

Huntington High School
PTSA Meeting
September 11, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 7:40 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Poem recited by Katie Petrozzo

Taps played by Josh Solomowitz and Jonathan Wood

Introduction of Executive Board:

Alice Marie Rorke – President

Maryann DeSimone – Vice President

Nancy Shivers – Vice President

Debbie Knowles – Treasurer

Laurene Napurano – Corresponding Secretary

Laura Mills – Recording Secretary

Dolores Breslin – Council Delegate

Mr. James Polansky – Superintendent of Schools

- School started on Wednesday, September 5, 2012. The day went very well at all the schools. There were some minor transportation issues that were handled and corrected. The district is beginning the school year with a focus on state and local initiatives.
- State Education Commissioner Dr. John B. King is coming to Huntington High School on Thursday, September 20th.
- There is dissatisfaction with the State Education Department and how they identify Focus Schools. Huntington SD #3 is at a disadvantage due to the fact the State is using 9/2010 data for evaluation purposes. We have made many improvements during the 2011/2012 school year.
- Administration would like to make Homecoming (Saturday, September 29th) a district-wide community event. The Homecoming Parade will kick off from the parking lot across from the Post Office. All participants are asked to meet by 11:30 am.
- This was the first year for the Summer Reading Program. The summer assignments are mandatory, with most being due by the 3rd week of September. Some changes will be implemented for next year's Summer Reading Program.

Introduction of Assistant Principal – Brendan Cusack

Principal's Report – Dr. Leonard

- Dr. Leonard congratulated Mr. Cusack on his hard work throughout the summer to produce the student schedules.
- The school year got off to a great start. There was a school-wide assembly the first day of school. Seniors and Juniors were in the gym while the Sophomores and Freshman were in the auditorium. The assembly reinforced the sense of community within the school and school spirit.
- The dress code is being reinforced with warnings.
- Baseline testing is underway to assess student performance for placement.
- Meet the Teacher Night is September 20th. Please note the grading practices and the new rubric for each department and course.

President's Report – Alice Marie Rorke

- There will be a Drug/Alcohol and Bully Forum school-wide on Wednesday, October 24th from 7:20-8:20 am. The program "Stand Up...Speak Out" will be presented by the Young Leaders.
- Float Night is Friday, September 28th and starts at 6:00 pm. Float preparations have already begun during lunch and before/after school for planning and flower making. The PTSA is asking for donations of water for the event.
- All 9th Graders are now required to complete at least 10 hours of community service. Some ideas to meet this requirement are attending and assisting at PTSA meetings and school events and other valid community service opportunities.
- The PTA Council and the Athletic Department are sponsoring a Sports Concussion Presentation on Monday, September 24th at 7:00 pm at Huntington High School. The district has a new protocol for student athletes with regard to concussions. Dr. David Weissberg and Dr. Max Rudansky will discuss causes, symptoms, signs and tests, treatment and prevention, prognosis and complications of concussions. Athletes and parents are encouraged to attend.

Treasurer's Report – Debbie Knowles

- The PTSA hold 3 bank accounts: a CD for the scholarship program, a checking account and an operating account. The operating account has approximately \$1600 carried over from last year.
- Money raised from fundraising will cover events and expenses for this school year. The goal is to raise \$6000 to cover expenses projected to be approximately \$6000.
- Motion to approve the proposed budget...motion passed (1st Dane Kouttrone, 2nd Nancy Shivers).

SEPTA – The first meeting will be September 12th at 10:00am at Finley Middle School.

District Committees

- **HFEE** – Nancy Shivers reported that they had their first meeting and are planning for the January 18, 2013 gala. Applications are being circulated for mini grants and grants. HFEE is looking for donations for raffle baskets...contact Laurene Napurano at laurenen@optonline.net. Check out HFEE's website at www.HFEEonline.net.

- **Arts in Education** – is now combined with the PTA Council for financing purposes.
- **Booster Club** – is holding their annual Golf Outing on Monday, October 8th at Indian Hills Golf Club. Flyers can be found on the district website. Please support this important fundraiser.
- **BOE** – the agenda and minutes for all meetings can be found on the district website.

School Committees

- **Membership** – Susan Cataldo is the Membership Chairperson and Bonnie Guarino is the Teacher Liaison. Currently there are 108 members. We are trying for 100% teacher participation as last year.
- **Shared Decision Making** – this committee meets Wednesday, October 24th. Many parents have volunteered to be on the committee, which is still in the process of being formed. The District-Wide Shared Decision Making Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 9th.
- **PTSA Fundraising** –
 - HHS Floor Hockey Challenge vs. Finley** – Friday, October 19th
 - Fashion Show with Finley** – Thursday, April 11th
 - Value Drugs** – all purchases throughout the year qualify...our school gets back 1%-2%
 - Huntington Business Products** – back to school purchases qualify...we get 10% back

Important Dates to Remember

- **Senior Parent Guidance Night** – September 13th at 7:00 pm
- **Meet the Teacher Night** – September 20th at 7:00 pm
- **Concussion Presentation** – September 24th at 7:00 pm at HHS
- **Homecoming** – September 29th ...11:30 am Parade lineup...2:00 pm Football game
- **Board of Education meeting** – October 1st at 7:30 pm at Jack Abrams
- **First PTA Council meeting** – October 2nd at 9:45 am at HHS Heritage Room
- **Junior Parent Guidance Night** – October 2nd at 7:00 pm
- **Booster Club Golf Outing** – October 8th
- **School Pictures (grades 9-11)** – October 10th and 11th
- **Freshman Parent Guidance Night** – October 11th at 7:00 pm
- **HHS Blood Drive** – October 12th
- **Band Parent meeting** – October 16th at 8:00 pm

Flower-of-the-Month winner – Dr. Leonardi

Next PTSA meeting is Wednesday, October 17th at 7:30 pm

Meeting adjourned: 8:35 pm

