

**Huntington High School  
PTSA Meeting  
January 16, 2013  
Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order:** 7:30 pm

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Welcome:** Alice Marie Rorke

**Approval of Minutes**

**President's Report:** Alice Marie Rorke

- “Snowflakes for Sandy Hook” is an initiative from the National PTA which our PTSA participated in. We were at all lunch periods on 1/7 and 1/8 with supplies for students, teachers and staff to make snowflakes for the new school the students of Sandy Hook were relocated to. We sent the snowflakes, notes and a journal to Sandy Hook Elementary School survivors to express our support.
- Thanks to Lisa Hodes, owner of Sweeties Candy Cottage for the holiday fundraiser.
- The HHS Winter Concert was an enjoyable evening for our talented music students to perform for their families, friends and community. The finale was a moving rendition of the Hallelujah.
- The Shared Decision Making Committee had a meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Funds are needed for ESL students to be transported to BOCES. Our PTSA is selling Kidstuff Coupon Books with the proceeds going toward this need.
- The HHS/Finley Floor Hockey Challenge has been postponed with a tentatively scheduled date of March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The last presentation for Parent University was on January 8<sup>th</sup> featuring the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA). This excellent and informative presentation was given by school district psychologists and social workers. All employees in the district have been trained in DASA to recognize harassment and bullying.
- The Engraved Brick Program is being taken over by the PTSA as a fundraiser for the graduating senior scholarships fund. Last week 3 new bricks were installed on the front walkway. Bricks ordered now will be installed in the late spring. Order forms are available on the district website and will also be mailed home with the next senior graduation forms. These make a great gift for graduating seniors!
- Through the Shared Decision Making Committee an Etiquette Course for juniors and seniors is being developed. Alice Marie Rorke is creating a power point presentation which she will present on etiquette and the course will end with a “mock dinner” in the cafeteria. The power point will be presented to every lunch period and the deans will select the students who have an interest in the course. The program will culminate in a dinner at a restaurant for the students to show off their new skills and proper etiquette.
- There is a collection the PTSA is conducting for a Belle Harbor elementary school that was damaged during Hurricane Sandy. The students are returning to their refurbished school and are in need of supplies. A bin will be in the main office until Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- On Valentine’s Day, the PTSA will be in the cafeteria during every lunch period for the students to participate in “Grateful Hearts”. Students are encouraged to make a valentine to say thank you to our Military Service men and women.

- The PTSA is working on 2 upcoming presentations. For the students we have “One Less Text” and “Technology Addiction” which a speaker will discuss and challenge the students to participate in. For the parents we are working on a spring assembly on Drugs/Alcohol with LICADD (Long Island Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependencies) and Officer Drew Fiorello will speak about the Social Host Laws.
- An AP (Advanced Placement) Information Night was held at HHS on January 9<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately the attendance was quite low so for next year it will be scheduled for the January joint HHS/Finley PTA meeting.

**Principal’s Report:** Dr. Leonardi

- Mr. Cusack has prepared the schedule for the Regents, midterms and finals during the week of January 22-26. The Economics final will be the following week.
- HHS will conduct a Lockdown Drill on January 17<sup>th</sup>. Connect Ed calls were made to inform parents and students. This drill will give administration an opportunity to check procedures, teacher responses, etc. Building and Grounds fixed many lock issues with respect to upgraded safety measures.
- Visitors to HHS will now be asked to show their PTA id’s or leave their driver’s license at the security desk.
- The date for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation was changed; the new date is now February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. A letter from Dr. Leonardi and Connect Ed phone calls were made to inform parents of the new date. HHS students will serve as tour guides and various clubs will be represented that night.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Debbie Knowles

- All items in the budget are on plan.
- A deposit was made to Crest Hollow Country Club for the April 11<sup>th</sup> Fashion Show.

**District Committees**

- **SEPTA** – Grants have been submitted and are being reviewed.
- **HFEF** – The Gala honoring Chris Bene is Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at the Woodlands. Tickets are still available.
- **Board of Education** – Bari Fehrs reported on the last meeting of January 7<sup>th</sup>. The school district received some grants prior to December vacation, some of these monies may be directed to the STEM program. Letters of interest were sent to parents of 1-4 graders to gauge their interest in the magnet STEM program. Budget postcards and Kindergarten registration postcards were mailed. A mock ACT exam was held with over 200 students taking part, results are expected late January. There was a presentation by Dr. Card on Common Core Standards. Transportation contract options were discussed. The Woodhull modular lease is coming due soon, options were discussed. The next BOE meeting is Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at JAI.
- **Booster Club** – Christina Plant reported that the March Madness Fundraiser is scheduled for Sunday, March 3rd at Christopher’s. Tickets are \$50 per person if purchased in advance or \$60 per person at the door. The girl’s basketball held a team spirit event and on February 5<sup>th</sup> the boy’s team will have their own spirit event. Coaches vs. Cancer is scheduled for January 17<sup>th</sup> at the girl’s basketball game. JV will play at 4:00 pm and Varsity at 6:00 pm. During halftime of the JV game there will be events for our younger students.
- **Arts in Education** – When purchasing tickets at the John W. Engeman Theater, mention code HAIE to receive the preferred rate of \$55 per ticket and \$10 will also be donated to Arts in Education. This is not valid for Friday and Saturday evening performances.

## **School Committees**

- **Membership** – Susan Cataldo reported that the PTSA membership is at 334 members (175 parents, 60 students, and 98 teachers/staff).
- **Shared Decision Making** – Bad language in the hallways has been discussed, improvements are being made.
- **Fundraising** – We received a check from Value Drugs for \$26. When shopping on Living Huntington, please select HHS as your Preferred Charity.

## **Important Dates to Remember**

- **HFEE Gala** – Friday, January 18<sup>th</sup>
- **Board of Education meeting** – Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm at JAI
- **SEPTA meeting** – Monday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Finley Middle School
- **PTA Council meeting** – Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:45 am at HHS Heritage Room
- **HHS/Finley Floor Hockey Challenge** – tentative date Friday, March 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 pm at HHS
- **HHS/FMS Fashion Show** – Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Crest Hollow Country Club

**Flower of the Month winner** – Irma Nykolyn

**Next PTSA meeting is another joint meeting with Finley Middle School on Wednesday, March 13 at HHS at 7:30 pm. There is no meeting for February.**

**Meeting adjourned:** 9:00 pm