

Huntington PTA Council

February 2013 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Bari Fehrs, Council President, at 10 AM on February 5th, 2013.

Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, approval of the minutes from the January 2013 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Jen Reda. Payment made for refreshments for DASA presentation. Ms. Reda reminds unit treasurers' and Presidents that 2 signatures along with their title must appear on checks.

Presidents' Report: Ms. Fehrs along with Mr. Polansky, Emily Rogan and Sam Gergis attended a legislative breakfast on Jan. 23rd. Purpose of meeting was to express to Albany that education is a priority and LI districts should be given their fair share.

Ms. Fehrs' and Ms. Neber attended the Suffolk Region PTA Winter Workshop on February 7th that included discussions on school budget finance, nominating committee procedures, SEPTA and a treasurers' workshop. Ms. Fehrs reports that although Huntington School district is in a much better financial situation than many other districts, she urges that parents write to Gov. Cuomo as well as local legislators expressing the needs for our children.

Little Dr's blood drive program- rather than 4 separate blood drives at the primaries, there will be one drive at Woodhull Intermediate. Tentative date is March 19th. Presidents were asked to inform chair people as they will be needed to organize.

Ms. Fehrs has arranged dates for Mr. Polansky to attend each unit's upcoming PTA meeting to discuss the Budget.

Superintendents' Report: Mondays BOE meeting will report on tax cap numbers for 2013-14. Mr. Polansky stated that Huntington School district has little to no debt, and that we are in much better shape financially than most districts.

Update on safety committee- Board is currently trying to take advantage of NY Safe Act to purchase security hardware. This will give a 10% relief on the purchase of door hardware, cameras, etc.

Mr. Polansky urges parents, staff, and students to communicate with building employees if they see, hear or feel something is unusual with regards to safety. Staff members have been trained to observe mental health behavior.

Every building has held at least 1 lockdown drill. The school resource officer went to each and helped troubleshoot any problems.

Calendar- BOE in the process of adoption of new calendar due to new Regents' exam dates. We will be aligning with Boces calendar.

Kitty Klein, director of guidance: Ms. Klein reports that some colleges will be coming to HHS for an onsite admissions program. Application fees will be waived.

College acceptances have been coming in steadily

Ms. Klein is setting up a new program for 6th grade students and their parents which will explore early interest in college and career.

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- Security presentation was made, Discussion of transportation analysis (pro & cons) Also available on hufsd website. Update on STEM magnet school- 235 positive responses received so far
Referendum was made to release funds from capital reserve for purchase of Woodhull modules.

AIE- Joan Fretz , Director of Fine and Performing Arts will be at next months' council meeting to discuss programming.. Ms. Fehrs stated that this would be a welcome opportunity for units to explain which programs are working and which are not. All units should send an AIE rep.

HFEE- Melissa Ryan reported that this year's event was outstanding and that proceeds will be reported on at next meeting.

Booster Club- March Madness at Christophers on Wall St. , Huntington Village will take place on March 3rd.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM. The next council meeting is March 5th, at 9:45 in the heritage museum at Huntington High School.