - April 22: Ginger Neas

Attendance

Administration:

Brian Fisher
Sara Strickland

PTO Members:

Carie Alley
Erin Avery
Debbie Brown
Angie Childers
Sarah Goralewski
Leanne Howell
Nabiha Huda
Karen Ivey
Holly Joyner
Michelle Midha
Toni Nygren
Suzanne Ray
Melissa Salazar
Amy Shackelford
Angie Shipman
Mandy Vezina

Parents:

Larissa Anderson
Juliann DeMatteo
Kathryn Hickey
Carmen Leister
Karen Viotti

HMS PTO Slate for 2022-23

President - Erin Avery

Vice President - Toni Nygren

Treasurer - Amy Shackelford

Secretary - Sarah Goralewski

Beautification - Stephanie Edwards

School Dance Coordinator – Carmen Leister, Stacey Malone

Contests - Karen Ivey

Haunted Houston Chairperson - Debbie Brown

Haunted Houston Sponsorship/Donations Coordinator - Larissa Anderson

Haunted Houston Volunteer Coordinator - Janna Hacker

Haunted Houston Games and Entertainment Coordinator – Ginger Wilkerson

Haunted Houston Auction Website Coordinator - Tiffany Smith

Haunted Houston Maze Coordinator – Kathleen Huisman, Katrina Grubb

Haunted Houston T-shirt and Publicity Coordinator - Holly Joyner

Haunted Houston Food and Concession Coordinator - Julieann DeMatteo

Haunted Houston Tickets – Bre Lacey

Health and Safety - Nancy Vaughan

Publicity - Kristen Albaugh

Honor Roll Recognition - Carie Alley, Leanne Howell

Hospitality - Angie Childers, Jenna Cox

Membership - Christine Woods, Karen Viotti

Newsletter - Nabiha Huda

Teacher Treats - Melissa Salazar, Chrissy Tashie

Reveal and Recognition - Angie Shipman, Elizabeth Gates

TLC Program - Ginger Neas

Ways and Means – Kristen Stadleman, TBD

Webmaster - Amy Cook

Sports and Clubs Coordinator - Kathryn Hickey

Care and Compassion Coordinator - Melanie Gattas