

Hart PTSA General Association Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 22, 2024
Hart MPR, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Board Member Attendees: Abdul Alim, Abdulla Jehaberdeen, Ms.Fields, Cynthia Sandhu, Vijalakshmi Ramprasad, Archana Thandavamoorthy, Shyamalima Karan, Sobhana Somisetty, Any Hsu, Merina Sadeque, Ces Benigno, Mauli Patel, Janelle Knapp, Lana Lewis, Meet Bhanushali, Rajendra Bhanushali

Call to Order – Abdul Alim

- Meeting was called to order by Abdul at 6:05 pm.
- Ground rules explained, how to vote.
- Introductions of board members.

Principal's Report – Ms. Fields

- PTSA involvement is a nice way to make connections, be around the school and learn about the school.
- We are off to a great start to the new school year.
- Close to 1,200 students, the largest of three middle schools.
- Principal's Coffee on Monday had nice turnout.
- Next Monday we will have a guest speaker/rally for students. Cody the Dribbler is a high motivational speaker with a good message that aligns with Hart's pride characteristics and this year's theme at Hart ("Gratitude is the Best Attitude").
- Gratitude is the Best Attitude theme: Hart is using an app to send messages from 15 categories that the students can choose from 2x a month. What is genuine gratitude? How do we have the attitude? How do we reflect on feedback and associate it with their strengths? This is a California state program and we are one of the 10 middle schools in this pilot program. Improves student engagement and test scores.
- Test scores: Doing great, but there are some areas of need. See Principal's Coffee presentation for data about School Site data and goals.
- Encouraged parents to bring their students to these GA meetings.

Motions:

- 1. Cynthia makes a motion to ratify the motions of the Executive Board including the bank error adjustment, the appointment of the new Chairs and Committee Members (with the exception of the motion to approve bylaws). Sobhana Somisetty seconded. Motion passes.**
- 2. Cynthia makes a motion to approve the minutes from the last General Association meeting on May 16, 2024. Viji seconded. Motion passes.**

President's Report

- Finding parents to join PTSA is the most challenging part – some don't know what it's about, some don't have time.
- Two positions still open:
 1. Special Needs Committee Chair: Pleasanton has a city-wide special needs committee so this role is working with parents at other schools to implement programs.
 2. Communication Chair: Need someone to post flyers to social media.
- **Cynthia makes a motion to ratify Shyamalima as volunteer coordinator. Mauli seconded. Motion passes.**

EVP Report – Abdulla

- Talk to other parents about PTSA.

Audit – Janelle

- Will share 2023-24 financial review at the next meeting (audit committee is meeting next week)

Treasurer – Cynthia

- **Cynthia makes a motion to approve checks #1155-1158, and #1160-1162, including Voided checks #1107 and #1159. Andrea Wilson seconded. Motion passes.**
- Cynthia reviews Year End Financial Report (donations are down!), Treasurer's Report, Financial Report and Proposed budget for 2024-25.
- Notes income projections in the budget are less than expense projections.
- **Cynthia makes a motion to approve the budget for 2024-25 as presented. Archana seconded. Motion passes.**
- Notes that budget cannot change without GA approval and explains how spending can happen between meetings without full approval of spending.
- **Cynthia makes a motion to change "School Smarts" name to "Parent Engagement program." Shyamalima and Viji seconded. Motion passes.**
- **Cynthia makes a motion to release funds in the budgeted amounts for Motion to Release Funds in the Budgeted Amounts for PTA Administration, Book Fair, Bumper Magnets, Spirit Wear, Grants, Hospitality, Ice Cream Social, PPIE Gala, Principal's Initiative, Reflections, Parent Engagement Program/School Smarts, and Student Engagement. Shyamalima seconded. Motion passes.**

Membership – Ces

- Adult 287 / Student 122 / Staff 10 = Total 419.
- Bumper magnet coming.
- Comparison from last year – down by 25 this year.
- Need to work on staff membership.
- Encourage others to become members.

Student Board Member – Meet Bhanushal

- Spirit Days and Rally planning are going well.
- Spirit Days: Students wear certain clothing to show school spirit during rally.
- Fun Friday events during lunch are planned.
- We need more student members!

Committee Reports

Grants – Rajendra

- Wheelchair request for health office. **Cynthia moves to approve a grant for \$2,500 for Health Office for a wheelchair. Viji seconded. Motion passes.**

Book Fair – Merina

- We will need volunteers (parents and students) for set up and teardown. Merina will send Sign Up Genius in early September. E-wallet encouraged for payment.

Spirit Wear

- Spirit Wear will be available for purchase at Back to School Night.

Hospitality – Shobhana

- There was a Back-to-school lunch for teachers the day before school started.
- Principal's coffee went well.
- Need to start planning for volunteers to help with Teacher Appreciation Week.

School Smarts – Mauli

- New program name and dates TBD and advertising will start ASAP.

Reflections – Lana

- Still waiting on final dates from Council and will advertise once they are set.

STEAM Night

- Logistics and date are still being finalized.

Volunteer Coordinator – Shyamalima

- Creates Sign Up Genius for PTSA events.
- Since many people are usually copied on emails, if you need an action for a certain person, suggested email subject line: "Action required for volunteer coordinator".
- Become a cleared PUSD volunteer to help with events on campus.

PPIE – Andrea and Shyamalima

- PPIE fills in the gaps between PUSD and PTSA.
- Reminder to pay attention to upcoming PUSD budgets, fight for what's important to you, have an understanding about how it will impact us in different ways. Share that info with others who don't come to meetings. Be an advocate.
- Encourage people to take the PPIE survey as they are looking to identify new areas to support the schools. PPIE wants to hear from parents.
- PPIE Gala is November 8.
- Auction item: PTSA needs to put together a gift basket. Reserved seats for graduation night? Reserved parking? Principal for the day? Get out of the mile run pass? Get out of swing dance? Expedited entry into book fair?

Historian – Archana

- Need to collect volunteer hours for all events. Update volunteer hours in Google sheet.
- Historian report includes volunteer hours for the school.

Parliamentarian – Vijayalakshmi

- Need to correct our bylaws for the correct quorum count.
- Need to fill open positions.

Open Discussion

- Discussion on grade-specific fundraising – learn more at Back to School Night

Adjournment

- With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Minutes approved by:

1. Sobhana Somisetty
2. Archana Janakiraman
3. Mauli Patel