

Holmes Jr. High PTA General Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2016

In attendance: Anne Finkelston, Natalie Lindquist, Joy Klineberg, Tara Diel, Sara Johnson, Karen Hamilton, Lisa Harry, Jean Kennedy, Tarri Swanson, Karen Fee, Heather Wade, Erica Ballinger, Kristen Muir, Kerry Sortor, Laura Shapiro, Nancy Schwarz and Ellen Shields.

- 1. Welcome and Approval of Agenda and September and October Minutes** – motion passed to approve the agenda for the meeting. Motion passed to approve the September and October Minutes.
- 2. Leadership Report – 8th grader Abigail Johnson and Gaby Tady**
 - Leadership is providing music on Wednesdays
 - The goal of leadership is to make kids feel welcome in school
 - They support all of the classes
 - Leadership is a self-sufficient class. They fund all their own events.
 - Dude Be Nice – the program went and thanked the crossing guard at F Street – the Pep Band played
 - Dances – sponsored Winter Wonderland
 - Rally – next Friday Feb. 5th – six events at the rally
 - Need new ideas for fundraising
 - Joy Klineberg – Liaison to Leadership – fundraising ideas needed. Thinking about funding chairs at athletic events
 - Open House this year will be different
 - There will be a movie night in two weeks
- 3. Budget Report/Unfundraiser – Anne Finkelston**
 - The Unfundraiser surpassed our goal. Additional funds will go to supplement department budgets.
- 4. Auditor – Anne Finkelston**
 - PTA needs to audit the books twice a year
 - Sara Johnson did the audit for January – June 30, 2015.
 - Laura Shapiro will be doing the two audit reports for this year.
- 5. Nominating Committee – Karen Hamilton**
 - Need volunteers – contact Anne or Karen
 - Diana Mahoney, Joy Klineberg and Natalie Lindquist volunteered
- 6. Teacher's Report, Heather Wade**
 - Thanks to PTA and Hospitality for the soup. It was really good. Also thanks for all the little treats that are left for staff.
 - Taming of the Shrew is tonight, tomorrow and Saturday night.
 - Pep Band is playing at wrestling matches.
- 7. Counselor's Report, Ellen Shields**
 - Thank you for funding training for Holmes Student Advocates.

- Dec. 18th – speaker will come in to speak about cyber bullying to 8th graders
- Talk about sexting – problems start in 8th – 10th grade
- Course planning – schedule on report cards
 - Incoming 9th graders – how to fill out cards, A-G requirements for a four year college
 - Incoming 10th graders – parent info night for DSHS – Feb 18 – DHS; Feb 16 – Davinci
- Report Cards – mailed out today
- No one eats alone day – Tarri Swanson
 - Feb 12th – no one eats alone day
 - Friend of Tarri's is a Sandy Hook Promise Leader
 - Ellen and student advocates will be taking it on on a Weds. – a full lunch day
- Mindfulness in Schools
 - Money from Davis Schools Foundation
 - Trainer will come from Sacramento to talk to teachers
 - Program is for up to four classrooms
- Katie Fee won 3rd place in an essay contest about Martin Luther King Day – essay about flying the confederate flag.

8. Administrative Report, Jean Kennedy

- Thank you for luncheon
- Thank you to PTA for wrestling mats donation
 - Holmes has hosted three meets
- First semester ended
 - Fresh start and start over
 - 7th grade cores emphasizing that it is time to buckle down, set good habits
- Youth survey reports in – Derek is sharing the information with staff
- Healthy kids survey data also coming in
- Open House – no date yet, late April or early May
 - More of a celebration – departments are setting up areas with interactive things
- Late start conversation
 - School will start at 8:30 in 2016 – dismiss no later than 3:30
 - Languages can only be co-enrolled in junior high
 - Japanese, German, Chinese, Spanish 4, French 3 only offered in 9th grade – co-enrolled classes will start at 8:15
 - Gain time by shorter pass period – one class currently longer for sustained social reading, one class longer for snack and bulletin
 - A decision should be made by March
 - Weds – could be normal start with early end
- Anne asked question about ASBAC test and disadvantaged groups
 - Is there anything the PTA can help with?
 - Ms. Kennedy said maybe next year as there should be better data
 - One of the problems is familiarity with technology
 - Maybe interim and practice tests will help get kids used to the technology
 - Davis low SES students do lower than state average in testing

- 8th grade classes really big – Derek went to district and asked for additional funds to get .6 teacher hours. Teachers are giving up prep periods so three classes were split in half. 3rd period History, 5th period English and 5th period Science.

9. Committee Reports

- Superintendent's Parent Advisory Committee (SPAC) – talked about Later Start
 - Start in 2017 for the high school
 - Superintendent is leaving
- Hospitality –
 - Lunch on 25th went well
 - May 2-6th – Teacher Appreciation Week – any conflicts

10. New Business/Updates

- May is Bike Month
 - Promoting alternative transportation
 - Try to have something every week – raffle tickets
 -
- Round up at the register in January at the Coop

11. Articulation Day, Karen Fee

- She would like to help some kids organize a lunch for the homeless at E Street (not PTA or school related) – is it okay for the kids to wear their Holmes shirts? Answer: Yes!

12. Adjourn – Next meeting is Thursday, February 2 at 7:00pm at the Holmes Library.