

**Huntington High School
PTSA Meeting
October 17, 2012
Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order: 7:35 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence for Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Approval of Minutes

Event Review: Homecoming was a great school and community event with an impressive turnout for the parade and football game.

Guest Speaker: Hugo Morales from Project Excel

- Project Excel is a Not-for-Profit Youth Organization to help youth further their future careers (college, employment).
- Some programs/services offered are mural painting throughout the town, free SAT Prep classes (started 10-16-12), college preparation workshops, and employment placement and guidance.
- An Open House is scheduled for October 24, 2012 from 1:00 pm-7:00 pm.
- All services are free to Huntington High School students.
- Local college trips are planned, sign-up through the Guidance Department.
- Project Excel is located at 423 Park Avenue, Huntington, 11743.
- They can be contacted at 631-271-5499 or excelhyb@yahoo.com

President's Report: Alice Marie Rorke

- The winning Homecoming Float went to the Sophomores Spiderman. Thanks to all who donated water for Float Night.
- On October 24th there will be a school-wide assembly on Bullying and Alcohol. There will be 3 segments: Program "Red Watch Band" from Stony Brook University, author Jamie Isaacs and a Young Leaders guest speaker.
- The HHS/Finley Floor Hockey Challenge has been rescheduled from October 19th to the new date of January 4, 2013 from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm.
- The PTSA has received a \$442 check from Huntington Business Products from their Back to School Shopping Program. A \$30 check was also received from Value Drugs for their Rewards Pay Back Program. Also, a \$500 check was received from Kohl's from the Kohl's/PTA sponsored Zumba Night.
- There will be another Huntington High School Open House held this year. The Open Houses will be held on Monday, November 5th from 10:00 am-11:30 am and Saturday, November 17th from 10:00 am-11:30 am. A separate Realtor Open House will be on November 26th. Student volunteers will speak and give tours of the high school

classrooms, labs, art wing, library, gymnasium, science department, etc. Flyers will be sent to all Huntington schools and St. Patrick's Catholic School.

- Sweeties Candy Cottage owner Lisa Hodes is going to donate 10% of all purchases made up till December 15th to the HHS PTSA when the high school is mentioned. You must place orders and pay by December 15th for purchases to be eligible. Check their website at www.sweetiescandycottage.com
- The PTSA is looking for a local landscaper or mason to donate their services for installing engraved bricks at the high school.
- 9th Graders are encouraged to help at PTSA Meetings for Community Service hours.

Principal's Report: Dr. Leonardi

- The Guidance Department has held Guidance Nights for the 9th Grade and 11th Grade.
- Meet the Teacher Night received great feedback and participation was high.
- Students who are due to graduate in June 2013 are receiving extra attention to ensure they meet their graduation requirements.
- The National Honor Society will soon begin their extra help/tutoring in the HHS library.
- On Election Day, November 6th, Parent/Teacher Conferences will take place. There will be December Conferences which can be scheduled through the Main Office for English, Social Studies, Math and Science.
- Also on Election Day, there will be Professional Development for Department Directors and Teachers to review the Common Core Standards, Dignity Act and the Danielson Model to Assess Performance.
- Parents are highly encouraged to meet with their child's Guidance Counselor to set up their schedules for next year.
- The Shared Decision Making Committee held their first meeting on October 17th. The team has set up 5 goals for this school year: the Dignity Act, Common Core Standards, Aid to Education Process, Attendance and Course completion.
- There is a Parent University scheduled for Friday, October 29th at Finley Middle School at 7:00 pm-8:30 pm. The topic will be the Dignity Act for All Students. The panel will consist of: Directors Joan Fretz and Georgia McCarthy, along with district Psychologists and Social workers.

Treasurer's Report: Debbie Knowles

- The PTSA holds \$20,000 in CD's for scholarships. In the past, interest from this account was used to fund 2-3 scholarships awarded to graduating seniors. An analysis will begin to look for alternative where the funds can be deposited to gain maximum interest while in a safe environment.
- The sale of school merchandise has begun and to date we have made \$100 in sales.
- The Tax Return has been filed for last school year.
- The PTSA has taken over the Brick Program.

District Committees

- **SEPTA** – Artwork for The Art to Remember Fundraiser is due by October 19th. The next SEPTA meeting is scheduled for November 28th at Finley Middle School at 7:30 pm. SEPTA is exploring starting a Sibling Support Group of Kids with Special Needs. Grant

Applications are being distributed to teachers/staff at all the schools. Insulated Tote Bags can be purchased for \$6 each or 2 for \$10.

- **HFEE** – Nancy Shivers reported that the Gala will be held on January 18, 2013 at the Woodlands honoring Chris Bene. A limited number of raffle tickets (only 400) are currently being sold for a new iPad, they are \$10 each. Donations for raffle prizes are being sought.
- **Board of Education** – The next meeting is October 22nd.
- **Booster Club** – Julie LaBella reported that the Columbus Day Golf Outing honoring Pete Sansivero was a huge success and a lot of fun.

School Committees

- **Membership** – Susan Cataldo reported that there are currently 290 members (69 teachers and 90 students). We are over last year's membership and 10 members away from our goal.
- **PTSA Fundraising** – We are currently registered with Stop & Shop to receive money from Membership Rewards.

Important Dates to Remember

- **Board of Education meeting** – October 22nd at 7:30 at Jack Abrams
- **Safe Halloween** – Wednesday, October 31st from 4:00 pm-6:00 pm at HHS
- **PTA Council meeting** – Wednesday, November 7th at 9:45 am at HHS Heritage Room
- **HHS Open Houses** – November 5th and November 17th from 10:00 am-11:30 am at HHS

Flower-of-the-Month winners – Julie LaBella, Terry Moreno, Debbie Knowles and Hugo Morales

Next PTSA meeting is Tuesday, November 13th at 7:30 pm. It will be a joint meeting with Finley PTA held at Finley Middle School.

Meeting adjourned: 8:45 pm