**Holliston PTSA Executive Board/Committee Meeting Minutes**

April 7, 2015

**In attendance:**

Jill Sykes , Ray Oquendo, Lynn Whynot, Kristine Perlmutter, Stacey Raffi, Dawn Latshaw, Tom Bolton, Kathi Hothem, Stephanie Golub Simon, Mel Frawley

7:10 pm - Jill Sykes called the meeting to order.

Kathi moved to accept minutes. Stephanie seconded. Unanimous vote to accept.

**Reports**

President’s report (Jill Sykes)

Jill discussed future of organization as a potential parent organization outside of PTSA.

Treasurer’s report (Ray Oquendo)

- We have entered the next phase of accessing Vanguard account monies.

- We are in need of a Town Wide financial plan for the 2015-2016 school year and further discussion on the funding sources for ongoing operating cost and high school commitments.

Elementary (Kathi Hothem)

Having a successful year. Most recently, a successful basket raffle resulting in $11k to support Culture Connection programs. Teachers’ Appreciation activities planned for week of May 4-8.

Middle School (Jill Sykes)

Parent coffee to be attended by administration with an invitation to 5th grade parents to be extended soon.

Activities include upcoming support for 8th grade community service day and Nature’s Classroom.

High School (Kristine Perlmutter)

Teachers Appreciation luncheon planned for May 7th

As discussion progressed, there was a need to authorize funding of the luncheon.

A motion made by Lynn and seconded by Stacey to appropriate a sum up to $250 to be used for a teacher/staff luncheon at the high school was approved unanimously.

Destination Imagination (Kristine Perlmutter)

Very successful tournament. The police detail for the parking lot helped the event run smoother.

Of the 14 Holliston teams, 10 placed and 7 went onto states, and a 3rd grade team won at State.

The HMAPA parents ran the concessions and reportedly were pleased with their fundraiser. There is a desire to be able to help send or assist teams that qualify for national event in the future.

**Unfinished Business**

Class Trips

A motion made by Lynn and seconded by Dawn to not support high school end of year class trips due to the insurance risk and lack of involvement in the planning and execution of the event was approved unanimously.

Audit Committee

Audit procedures have been written out by Ray and the audit committee has commenced an audit of the year ending August 31, 2014.

Nominating Committee

A committee is working on finding candidates for the 2015-2016 school year to be voted on at the June meeting. Please suggest candidates especially for the middle school president and town wide membership chair.

**New Business**

Grants

The Town Wide grant process should strive to be a more open and transparent process next year. The PTSA was surprised not to receive a request for the music lab and a reminder was personally extended. No request was made by HMAPA for grant monies.

A motion was made by Kathi and seconded by Stacey to approve all grants recommended by the reviewers with the exception of 3D printer pending additional information. The motion was approved by a vote of 9-1.

The approved grants are as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grant** | **Amount** | **Requestor** |
| Waterproof iPad covers | $454.00 | Buckley (Adams) |
| Interactive Projector | $1,370.22 | Kelley (Adams) |
| Science/Physics Photogates | $490.00 | Buckley (Adams) |
| All Night Grad Party | $1,500.00 | Bonfatti (High School) |
| French Reading Books | $308.00 | Pond (Miller) |
| Standing Desks for Special Ed | $1332.48 | LaCava (Placentino) |

A motion was made by Kathi and seconded by Stacey to cease operating the High School branch of the Holliston PTSA effective the last day of June 2015 and approved unanimously. The membership will be notified of proposed amendment to be voted on at the June 2, 2015 meeting. The amendment will include the position of HS President to be amended to HS Parent Advisor. The HS Treasurer will be eliminated and existing accounts will be managed by Executive Treasure until funds are exhausted or transferred to another account. Christmas Tree Scholarships promised to the HHS Classes of 2016, 2017, and 2018 will be made available as two scholarships for $1000 each to be randomly drawn from eligible names at the Senior Awards Night. In addition, the PTSA expects to continue supporting Teacher Appreciation Day expenses, two $1,000 membership scholarships, one $1,000 essay based scholarship, High School Ski Club, and PTSA grants available to HHS faculty, clubs, and organizations.

Jill led a discussion to unaffiliate from the Massachusetts and National PTSA organization. The main advantages of the affiliation are access to insurance *(available independently)*, Reflection Arts contents *(Art Saves Lives and HMAPA fill this gap)*, and access to conferences/supporting materials *(not currently utilized by Holliston).*

A motion was made by Kristine and seconded by Stacey to move forward with dismantling the PTSA/PTA relationship and form a local Holliston nonprofit. The motion passed 9 in favor, 1 abstained.

8:40pm - Meeting adjourned

**Next meeting is 6/2/15 - 7pm - Holliston High School library**