



Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2026 at 10:00 am
HBT Cafeteria

The meeting came to order at 10:07 am with a quorum present.

I. Approve Minutes – November 2025

The November 2025 minutes were approved.

II. Treasurer's Report – Sunita Hansraj (presented by Nina Grieco)

Opening Balance as of 10/23/2025: \$52,049.90
Income/Deposits: \$273.48
Expense/Cash Disbursements: \$937.06
Checking Balance as of 11/21/2025: \$51,386.32
Savings Balance as of 11/30/2025: \$6,255.54
Total Cash on Hand as of 11/30/2025: \$57,641.86

Opening Balance as of 11/22/2025: \$51,386.32
Income/Deposits: \$2,678.34
Expense/Cash Disbursements: \$8,759.46
Checking Balance as of 12/22/2025: \$45,305.20
Savings Balance as of 12/30/2025: \$6,255.81
Total Cash on Hand as of 12/30/2025: \$51,561.01

All balances were reconciled to the bank statements. The books were reviewed and found to be in order by Jamie Lund.

III. Presidents' Report – Nina Grieco and Sharmin Panjvani (presented by Sharmin Panjvani)

After welcoming everyone back and wishing PTSA members a happy new year, Sharmin reported that December was a very busy and successful month for the PTSA. The Holiday Boutique and Gift Card Fundraiser both were great initiatives. Thanks go to Renee Nouvini and Jessica O'Leary for chairing the boutique, as well as to all of the volunteers, and to Krista Harris for chairing the Gift Card Fundraiser.

In addition, it was reported that the HBT PTSA arranged its annual luncheon to express our gratitude to the HBT administration for all that they do for us.

Finally, anyone interested on serving on the Awards Committee is invited to speak to the Co-Presidents.

IV. Correspondence Report

There was no new correspondence.



V. Principal's Report

Mr. Bonanno thanked the PTSA for the luncheon. He then reported that the students enjoyed Spirit Week, including with activities like a snowflake hunt (and even a one day "Harrigan Hunt"!). Also in line with holiday preparation, HBT instituted a "giving tree" to support the community.

Plans for grade transitions have begun. For current eighth graders, recommendations for classes will be sent to SHS shortly. Approximately 85% of the incoming sixth graders made their language and music selections. All five foreign language currently offered (Korean, French, Chinese, Italian, and Spanish) will be offered next year as well. Finally, the current seventh graders will soon be making their course selections for math and science. There usually are approximately 10 classes each of Earth Science and Algebra 1, and two classes each of Science 8 and Math 8.

January 23, 2026 will be the Multicultural Exposition ("Multicultural Expo"), the culmination of events throughout the week. Fourteen families were signed up to participate as of the time of the meeting. Later in the meeting, Mrs. Classen noted that there was still room for families to sign up who wished to do so. There was a question regarding food allergies, and it was clarified that Mr. Bonnano will send out an information form for anyone serving food to list ingredient. There are no restrictions. Mrs. Classen noted that there will be options available for students with food allergies; for example, there will be one table of gluten free food.

Mr. Harrigan reported that the sixth grade students would be participating in an "Introduction to the Holocaust" assembly, presented by the Nassau County Holocaust Memorial & Tolerance Center, on January 8, 2026.

Mr. Naraine spoke about the HBT visit to the Chinese Museum in New York City, and the museum's presentation with shadow puppets on the day before the winter break. Eighth grade students were treated to a moving performance about the journey of an immigrant family. Following this first collaboration with a Long Island school at HBT, the Chinese Museum is now a BOCES approved provider!

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Scholarship Committee (Aebeer Malick, presented by Nina Grieco): A reminder was given to order from Playa Bowls on the meeting date (and the first Wednesday of every month). On these dates, mention the Scholarship Fund and 20% of proceeds from each order will go towards the Fund. This is also good on online food delivery orders (orders should list Syosset Scholarship Fund in the comments section) as well as in-person orders.
- B. Reflections (Sarah Lin, presented by Sharmin Panjvani): HBT had a total of 15 submissions this year, with 7 submissions advancing to Nassau



County for judging at that level. Congratulations to those students! We haven't heard back from Nassau County yet, but results should be coming out soon. The District is hosting a Reflections celebration for all students whose work advanced to Nassau County on February 9, 2026

- C. Communications Conference (Theresa Resnick): The Q&A write-up from the Communications Conference with administration has been posted on the District website under the section PTA Communications Conference Fall 2025.
- D. SEPTA (Danielle Sandjaby, presented by Nina Grieco): In addition to SEPTA's ongoing membership drive, the third Annual Resource Fair is scheduled for January 29, 2026 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00pm at HBT. Each year the fair has grown and SEPTA is hoping to surpass 40 vendors! Families and staff should please share any resources that might be helpful for our students at SEPTA's Google link; all responses are confidential but will help for compiling the Resource Directory for families. Families and staff also can email SEPTA with any questions.
- E. Parent Resource Group (Nicole Hirschfield): The next presentation, *Parenting in the Digital Age: Addressing Digital Wellness from AI and Beyond* by Katie Duffy Schumacher, will be held on Zoom on January 21, 2026 at 7:30 pm. The presentation will focus on practical ways to balance technology, set boundaries, and safeguard children from online risks in an age of constant connectivity and AI-powered platforms/content. More information and a registration link will be sent out soon.
- F. Nominating Committee (Tara Ginsburg): HBT's Nominating Committee is looking for PTSA Officers and Council Delegates for the 2026-2027 School Year. The link has been sent out, and anyone with questions should contact someone on the Nominating Committee. Submissions are due by January 30, 2026; an individual may nominate themselves or someone else they feel may be good for a specific position.
- G. Cultural Unity (Wendy Chiu): The Cultural Unity event, to be held April 27, 2026, fosters a celebration of culture. Similar to the Reflections program, students from all of the District's schools may submit works across a variety of arts categories. Each student who participates will be acknowledged, and students who submit work will be entered to win raffle prizes.

VII. New Business

From time to time, we need to vote at PTSA meetings, requiring a quorum of 14 members. Only paid PTSA members may vote, and Co-Presidents can only vote



together as one vote (though traditionally, Presidents only vote when needed to do so to break a tie).

Krista Harris made a motion to vote on changes to the budget proposed by the Co-Presidents (presented by Sharmin Panjvani). All were in favor and the motion passed to increase the budget for the Multicultural Expo from \$350 to \$2400. This change was sought to allow the PTSA to give each country that participates \$100 towards food expenses. Of note, the PTSA likely will not need to use the full budget increase though there is still time for families to sign up so the flexibility is helpful.

VIII. Dates to Remember (January)

- January 12, 8:00 pm: BOE Meeting, South Woods Middle School
- January 19, School Closed for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- January 20 – 23: HBT Multicultural Week
- January 20: Middle School Sports session 2 begins
- January 21, 7:30 pm: *Parenting in the Digital Age: Addressing Digital Wellness from AI and Beyond* by Katie Duffy Schumacher (virtual presentation)
- January 22: HBT Concert
- January 23: End of Second Marking Period
- January 23: HBT Multicultural Expo
- January 27: 7:45 pm, PTA Council Executive Meeting, A.P. Willits Elementary School
- January 28: HBT Concert
- January 29: 7:30 pm: SEPTA Resource Fair, HBT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.