



NEW YORK STATE CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INC.
-Branch of the National
H.B. Thompson Middle School
President: Nina Grieco
October 17, 202

The meeting will come to order, at 10:04 am with a quorum present (14 members - Section 4 of Article 11). Attendance will be taken by sign in sheet. Please make sure you sign the sheet on the tables.

I. **Approve minutes from the September 2024 meeting:**

We had distributed the minutes via email from our last PTA meeting in September for review via email. Does anyone have comments, changes, or questions? **None.** If not, minutes stand as approved. Thank you.

II. Treasurer's Report – Submitted by **Sunita Hansraj**

Opening Balance 08/23/2024	\$51,973.41
Income/Deposits	\$4,099.14
Expense/Cash Disbursements	\$1,183.91
Checking Balance	\$54,888.64
Savings Balance as of 9/30/2024	\$6,251.86
Total Cash on Hand as of 9/30/2024	\$61,140.50

All Balances were reconciled to the bank statements. The books were reviewed and found to be in order by Theresa Morale. Thank you Theresa.

III. Correspondence – None

IV. President's Report - **Nina Grieco**

Thank you everyone for joining us this morning.

We are still looking for more members to reach our membership goal. For middle school this is our biggest fundraiser. Please remember that being a PTSA member brings benefits – your vote counts, you get access to our directory spot, you get our weekly email updates and reminders, and you get to be involved making a difference for our children. Thank you Krista for all of your work on membership so far this year. The link

to become a member is always in the weekly emails, and on our website and social media pages (Facebook and Instagram). If you do not have the link, please feel free to email or text us. Make sure to follow those pages, as we post flyers and any reminders as well.

This month we need to vote on resolutions, which were sent in the email blast. To save time we will be taking a block vote, which means we will read each resolution/bylaw amendment and discuss or answer questions that people may have. Once all resolutions are read/discussed, then we will take a vote on all the retentions first, then all the rescissions, then all the updates, and finally the new resolutions. Please take a few minutes to review and we will vote on the resolutions later this morning. Remember you can only vote if you are a paid member.

I would like to thank Mr. Bonanno and his team for their continuous hard work on making this year a great one so far. I would also like to thank our parent volunteers who have been working hard behind the scenes to bring us some great fundraising events and experiences for our children. I want to thank Jamie and Dara for their hard work on the book fair, Jeremy for our catalog sale and ongoing restaurant fundraisers, and Irina for our spiritwear sale and for keeping our Directory Updated. I look forward to many more successful events this year.

V. Principal's Report –

Mr. Bonanno

- library not open yet but hopefully soon, looking to have the November meeting there
- vending machines - new ones are coming in, they switched companies; school gets a good cut back that goes directly to the student activity fund - makes a difference when an issue arises with a field trip they have some extra money to use
- DC in November, parent meeting 11/6, thank you PTSA for sweatshirts; 2 trips for kids who do not go to DC, 11/20 Holocaust Museum in Glen Cove (covered by the district), 11/21 Sky zone Deer Park - spend the day there and come back to have pizze
- anti bullying district presentation - proactive approach, comprehensive, say something training in gym today and tomorrow, talk about app and helping friends
- tech free Tuesday - chromebooks as big of a challenge as phones, will have more of these
- 6th grade social 10/30 3:30 p.m. tickets on sale at lunch
- thank you for the presentation (Mark Leinweaver) - spoke about social media, making mistakes on social media

Mr Naraine

- Parent teacher conferences 10/22 open to schedule close 11/4 at 12 p.m. for 11/5 (day 8-2) and close 11/6 at 12 p.m. for 11/7 (5-8); book only for one day so everyone has a chance
- can always have team meetings with teachers/parents if needed

VI. Standing Committee Reports

a. Board of Education - Tara Ginsberg & Inna Choi

October BOE Meeting

BOE Notes 10/15/24

- Bullying Prevention- Presentation was given by Mr. David Steinberg & Dr. Jeanette Wojcik- For more detail please see presentation on the district's website
 - Teaching PRIDE- Patience, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Empathy. Discusses in details through each building level how they foster connections, social emotional learning (SEL), Developing Perspectives using critical thinking and problem solving
 - Middle School- Thank you to Mr. Bonanno who discusses thoroughly in the presentation the difficulties Middle Schoolers do have and how they work very hard throughout the year to create a safe and healthy space for the students.
- Anti-Bias Task Force- Last discussion was at the May 2024 meeting- task force was established back in November 2023.
 - Five Subgroups were created,
 - Student Experience- Discusses Goals Progress
 - Code of Conduct, develop enhancements to the code, and more user friendly, DASA Training and reporting. All schools reviewed the Code of Conduct with their students at the start of the school year.
 - Curriculum- social media, character matters, digital and media fluency, tech free Tuesday
 - Recruitment, Hiring, Professional Development Goals Progress- Refine Recruitment and Hiring, Orient new faculty to the Syosset way and evaluation and accountability.
 - Community Outreach- partnering with the PTA, Develop Parent workshops
 - More details on this presentation is on the districts website and of course you can watch on the YouTube channel as well
- Superintendents-

- Expect something in the not-too-distant future about the school mascot
- Question on the Discussion on residency-
- BOE thanks community for supporting the Bond Vote

b. Sixth Grade Committee - Saba Riaz & Hina Imran

We are the 6th grade committee chair this year. As your 6th Grade Committee chair, our part is to assist the Halloween social for the students on October 30 after school. Based on instructions, we have prepared a guideline to ensure a successful event. We are going to set up a backdrop, photo booth stand along with Photo Booth props. If it comes to games, we were going to add some games in this event - Guess the Jars (like last year), Toilet Paper Mummy wrap(for which we will make three teams of 12 kids), Donut on a String. We are going to get 12, \$10 gift cards: 4- \$10 Starbucks gift cards, 4- \$10 Roblox gift cards, 4- \$10 Target gift cards.

c. Parent Resource Group - Krista Harris

The Parent Resource Group will host its first workshop of the year on Tuesday, October 29th at 7:30pm via zoom. The topic will be "An Introduction to Executive Functioning." This workshop will appeal to parents of students in grades K-12. You must register by 10/25. The link to register is in the weekly newsletter.

d. Reflections - Sarah Lin

"Reflections" is a National PTA arts recognition program for students in grades K-12. Students may enter in any of the categories: Visual Arts, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Dance Choreography, and Film Production. Submitted works could result in awards at state and national levels. This year's theme is "Accepting Imperfection". Deadline for entries is October 28th. email reflections email and please encourage kids to participate

e. Arts & Education - Tara Ginsburg - Weatherman coming 10/31 for 8th grade

f. Septa - Wendy Chiu - next meeting focusing on assistive technology available (voice to text, etc), community event - tennis at HBT details sent, October changing bylaws to increase membership in January to reflect

National PTA dues increase

g. Legislation - Theresa Morale - We will be taking a vote.

VII. **New Business**

1. Legislation Vote:

*I would like to ask for a motion to use block voting for the proposed resolutions and amendments. Motion Seconded. Any objections? **None**. There being no objections, the motion to vote on proposed resolutions and amendments by block vote passes by acclamation.*

I hope everyone had time to look over the resolutions. As a reminder, only paid members can vote. The vote this evening will be taken to the NYS PTA convention which will be on November 4th-6th. I would like to make a motion to forego the reading of the resolutions. You should have received the resolutions in the email blast. Motion Seconded.

*Any objections? **None**. There being no objections, the motion to forego the reading of the resolutions and amendments passes by acclamation.*

Let's start with retentions. A retention is something that NYS PTA would like to keep as is. The resolution is relevant and should remain the same.

Any questions or discussions? **None**.

*If there are no questions, then are there any objections to supporting the retentions? **None**. As there are no objections, the vote on retentions passes by acclamation.*

Moving on to rescissions. A rescission is a resolution that is obsolete, for reasons described in the resolution's statement.

Any questions or discussions? **None**.

*At this time, I would like to ask if anyone objects to the rescissions? **None**. As there are no objections, the vote has passed by acclamation.*

Moving on to updates. An update is something that is still relevant but needs to be updated in a small way, for example words are changed or deleted from resolution.

Any questions or discussions? **None**.

*At this time, I would like to ask if anyone objects to the new updates? **None**. As there are no objections, the vote has passed by acclamation.*

*Thank you all for voting. The resolutions have been accepted and now we will ask for a vote of confidence for our voting delegates to bring our vote to council and to NYS PTA. **Unanimous vote of confidence.***

VIII. Dates to Remember

Finally, we are up to our dates to remember. Please keep an eye on our dates to remember in our weekly updates which will be on hiatus during the summer but check our Facebook, and Instagram for any additional date changes between now and our September meeting.

October 22 - SEPTA Meeting Berry Hill (7:45 p.m.)
October 30 - Pokeworks Fundraiser
October 30 - 6th Grade Social
November 1 - School Closed
November 4 - Tap Room Fundraiser
November 4 - BOE meeting 8pm, SW
November 5 - School Closed
November 6 - HBT PTSA Meeting, 7:45 p.m.
November 11- School Closed

If there is no further business, the meeting will stand adjourned. **None.**

Meeting is adjourned at 10:37 am