



**Hilton Head Island High School**  
**HHI Seahawks PTSO, Inc.**  
**December 12, 2023**

**Call to Order, Welcome & Sign In-** 12:36pm

**Attendance:** Tina Rohr, Laurie Sideric, Tammy Novak, Lynn Gorrell, Elizabeth Ott, Angie Greenfield, Jessica Howard, Ellen Simmons, Kelly Ruckno, Audrey Clayton, Jen Fielding, Rebecca Mastrorocco, Jan Davis-Vater, Steven Schidrich

**Approval of November minutes:** Motion to approve made by Audrey, seconded by Tammy. Minutes approved.

**Principal's Report-** *Steve Schidrich*

**New Teacher:** The new Physics teacher, Nate Bantz, was introduced. He graduated from Miami of Ohio in 2022. He is an Education major and will be teaching Physics and IB Physics.

**School Report Card:** Results were reported at a previous PTSO meeting. In years past, it included scores based on certain classes (Alg I, Eng I/II, US History, and Bio), performance of English language learners, and graduation rates. There is a new component that has been added this year: the High School Success Rating. This will be based on the number of 9th graders who progress on to 10th grade. Each subsequent year, a new grade will be added on to be incorporated into this score. The goal is for our rating to improve from the top 25% to at least 19%, and for the HS Success Rating to be 12%. Notably, Ninth grade has the largest number of Seat Time offenders.

**Parking Plan:** We hope to have a plan for parking for the rebuild in place before the holiday break. The architects have given a number of what we ought to have in the way of parking spots. The entire front lot will be overtaken by construction, but the side/end lot will be untouched. Anticipate it to be effective as of April 1, 2024.

**Volunteers Needed:** On the first day back to school, we will be needing volunteers to hand out schedules in the morning. Kelly will create a SignUp page.

**Seat Time:** Seat Time Make-ups are on the rise. For fall semester, because it is shorter, students are only allowed five absences per class. Two weeks ago, there were 143 requests, last week there were 180, and probably will be more than 200 by next week. If a student has multiple classes in which they are at risk of Failure due to Attendance (FA), they will have to distribute the credited seat hours based on which classes are most feasible to pass, based on how many hours are owed. Since federal ESSR funds are no longer available, that decreases the budget for Seat Time supervisors by \$10,000. There have been complaints about there not being availability to make up seat time during the week. Some have complained about having to go on Saturdays. If a student is in a bind, (s)he may talk to the teacher. They can have leniency on how or when to make up the time. Currently there are three dates in January, one in February. Beaufort County rule states that seat time must be made up prior to 30 days after the completion of the semester. The Principal has limited ability to waive the hours under special circumstances. He takes this into consideration at the end of the semester. Mental health reasons take priority. Jan suggested that we update the Handbook to include a Seat Time Policy in January.

**World's Largest Yard Sale, 2/24/24:** As part of the Middle School PTSO, Jessica has received some questions from Facebook about the details of it. She suggested we have a contact person at the high school, perhaps place an email address on a flyer. Once people sign up, they will get a packet with instructions regarding setting up. It was also suggested that students be able to earn community service hours for assisting. Teachers will be advised to allow this. Set up begins as early as 4am to place cones and tables in the parking lot. Will need some parking attendants. Beaufort County Police will be present. We could earn almost \$2,000 toward discretionary funds from the registration fees. There will probably be some food trucks present.

In a related topic, there were questions about the Spartina sale and how the parking will be affected. This is an important event that brings in typically \$15- \$20K. This money is shared between the school and the district, but most of it goes back into our high school.

### **President's Report** –*Kelly Ruckno*

**Thank you:** We thank all our PTSO volunteers, without whom it would not be possible to do all that we do! Parents have generously donated their time working in the Store, but also, items for the Holiday Bags, baked goods for the Cookie Exchange, and we have a full count of people coming on Sunday to pack the bags.

#### **Teacher/Staff support**

- a. Ugly Christmas Sweater Lunch- provided boxed lunches from Publix
- b. 100 teacher ornaments donated by the Novaks
- c. On 12/15, we will have the Teacher Cookie Exchange. We have almost met our quota for cookie donations and Tina will supplement with store-bought cookies.
- d. The custodians were given ten \$25 gift cards to Walmart.
- e. On January 25th, we will be providing dinner for the teachers for Open House.
- f. Guidance Counselor Day is coming up in February. The school will be providing lunch on the actual day (2/5). The PTSO decided to provide lunch on a different day, probably Wednesday.
- g. Social Workers Day is March 19th. We will provide lunch for Mrs Garmon that day, as well.

#### **Student support**

- a. Honor Roll students were given a 10% off coupon to use in the store. However no one has redeemed it yet, and it expires 12/15.
- b. Water was provided for the EOC extravaganza.
- c. We will be packing the holiday bags this Sunday from 2-4pm. We have lots of volunteers coming. This year we have about 80 students, compared to only 60 last year. We've received donations from All Saints Church, Beth Yam Synagogue, school parents, and of course, the Bargain Box Grant.

### **School Store-** *Rebecca Mastrorocco*

- a. We'll be decreasing the number of volunteers to two people/day, beginning in January.
- b. We will open the first week of school.
- c. Ashley Best has been covering Friday hours. Charlotte has stocked for the Holiday Bags and will restock for January.
- d. Financials: Income has been about \$42,600, of which about \$14,000 is profit.
- e. Square removed the 3% credit card fee so we will now have to add it manually, as we had done before. A table is available in the store for reference.

### **Seahawk Support Circle (SSC) Report-** *Audrey Clayton*

**Holiday Survival Bags:** The backpacks have all been received. Faith Hahn, the secretary at All Saints, had to order some on Amazon.

Bombas socks have also arrived.

The holiday tote bags have been purchased. A few more supplemental items still have to be purchased, which Tina will do. We will be packing the bags on Sunday at 2pm. Those people who will be setting up need to arrive by 1pm.

### **Treasurer's Report**– *Ellen Simmons*

- a. Bank Balance sheet was circulated. Financials have been steady. We've been doing a lot of sales in the store.
- b. All Bargain Box Grant money must be spent by December 31st. Holiday Bags usually exceed the \$8000 grant money, and this year should be no exception.
- c. We've also had a few special cases.
  1. For one female student, we will be providing a bike and clothes. She's been given some shoes and gift cards already.
  2. A second case involves a current student with an older sibling who graduated from HHIHS. The mother has been recently diagnosed with cancer and the older sibling is working to support the family. The student is having to leave school in order to drive the mother to chemo.
  3. The social worker, Mary Megan Garmon, does community referrals to organizations such as Deep Well. There is also a resource called Charity Navigator to oversee that there is no double dipping.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Kelly. Seconded by Jen. Meeting adjourned, 1:31.

### **Calendar:**

Next SIC meeting: Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.

Next PTSO meeting: Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 12:30 p.m.