

NEW YORK STATE CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INC.

-Branch of the National

H.B. Thompson Middle School

President and Co-President: Karen Ostrick & Tara Ginsburg

November 14, 2022

The meeting will come to order, at 10:04am with a quorum present. Attendance will be taken by sign in sheet. Please make sure you sign the sheet on the tables.

I. Approve minutes from the October 2022 meeting: We had distributed the minutes from our last PTA meeting in October for review via email and now there are some copies circulating around as well as other flyers regarding upcoming events in our district. Does anyone have comments, changes, or questions? **None.** If not, minutes stand as approved. Thank you.

II. Treasurer's PTA Funds Report: As of 9/22/2022: Submitted by Danielle Kurtzer (Read by Karen Ostrick)

Opening Balance, 9/22/2022	\$ 52,399.19
Income/Deposits	\$8,597.04
Expense/Cash Disbursements	<u>4,750.00</u>
Checking Balance	\$ 53,970.88
Saving Balance as of 10/22/22	<u>6,245.83</u>
TOTAL Cash on Hand as of 10/22/2022	\$ 62,421.79

All balances were reconciled to the bank statements. The books were reviewed and found to be in order by Nina Greico. Thank you, Nina.

III. Correspondence: Kirsten Zollo (Read by Jen Poitrimol):

(1) Rohan Murphy email

From: Rohan Murphy <rohanmurphy96@gmail.com>

Date: November 4, 2022 at 7:06:49 PM EDT

To: Shira Zatcoff <shirazatcoff@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: School Speaking Engagement

Hello Shira,

I just wanted to say thank you once again for having me today at HBT.

I've been receiving some GREAT feedback from the students on my social media.

See my TikTok video from today here

tiktok.com

Thanks again!!!

-Ro

(2) Correspondence from HBT Staff regarding Spirit Week Shirts:

I

Dear HBT PTSA,

Thank you so much for the staff t-shirts. On behalf of all of us, thank you for this generosity & support. It's a pleasure partnering with you!

Fondly,
Kevin

Dear HBT PTA,

Thank you for our new HBT shirts & for including the staff in this purchase. These gifts were such nice surprises when checking our mailboxes this morning.

Michelle Verre

IV. Report of Executive Meeting – Jennifer Poitrimol

The executive committee met on 11/13/22 to approve the HBT PTSA new procedures guide. It was approved unanimously.

V. President's Report- Karen Ostrick / Tara Ginsburg

Welcome everyone and thank you for coming to our last meeting for 2022. But don't worry we'll be back January 10, 2023, so mark your calendars!! This year is really flying by, we can't believe it. We are very excited to report that our book fair was a huge success and held inside in the HBT library for the first time since the pandemic. The smiles on everyone's faces, kids and staff really showed us how incredible it felt to be back together under one roof.

A very special thank you to our chairs Jennifer Poitrimol and Linda DiGeronimo for keeping everything running so smoothly and creating the huge success for our PTSA.

Additionally, we would like to thank Linda DiGeronimo for being our bylaws chair as well and for guiding us through the process. Thank you, Linda.

Pie Sale - thank you to all those who ordered to support our PTSA. As we know every year our pies, soups, dips and breads are delicious and we hope everyone will enjoy your thanksgiving feasts with this addition. Barbara will share

more during her committee report. Thank you so much Barbara for organizing.

On the topic of fundraising, Gift Cards are rolling out today - and the deadline is 12/2 to order. This is a great and easy way to support your teachers by providing no fee gift cards. We want to stress NO FEE because that is your benefit from ordering through the PTSA. You'll hear more from April's committee report.

Let's not forget a fan favorite, the annual holiday boutique - such a great way for the kids to shop during their lunch period for their friends and family. More details to come from Jordana and Liz.

As many of you know, from time to time, we need to vote at our PTSA meetings. In order to vote we will need a quorum of 14 members. Please remember that you may only vote if you have a PTSA membership for this school year. As Co-Presidents, we can only vote together as one vote. Traditionally presidents do not vote unless there is a need to break a vote that is tied. When we conduct a vote, a motion will be made. If the motion is coming out of committee it will not need a second.

This month we need to vote on our bylaws, which were sent in the email blasts throughout the month. Additionally we will be voting on our Nominations committee members. Please take a few minutes to review and we will vote on bylaws later this morning. Also, we are in need of one more person from our general membership who can join our nominating committee. *Please raise your hand if you would be able to assist.*

VI. Principal's Report: Presented by Mr. Bonanno, Mr. Harrigan, Mr. Naraine and Ms. Waters

Mr. Bonanno – Thank you for joining us this morning. We continue to have sad news to report – our staff has had a rough start. Tina Tucker's mother passed away and Denise Silver lost her husband last week. The 1st Qtr is over – report cards will be posted either Friday or Monday. They may be a little delayed due to D.C. trip. Parent-Teacher Conferences – There were a couple of glitches at start of each day, but we appreciate the support and the virtual approach is a nice option. Staff was on site here while conducting the meetings. To Ms. Verre – Thank you for your thank you note as well for the staff shirts. The 8th grade shirts will be going in their D.C. bags this week. We have 292 kids – 28 teachers, 2 nurses. Weather looks good, just a little cold and Ms. Waters will help hold down the fort here.

Multicultural week – We are in the midst of planning for multicultural week in January. We met with the team on Thursday about ideas about the expo. We want to keep things with the parents and working with the PTSA to strengthen our bond with parents. More to come right after Thanksgiving.

Ms. Waters – Good morning, everyone. The PTSA even supplied coffee, so thanks for coming and we appreciate the opportunity for our mental health team to share our thoughts with you. There are increasing needs for our students and challenges present themselves on a daily basis to help them navigate.

- *Mental Health Support Presentation* – What our support services are like here.
- *Wellness Center & Guidance Office* – 2 divisions of support
- o *Support for academic, social-emotional & transitions*
 - o *Academic support* – contact teacher (check portal, direct email), teacher intervention (working one on one with child to make a plan), team collaboration (4 core teachers and may include parents, counselors, administrators, etc) and follow-up
 - o *Social-emotional support* – Contact counselor, counselor assessment, student connection and follow up, coordinate a “Friends Group”
 - o *Support services* – Team collaboration (team teachers), Wellness center, advisory, 1:1 Counseling and group counseling
 - o *Transitions support map* – Orientations, class visits (5th to 6th), 7th -8th and 8-9th

- *Counselor assignments* – broken up by alphabet
- *** contact 516-364-5767*
- *The full presentation* – The presentation is posted on the HBT website. You can see it here at https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1MdHsmxPYYeQCrt18NE8OTPiDzMd7I1YyoywH3oi5Do8/edit#slide=id.gcec4d27072_0_0

VII. Standing Committee Reports

A. Book Fair - Jennifer Poitrimol and Linda DiGeronimo

Linda and I, on behalf of the PTSA, wanted to thank the administration and staff here for helping to support the book fair by scheduling the children during English class. Mr. Harrigan – thank you for coordinating. Also thank you to the parents for sending in kids with money and helping support the book fair. We had the highest sales ever here at HBT, raising over \$2,000 and according to Scholastic, we had one of the highest sales of all the middle schools in Nassau County.

B. Curriculum Enrichment - Liz Wolkoff / Shira Zatzoff

On 11/4, we had Rohan Murphy come to speak with the 6th graders. He shared his story, born with deformed legs, which were later amputated, became a wrestler and made something of himself notwithstanding his challenges. He won the gold medal in the Paralympics. Very inspiring.

7th Grade – Hoping to schedule a speaker

8th Grade – On 1/12 we have scheduled John Marshall.

In March we have “From the Fire” / voices from the Holocaust.

Also working to bring someone in for Multicultural week.

C. Fundraising Update:

i. Pie Sale - Barbara Rudner

The Chipotle fundraiser raised \$598.10 - thanks to all who participated!

The White Post Farms Thanksgiving Pie Sale pickup will be at HBT on Wednesday 11/23/22 from 3PM till 5PM. I will be picking up the orders at White Post farms and then bringing everything to the school for pickup that day. We need a few volunteers to help, please let me know if you can help out.

ii. Gift Cards - April Sontag (Read by Tara Ginsburg)

The HBT PTSA will once again be offering the gift card Fundraiser through RaiseRight (formerly Shop with Scrip). Buy gift cards for the holidays AND support the HBT PTSA. For every gift card that is purchased, a percent is donated to the HBT PTSA. There is a huge variety of stores to choose from, including everyone’s favorite – no fee American Express and Visa gift cards! On a side note, **as of November 1st, TD Bank will no longer be selling Visa gift cards.** Cards can either be purchased as e-gift cards, physical gift cards that are sent to your home for a fee, or “shipped to administrator” (save the shipping fee). Just please be careful when you place your order, and double check if you are choosing an e-gift card or a physical gift card. All sales are final. Also, the cards do **not** come with envelopes, but there are gift envelopes available to purchase. Orders can be placed online through the website, www.raiseright.com, or through the RaiseRight

app. The enrollment code is **76553F61466L9**. Payment will only be accepted through a bank account or credit cards. We will not be accepting cash or checks. The deadline to place orders is Friday, December 2nd. Orders will be available for pickup on December 15th.

D. Holiday Boutique – Jordana Altman and Liz Wolkoff

The annual Holiday boutique will be on December 6 & 7 during the lunch periods. Sign up will be coming soon. Please send your children with money to participate.

E. Eighth Grade Committee - Dana Kuropatkin / Liza Oyaga / Gabby Platz / Adrienne Ashkin

DC Trip is planned and 8th Grade T-shirts are being distributed this week.

F. Membership – April Sontag (Read by Tara Ginsburg)

We are happy to report that we were able to meet our goal for the year. Many thanks to all of the parents, staff, and students that supported the HBT PTSA. Your generosity is so appreciated – and with your help we are able to continue many of the great programs and events that the students love!

It's never too late to support the HBT PTSA! Parents, staff members, students – if you haven't already, we are still taking membership through the MemberHub store.

G. Multicultural Week – Farrah Mozawalla

The week begins 1/23. It will end on Jan 27th and there will be a google form that will reflect what day and time, food needs and rules for participation.

H. Reflections - Liza Oyaga (Read by Tara Ginsburg)

All participants have been submitted and announcements will be coming soon. Don't forget to participate in the theme selection process for 2023-24. Check the HBT PTSA newsletter for the details.

I. Spirit Week - Jen Biondo

Spirit Week PTSA sponsored t-shirts - by this week the 8th students should have received their grade level t-shirts and later this week the rest of the students will receive theirs. Please note these are the sizes the children selected in their advisory. We did the best we could to get the appropriate sizes for the children.

Clothing Sale Chair stated: "I would also like to make a motion to approve an increase in the budget for clothing sales/spirit wear for a future fundraising event. We would like to increase this line item to \$1500 from \$500. To purchase the items in advance which would result in a lower per item cost."

Motion was made and seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

J. SEPTA - Jennifer Poitrimol

Our next meeting will be Tuesday 11/22 at HBT Middle School at 7:45pm We are pleased to announce that our SEPTA meetings this year will be hosted at different schools throughout the district. **Executive Functioning and ADHD - What is it and how can you support your children at home?- Dr. Laura DeGennaro**

Please become a member today. See the flyers on the tables or feel free to reach out to me, Jen Poitrimol to

join. You will get these updates and others such as parent meeting opportunities sent directly to you.

SEPTA is hosting virtual Yoga & Meditation classes starting 12/2 8pm 50 minutes for \$10. There are classes for parents, teachers and staff as well as classes for students. Student sessions are FREE!! See flyers on the tables or sign up directly on Memberhub. <https://syossetsepta.memberhub.com/store>

VIII. Council Committee Updates:

a. **Scholarship Fund - Jessica Goldberg**

We are still accepting donations. Payments can be made to the Syosset Scholarship Fund. There was a \$100 donation by the PTSA. There is also a Cabaret Night which also supports the Scholarship Fund, so come on out and enjoy Cabaret Night.

b. **Cultural Unity - Farah Mozawalla**

Flyers are out. Send in your videos – it is a great way to learn about others.

c. **Health Nutrition and Safety - Gabby Platz**

Check out our newsletters included in the HBT weekly updates.

d. **Parent Resource Group - Xu Zhang (Read by Tara Ginsburg)**

11/15 - Virtual Don't Press Send Presentation - 7:30pm

e. **Ways and means - Linda DiGeronimo – None**

f. **School and Community - Shany Park - None**

IX. New Business – Karen Ostrick

a. **Bylaws Vote**

As you all know by now, our Bylaws are up for renewal. Notice was sent to all members with the proposed changes (including a change of our council delegates to 10) 30 days in advance of this meeting. We will be taking an instructed vote for or against our new Bylaws.

To be approved, we need a 2/3 vote in favor of the new Bylaws of members who are present and voting. As a reminder only current members may vote and you can vote for, against or choose to abstain. The revised bylaws will be submitted to Nassau Region PTA, following today's vote.

*All those in favor? **17 in favor**. All those opposed? **None**. The Bylaws have been approved.*

b. **Nominating Committee Vote – Tara Ginsburg**

We will now take a vote on the nominations committee. All those in favor please raise your hand. **17 in favor**. Opposed? **None**. The motion is passed.

1. Nina Greico (Exec)
2. Min An (General)
3. Linda DiGeronimo (Exec)
4. Xu Zhang (Exec Alternate)
5. Liza Oyaga (Exec)

6. Amanda Schlan (general)

X. Dates to Remember – Tara Ginsburg – Reminder there is no meeting in December

November

- 14 - DC Trip 8th Grade T-shirts handed out
- 15 - Virtual Don't Press Send Presentation - Parent Resource Group
- 16-18 - HBT 8th Grade DC Trip
- 16 - 8th Grade Parents - SHS PTSA Curriculum Committee: Math Department
- 22 - SEPTA Meeting at HBT, 7:45pm
- 23 - Pie Sale Pick Up - 3-5pm
- 24-25 - School Closed
- 30 - 8th Grade Parents - SHS Guidance Committee - Student Support Groups

December (No December PTSA Meeting)

- 2 - Gift Card Fundraiser Deadline
- 6-7 - HBT Holiday Boutique
- 12 - Board of Education Mtg, SW 8pm
- 14 - 8th Grade Winter Concert
- 15 - Gift Card Pick Up
- 19-23 - HBT Spirit Week
- 26-30 - School Closed

January

- 2 - School Closed
- 9 - Board of Education Mtg, SW 8pm
- 10 - NEXT HBT PTSA Meeting, 7:45pm**

Thank you everyone! Hope you all have a very happy thanksgiving and a wonderful holiday season.

Meeting is adjourned at 11:17am.

Recorded by Jennifer Poitrimol, Recording Secretary

Attendees:

Karen Ostrick	Gabby Platz	Jessica Goldberg
Tara Ginsburg	Michelle Masci	Pam Bahiri
Mr. Bonanno	Linda DeGeronimo	Amanda Schlan
Mr. Harrigan	Min An	Kajal Bendale
Mr. Naraine	Liz Wolkoff	Birva Sheth
Ms. Waters	Shira Zatcoff	Barbara Krilov
Jennifer Poitrimol	Farrah Mozawalla	Sherri Smith
Nina Grieco	Jen Biondo	Michelle Verre