

## Huntington PTA Council : December 2012 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Bari Fehrs, Council President, at 10:01 AM on December 4, 2012.

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, approval of the minutes from the October 2012 meeting.

**President's report and announcements:** Toy collection will be moved to HHS Front hall for Family Service League. PTA e-blast communication proved to be very helpful with communications regarding hurricane Sandy. Ms. Fehrs would like to see individual schools develop their own e-blast list, or better utilize their current list.

Membership chairperson from each school should have a table set up at each schools winter concert. A list for email should be available. Ms. Fehrs will construct a centralized letter from the PTA council regarding membership sign-ups.

Calendar changes- 2 contingency days as well as February break have been eliminated.

Ms. Fehrs spoke with Georgia McCarthy regarding concussion testing. She was informed that collision sport athletes were tested first followed by non-collision. Spring and winter athletes will be tested next. Coaches are mandated to take a course on this testing.

This year's summer reading will be more guided, more specific and parents will have information earlier. The libraries will also have updated lists.

HHS open houses. The final open house will take place on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Attendance at the Saturday open house was poor. However, feedback from all open houses was positive. Realtors' comments were positive as well.

Ms. Fehr's commended all schools on their tremendous efforts in collection for hurricane sandy victims. She is looking into donations of books to restore school libraries that were damaged.

**Superintendents' report:** Mr. Polansky spoke of STEM school exploration. As we are a nation falling short in STEM, he feels a program such as this will prepare our children academically. The HS program can be refined to fit this program. Visits were made to Connecticut STEM School. Our school board is currently looking into potential federal grants. Facility preparation and Curriculum are being looked into.

HUFSD is looking into furthering means of communication via facebook and twitter.

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Kenneth Card, Asst. Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction.**

Dr. Card provided a brief review of his previous topic "Response to Intervention". Dr. Card explained what to expect from the school regarding progression academics. The committee for special education wanted classification equal for all schools. Dr. Card gave a PowerPoint presentation on goals of RTI. RTI was designed to help children below as well as above average. RTI may be used in place of AIS.

**Treasurers Report:** Jen Reda, council treasurer. There have been no major expenses this month. Ms. Reda instructed all Presidents to have their payments for council or AIE turned in.

**Unit Reports:** Reports of current events at each school are submitted by the Council Delegates and are on file with the Council Secretary.

**District Reports:** BOE preliminary budget process is underway. Ms. Fehrs encourages members to attend BOE meetings.

HFEE: Invitation to HFEE Gala should have been backpacked home. Journal ads are due December 15<sup>th</sup>. Gala event date is January 18th.

**Final Business:**

Farmers Market is utilizing Jack Abrams every Sunday. All encouraged to go.

Little Doctors program- blood drives may be rescheduled but little doctors program will not be.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49. The next meeting is January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013, 9:45 am. Heritage Museum HHS.