**May 9, 2023 PTA Meeting Minutes**

**PTA**: Virtual Meeting, via Zoom

**Date:** May 9, 2023

**Time**: 7:15pm – 8:25pm

**In Attendance**: Kristina Kunkle, Kathleen Denny, Sean Larsen, Karin Popkey, Lisa Ciarapica, Emily Griffin, Opeyemi Awolesi, Robyn Bell Dickson, Melissa Zawadzki, Sarah Thomas Weber, Neelam Shah, Chris, Megan Grosso, George Van Osterom, Omolola Adetunji, Sarah Krom, Uto Ifudu, Korin Sharp, Jin Coleman, Melissa Paper-Garthoff, Faith Hudson, Katie Thorn, Rebecca Garcia

1. **Call Meeting to Order**: Kristina Kunkle Roll call, Introductions of executives, parent liaisons and administration.
2. **Review and approval of minutes from March 14, 2023**: Opeyemi Awolesi presented the minutes from the March 14, 2023 PTA meeting. Opeyemi Awolesi asked for any objections and corrections, Sean made a correction in the vacancy in VP Membership and not VP Communications. The minutes approved by a motion by Megan Grosso and seconded by Sean Larsen.
3. **Reports of Officers**
4. Treasurer's Report: Karin Popkey- Current account balance is $28,662.25. Total Fundraising receipts - $10,603 and Total Membership receipts $ 1,894.00, Total receipts - $ 7,896.53. Total Fundraising expenses: $2,606.08, Total Operating Expense: $1,959.80, Total Project Expenses: $4,722.82 and Total Expense: $ 9,288.70. No questions on budget.

Two Budget Amendments:

* + - 1. Due to covid restrictions in the last year, funds for educational grants had not been used. Moving a motion to allow Educational Grants to be used for the end of year celebrations. Motion to approve moved by Sean, seconded by Kathleen. The vote passed by a majority of Ayes.
			2. Add a new Break-Even line for 5th Grade yard signs. Sean moved motion to pass vote, the vote passed by a majority of Ayes and will now be added to the budget.
1. Membership Report: Kathleen Denny

We currently have 204 PTA members. We added 9 new members to the PTA.

1. PTACHC Report – Melissa Zawadzki
* End of March: Director from Transportation office spoke to the PTACH- increased number of walkers a mile from edge of property to school instead of door-to-door. Also, families need to enroll in transportation for the next school year, no longer automatic, please look out for the email and sign up.
* Modernizing transportation office – Contractors with brand new buses, with air conditioning and cameras. Looking to implement some tracking system in the next school year for students getting on the bus and would allow parents to live track their students.
* Budget- Blueprint Maryland went into effect and changed the funding stream for all education funds, it’s a long term plan and takes about 10 years to meet all the plan.
* 5th Grade- Human rights commission looking for 5th grade students doing any human rights work can be nominated.
* Community Allies for rainbow youths – They’re having their first HoCo pride festival starting in May and runs through June. Has a rainbow Prom on June 10 for families interested in that.
1. **Old or Ongoing Business – Kristina Kunkle (President)**
* Robyn: Teacher appreciation week on-going – Chalk the walk with messages of appreciation to teachers. Supply drive for the teachers which was highly appreciated. Donuts, coffees coming up for the rest of the week. Thanks to families for being generous with their donations. One more end of year teacher appreciation coming up in June.
* 5th Grade End of Year – Yard signs coming up, families to look out for an email on how to buy those. Looking for parent volunteers to plan end of year picnic, anyone interested should contact. Skating party coming up on June 2nd, 5th grade families should look out for that.
* March 30th – PTA sponsored the Literacy night. It was nice and well attended.
* April 29th was Spring Carnival. Thanks to staff and families that volunteered. Excellent turn out and excellent event.
* Please relink your Harris Teether VIC card. Please google Harris Teeter Education and should be able to relink quickly.
1. **New Business**
* Elections: The positions of President, VP Membership and Membership positions will be vacant and we have 3 volunteers for the positions.
* President nominee - Melissa Zawadski, introduced herself sharing her experience within the PTA as PTACH delegate, Spring Carnival
* VP Membership – Korin Sharp, has a 3rd grader at HES, new in the community, was President at Forest Ridge for 2 years and a lot of PTA experience.
* Secretary – Emily Griffin- has twins in the first grade.
* Kristina asked if there were floor nominations and there were none.
* Karin moved the motion and Kathleen seconded the votes for the slate of nominations, there were voice votes and the majority of Ayes carried the vote.
* Spring Concert Volunteers- Music department need some volunteers for the daytime and evening concert. There is a sign-up genius shared in the meeting.
* 5th Grade End of Year promotion, Tuesday June 13- the PTA needs volunteers specifically from 4th Grade parents so they can be involved and have an idea of the next year. Interested persons should contact the president@hespta.org
* Cultural Arts – June 8 during the school day, we’ll be bringing in a percussive dance group, pending county approval.
* School Box Supply is live, not a fundraiser, just offered as a convenience for families. [Link](https://hespta.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/School-Supply-Box-Flyer-2023.pdf) in the chat for families.
* Grade level liaisons needed- Two liaisons in K, 1 in 2nd Grade and 1 in 4th Grade. It’s great to have liaisons before the school year begins to coordinate playdates in the summer, especially for the Kindergarten class.
* Volunteers needed - Spirit Wear, Restaurant nights, Staff appreciation, PTACH delegate (monthly meeting 1st Monday of the month and report to the PTA), Arts & Talent Show.

**Administration Report: Ms. Ciarapica:**

* Enjoying the teacher’s appreciation.
* Some grades are trying to schedule out of school field trips and in school field trips.
* The chalk-walk was wonderful to see on Monday morning and appreciated by staff.
* Ms. Ciarapica and Lisa Smith (Principal at HMS) arranged a meeting with Transportation. Some concerns about sharing buses with middle school students and elementary school students, what the car loop would look like and impact on the community. HES & HMS would be a lot of planning and collaboration – the current plan is for HES students to dismiss first and wait on the bus for HMS to dismiss and join them on the bus.
* Thanked outgoing executive members for their service.
* Announced her retirement and is looking forward to the future. Answered the question about who would be the next principal- she doesn’t know but knows the process includes a board meeting in June and they would make a series of announcements where the Principal of HES would be announced.

VI. **Announcements**

* May 23rd – restaurant night at La Palapa.
* July 9- School Toolbox deadline.
* PTA Meetings (all at 7:15pm)
	+ June 6: virtual

VII. **QUESTIONS & ANSWERS**

* Transportation: Would it be better for parents to change to car riders or more bus riders? It would be better to have more bus riders. Recommend that parents with car riders should fill out the bus form, just in case they need it. It’s better to have more buses than to have fewer buses/routes. Not likely that kids would be left behind but it’s important to have the forms filled out. Families encouraged to write the Board of Ed about concerns of having HES and HMS kids on the same bus.

VIII. **Adjournment**: Kristina Kunkle moved a motion to adjourn at 8:25pm.