

## **Holmes Jr. High PTA General Meeting Minutes**

### **January 23, 2020**

**In attendance:** Joy Klineberg, Abby Koenig, Jean Kennedy, Ellen Shields, Michelle Agnew, Heema Govindjee-Merchant, Reema Asolkar, Deepali Bhargava, Deepa Kulkarni, Tarri Swanson, Liz Hall, Mollie D., Julia van der Zeeuw, Gretchen Shroeder

#### **1. Call to Order (Michelle Agnew)**

#### **2. Approval of October Minutes (Abby Koenig)**

- Minutes were approved.

#### **3. ASB Student Leadership Report (Molly, ASB Vice President)**

- Tomorrow is the end of the semester; 9<sup>th</sup> graders have had finals this week.
- ASB/Leadership are planning several upcoming events: Holmes Got Talent (in April, date TBD), 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade ASB elections (in May, date TBD), and the all-9<sup>th</sup> grade dance, which will be at Harper this year (in May, date TBD).
- Spirit Week is coming up in March with a rally planned for Articulation Day.

#### **4. Measure G (Joy Klineberg)**

- Measure G, on the ballot on March 3, is a parcel tax that will provide funding to help close the compensation gap between DJUSD teachers and teachers in surrounding districts.
  - Approximately 25% of DJUSD teachers will be retiring soon, so recruitment and retention of high-quality teachers is a critical issue.
  - Many new teachers are taking jobs in other districts because of higher salaries.
  - More information is available on Measure G's website: [yes4students.com](http://yes4students.com).
- A motion for the Holmes PTA to endorse Measure G passed unanimously.
- Joy also encourages parents to submit letters to *The Enterprise* in support of Measure G.

#### **5. Treasurer Report & Budget Update (Deepali Bhargova)**

- A total of \$10, 274 has been received in Unfundraiser donations.
- A total of about \$16,000 has been received in direct donations.
- Checks #1715 and #1797-1800 were approved.
- Income and expenditures thus far are on track.
- More discussion about spending down the reserve will be forthcoming.

#### **6. Unfundraiser Report (Heema Govindjee-Merchant)**

- As above, the total for Unfundraiser donations thus far is \$10, 274.
- A total of 89 families donated, with 50 families donating online and 30 donating via mail.
- Heema recently sent thank you letters to all donors.

## **7. Counselor Report (Ellen Shields)**

- Tomorrow is the last day of the semester. Many students have been stressed about finals and grades.
- Counselors have been making a lot of schedule changes recently to rebalance the male/female ratio in classes.
- Course planning for next year has started.
- Incoming parent nights are coming up:
  - Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> grade parent night: March 25, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
  - Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent night: March 11, 6:30 – 7:30 pm
  - Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade parent night: March 4, 6:30 – 7:30 pm
- Counselors will be visiting classes before the parent meetings to discuss schedule planning.
- All schedule forms will be due before spring break (spring break is April 6 – 10).
- Counselors recently gave mistreatment presentations to 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Holmes and Emerson are partnering to show Screenagers NEXT CHAPTER to parents at Brunelle, date TBD (likely March 16).
- Breaking Down the Walls did not elicit as much feedback as Challenge Day. The consensus seemed to be that it was more developmentally appropriate than Challenge Day.
- The assembly for 8<sup>th</sup> graders with Scott Bakovich is on April 21. Scott will also give a free presentation to parents on the evening of April 21, time TBD.

## **8. Administrative Report (Jean Kennedy)**

- Ms. Kennedy shared the sad news that former longtime Holmes secretary, Jan Chandler, recently passed away, and that Kerri Sattler, current Holmes math teacher, recently lost a son very unexpectedly. Ms. Sattler is currently on leave until further notice.
- Math teacher Dylan Reed is on paternity leave.
- History teacher Nina Nero will be on leave until after spring break. Aaron Furtek is the long-term sub.
- Holmes is currently looking for a 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls soccer coach.
- Ms. Kennedy is working with Mr. Quick, the Band teacher, to research quotes for a new sound system for the band room and gym.
- Next fall, Holmes will be implementing a new behavioral support system: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS).
  - PBIS is a multi-tiered framework for adopting and organizing behavioral supports for all students.
  - Holmes will be sending a team to a PBIS training this spring.
  - PBIS is a tiered system: Tier 1 defines and communicates common expectations for behavior; Tier 2 and Tier 3 address behaviors not in line with those expectations.

## 9. Committee Reports

- Hospitality: Mary Jean is coordinating lunch for Holmes staff on Teacher Work Day, January 27. She has received parent donations for food but is in urgent need of help with set-up and clean-up on January 27. Please contact Mary Jean at 530-908-6852 to help.
- 2020-2021 Executive Board Recruitment:
  - The nominating committee for next year's Executive Board is meeting tomorrow. Committee members are Deepa Kulkarni, Heema Govindjee-Merchant, Gretchen Shroeder, and Gloria Purnell. New committee members are welcome.
  - Many important positions on next year's Board are open. Please send Deepa any ideas for nominations.
  - Ideally, there will be a full slate of nominees by the next PTA meeting on February 27.

## 10. Adjourn