

# Hackettstown Elementary PTA

## Hackettstown Elementary PTA Meeting Hackettstown Middle School General PTA Business Meeting September 12, 2017

**Board Members in Attendance:** Kym Swayze-President, Christine Strelec- Vice President, Megan Jenkins-Treasurer, Nora Tufford- Corresponding Secretary, Laura Benbow- Recording Secretary,

**Members in Attendance:** Jessica Thompson- Membership Chairperson

**Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:10 by PTA president Kym Swayze

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Reading and Approval of Minutes-** minutes from June were amended due to Nora and Megan changing positions on the board.

**Correspondence-** Nora read "thanks you" from WG for teacher appreciation, from the WG 4<sup>th</sup> graders for the Mr. C assembly, from the WG 2<sup>nd</sup> graders for Dino Dig assembly, an "I Love Lucy" designed card from Mrs. Lobby for WG Teacher Appreciation Week

**Treasurer's Report-** Megan distributed the current report current account balance is \$19,521

- ❖ PTA paid the teachers for Summer Camp
- ❖ Renewed Gaming License- so we can host Tricky Tray again this year  
NEW for this year we have activated an Apple pay account- funds will go directly to PTA account; we can use it to take credit cards at Tricky Tray; there will be a fee for swiping on the square

**Old Business-** 4<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Awards- PTA gave awards during to 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders during their respective end of the year award ceremonies; we also hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion at the Middle School

**Questions to review and report on at next meeting: What are the numbers from Summer School- registered & attended and how much did we pay teachers**

### New business

Jessica updating on Membership-

- ❖ WG packets went out Monday 9/11; MS and Hatch to go out 9/13/2017
- ❖ If the schools have Staff 100% participation they will get a bagel breakfast- WG was 1 teacher away from goal last year!
- ❖ NEW this year - can sign up and pay on website, this may be easier for some families to join
- ❖ We will have table at the Back to School Nights with membership forms; If families join by Nov 1st they will be entered into a raffle for \$50 movie gift card
- ❖ \$4 of every membership goes to PTA and \$6 goes back to the kids/schools

Christine updated on NEW website she worked on-

- ❖ New website was approved by principals and active - old website will direct to new website, new website is linked to the schools' websites
- ❖ Meeting Minutes will be posted on new site

- ❖ Amazon Smile Rewards- link listed; when shopping on Amazon if you use HTOWN PTA smiles and percentage comes back to the PTA and is directly deposited to our account; it's an easy way to donate!
- ❖ Families can contact board members via website and ask questions or provide feedback
- ❖ Shops have been added to the website! Families will be able to purchase Spirit Wear online there will be 2.9% fee to use credit cards
- ❖ There is also a Donation Page for families who wish to make monetary donations
- ❖ Website cost is \$194.00 for the year

Kym updated on Kidstuff Coupon Books

- ❖ Currently running; books went home at ELEM schools; MS order forms went home; Kym running Hatch & MS; Christine running WG
- ❖ Books and/or money Friday Sept 22nd
- ❖ We make 50% off each book;
- ❖ Not a lot of participation this year- Do we want to look at doing something else next year
  - Having a discount card- similar to HS baseball (would want to talk to the Baseball Booster Club to make sure we aren't stepping on toes)
  - Cookie Dough- certificate of order and families can order online

Upcoming Events-

- ❖ Fall Family Bingo Night- board members will work out dates with principals to find a date that won't conflict with Trinity Trick or Trunk
- ❖ Scholastic Book fairs- will be set up during Teacher Conferences, more details to come

**Ideas and thought to follow up on: other ideas for possible fundraisers: Move a Thon, Harlem Globe Trotters; Booster Thon; Color Run;**

### Committee Reports

Spirit Wear

- ❖ Spirit Wear- Nora and Stacy went to talk to vendor; looking to do some Jersey wear, ball caps, toddler designs, head bands, zip up sweatshirts, loose bottom sweat pants; beanie;
- ❖ Simple designs
- ❖ Kids are not allowed in the back of shop anymore so we will be skipping kid design this year
- ❖ Thinking of using Clemson logo and designs as inspiration;
- ❖ Looking to partner with community by having PTA Coffee mugs to display and/or sell; work with local shops to display and sell; bringing community to table;
- ❖ We could also use for tricky tray is we have extra inventory;
- ❖ Accessories have to be purchased in bulk;
- ❖ Time line- shop needs 4 weeks from getting info to delivery; goal to have everything back before holidays;
- ❖ Looking to add items geared for Toddlers or younger siblings "Future Tiger"

**Questions to follow up on: Can we survey to parents on what they like and don't like; suggestions; etc**

Science Fair-

- ❖ Karen Gargulo hosting again this year- PTA and schools need to connect with her on thoughts on Brain Show? Dates or times?
- ❖ Thoughts- hosting a Parent Night with Brain Show...get parents involved so they can be part of the Science Fair (connect them with their involvement in the science fair) K-8 combined evening show;

### Principal's Reports

**Mrs. Griffin- Hatchery Hill**

- ❖ Had a great first day and smooth opening; because of great staff and great kids; get together to meet welcome the new staff and new families, Miss Baldwin played her guitar & sang songs
- ❖ Back to School Night September 13 starting at 630 for K; 7 general meeting; classrooms and see the rooms;
- ❖ October no school Oct 9th teacher PD day;
- ❖ Week of respect Oct 2-6th, laser show on Oct 4th
- ❖ Tissues and Tea- for K parents went really well and received great feedback

**Mr. McQueeney- Willow Grove**

- ❖ Smooth great start even with rain, would love additional feedback because arrival was different because of the rain; good feedback because they could drop off; idea for next year- picture stations on the lawn then go inside to meet the teachers;
- ❖ Changes in school include 2 K sections, one teacher was transferred to Hatch; ratio is 25 & need to bring to K assistants due to state law; 4th grade 2 sections, 2 co teaching teams to work in 4th grade- differentiate learning better, will go back to 3 sections of 4th grade next year; lost lunch and recess aides last year- now teacher are running lunch and recess "Ackerman Baskets";
- ❖ Mr. M meets with student body every Friday- talk with the school in am before school; Grade level will get free recess with great behavior; worry about today Be "Pawsome" today;
- ❖ Pict day sept 21st
- ❖ Week of respect Oct 2-6<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Laser show on Oct 4th;
- ❖ Htown rocks- every students & staff member painting rocks "kindness rocks", template to go home to practice designing rocks, Home Depot donated rocks, Target possibly donating paint
- ❖ Report cards going on portal; going to be using Remind App to communicate with parents
- ❖ Encourages families to use the school website & Cafeteria Counts- can select what they want their children not have;
- ❖ Goggle classrooms being used;
- ❖ Goals for the year- creating a sustainable school- wellness, go green committees;

**Mr. Thompson- HMS**

- ❖ Back to school night Thurs 9/14; DC mandatory meeting for 8th grade parents;
- ❖ Picture day 20th;
- ❖ 8th grade night at the High School Sept 27th at the high school 6:00pm
- ❖ Respect week Oct 2-6- Detective coming to talk about cyber bullying, social media
- ❖ Great start of the school year; follow on twitter; check the website- will use the all call; important letters are on quick links on the website;
- ❖ Encouraging parents to go on Real time, students have their own accounts and monitor their grades; google classrooms to do homework- everything is monitored by the school; parents can log into the goggle accounts to check homework- if they don't know their log in use the agenda notebook;

**Question to follow up on- 5th & 6th Grade Halloween Party; find a date & who will chair person this year?**  
**Can get the building request approved at the Oct 18th Board Meeting once we have the date**

**Open Floor-**

- ❖ Have we thought of a way to incentivize coming to the meetings? Candy, Coffee?
- ❖ Childcare seems to be the biggest issue- is there a way to get child care at meetings? Key Club members or members of churches- kids who need community service hours?
- ❖ Can we create a form that explains all the events and responsibilities to help parents decide where they want to volunteer?