

## Hamilton PTA Meeting February 13, 2025

- Upcoming Events
  - Copies of the Calendar of Events are available in the front office if you need a copy
  - Important Dates
    - Friday, 2/7, 6:30-8:30pm – Hamilton Family Dance (prior sign-up required to attend)
    - Tuesday, 2/11, 7pm – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Winter Band and Orchestra Concert at Troy High
    - Thursday, 2/13, 7pm – PTA Meeting
    - Friday, 2/14 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip to Michigan Science Center
    - Friday, 2/14 – Teacher-Lead Valentine's Fun
    - Monday 2/17 – Tuesday, 2/18 – Mid-Winter Break; No School
    - Wednesday, 2/19 – Boulton Park Music Performance Assembly for Grades 3, 4, & 5
      - Boulton bring all their music programs (band, music, orchestra) and show different programs to the kids for enjoyment and to encourage them to do the arts when they get to the middle school – set-up is so large, Hamilton has to limit the size – 100+ kids are coming from Boulton
    - Wednesday, 2/26, 3:10pm – Hawk Nest
- Past Events
  - Glow Dance Fun
    - Everyone had a great time and it will hopefully be an annual tradition as long as we have volunteers to put the event on!
    - Let the PTA know if you have any suggestions on changes we can make for next year.
- Staff Support
  - PTA Teacher Grants
    - Went out this month – PTA has funds we set aside for teacher grant each year - \$1500 – any staff member can submit a proposal for a special project/materials for their classroom
      - Dr. Anderson received new books for centurms
      - Mrs. Marulli received a new easel for her classroom
      - Ms. Brick received funds for their garden project
      - Ms. Bowers received new art supplies for Room 8
      - Ms. Dettloff and Mrs. Alexander received new math curriculum tools for their classroom
- Kids Heart Challenge
  - Over \$16,000 raised by Hamilton so far this year – last day is tomorrow, February 14<sup>th</sup>!
  - Our school is getting ready to kick off the American Heart Association's Kids Heart Challenge (KHC)! You've been at the heart of our KHC program in the past and we are hoping we can count on you again. Join today to make a difference in the fight against heart disease and stroke.
  - **Register online and complete Finn's Mission to learn Hands-Only CPR.**
  - [Register today](#) and download the AHA Schools app
  - Start Finn's Mission to complete your challenges and change lives!
  - We're going to make a huge impact together!
  - P.S. [Check to see](#) if your employer has a matching gift program—it could double your donation! Follow the steps and forward the confirmation to [MatchingGifts@heart.org](mailto:MatchingGifts@heart.org).
- Hamilton PTA | 2024-25 School Year Budget Summary and Account Overview

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- No changes from last meeting – a few thousand in unallocated funds – wait and see how much money is left in the pot at the end of the year and decide how to allocate those funds at that time - waiting for quote on new signs in the media center but open to additional ideas that we can allocate these extra funds to.
- Operating Income
  - Total Revenue: \$35,872
  - Total Expenses: \$5,060
  - Net Operating Income: \$30,812
- Account Balance
  - Opening Accounts Balance: \$23,387
  - Net Operating Income: \$30,812
  - Budget Safety Rollover: (\$8,500)
  - Current Accounts Balance: \$45,699
- Program Costs
  - Total Budget Program Costs: \$43,614
  - Residual Unallocated Funds: \$2,085
- Breakdown
  - 38% of the budget goes towards Student Enrichment (e.g., Student Weekly News/Subscriptions, Supplemental Books, Assemblies, etc.)
  - 23% goes towards Staff Recognition/Support (e.g., Classroom Grants, Teacher Grant, Staff Appreciation, etc.)
  - 21% goes towards Community Family Outreach (e.g., Movie Night, Bingo Night, Trunk-or-Treat, etc.)
- Support Hamilton PTA
  - Venmo/Zelle/Cash Donations (front office PTA mailbox)
  - Mabel's Labels
  - Kroger Rewards Box Tops- Add phone app and scanning receipts
  - Participating in Give Back Days
    - Crispelli's Fundraiser - \$200
    - Urban Air Fundraiser - \$160
    - Gilly's Night - Upcoming
  - Hawk Bags (\$5 each)
  - Spirit Wear- B&R Sports (located in Buffalo Wild Wings Center)
    - **\*Link to order spirit wear!**
    - <https://hamiltonhawks.itemorder.com/shop/home>
- How Can You Help?
  - Please reach out to these leads if you want to help with the following events:
    - **Lindsay Habermas:** LHabermas@carhartt.com – Bingo Night
      - Feeling out a new plan because the wall in-between the cafeteria and the gym is no longer functional – we still want to do Bingo Night, but need to figure out how to accommodate everyone – considering different options like separating into two different sessions – if you have thoughts/ideas on how to make it work, let us know!
    - **Andrea Brown:** amclark1@gmail.com - Family Picnic
      - Considering adding carnival games

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- Look for additional sign-ups to volunteer throughout the year! Fill out the form online here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdZIFH4aKb84fK6CRD7RLyCv15CXVyFyKST0-dcvhAljKawiA/viewform>
- PTA Officer Shadowing
  - We are looking for new board members for the 2025-2026 school year. You can spend the 2024-2025 shadowing the board position you are interested in taking over. Please contact us at [troyhamiltonpta@gmail.com](mailto:troyhamiltonpta@gmail.com) if you are interested.
- Let's Stay Connected
  - **\*Home Webpage:** <https://hamilton.troy.k12.mi.us>
  - **\*PTA Webpage:** <https://hamilton.troy.k12.mi.us/hamilton-pta>
  - **\*PTA Email:** [hamiltontroypta@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltontroypta@gmail.com)
  - **\*PTA Facebook Page:** [Hamilton Elementary PTA | Facebook](#) (must answer privacy questions)
- CONGRATULATIONS!! Hamilton is a Michigan State School of Character
  - We are proud to announce that four Troy schools have been named Michigan State Schools of Character by Character.org! Each of these schools has demonstrated an intentional, proactive, and comprehensive approach to embedding character into all aspects of school life. They are among only 98 schools nationwide and seven schools in Michigan to receive this honor this school year and will now be considered for the National School of Character designation.
  - Other schools selected include Wass Elementary School, Smith Middle School and Troy High School
  - See Principal Update
- Upcoming District Events
  - 2025-2026 Kindergarten Enrollment
    - [www.troy.k12.mi.us](http://www.troy.k12.mi.us)
    - Enrollment begins February 3, 2025
    - <https://www.troy.k12.mi.us/enrollment-k12/pk-12>
    - Please contact the attendance area elementary building the student will be attending, and the office staff will add their information to the school's incoming 2025-2026 kindergarten list. Buildings will distribute enrollment information in January based on this list.
    - Enrollment is a two-step online process. Please contact Central Enrollment if you need assistance:
      - Patricia Barash | (248) 823-4002 | [pbarash@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:pbarash@troy.k12.mi.us)
      - Cheryl Ruppel | (248) 823-4042 | [cruppel@troy.k12.mi.us](mailto:cruppel@troy.k12.mi.us)
  - Attendance Area Community Meetings
    - All meetings will begin at 5:30pm
      - Thursday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at Baker Middle School
      - Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at Boulan Park Middle School
      - Tuesday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at Smith Middle School
      - Thursday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at Larson Middle School
  - Attendance Area Review
    - Proposal that impacted Hamilton is no longer under consideration
    - Proposal under consideration:
      - Somerset Apartments, whatever elementary they start with go with that cohort to middle school rather than going to Boulan as they do today
      - All of Troy Union going to Smith and then to Athens

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- Principal Update – Dr. Recker
  - Hamilton is a Michigan State School of Character
    - Been working on this for 4 years – spent a year as staff learning about character education and providing students with life soft skills – decided what traits were most important to teach students and picked core values – started Hawk’s Nest and embedded into curriculum/class expectations – last year was the first year applied to be audited by character.org and go the emerging designation – applied again this year (Winer, Bosio, Bovee and Recker) – were thrilled this year to receive the award – also receive feedback on how to be comprehensive and intentional and developing good little humans – feedback on the application:
      - All staff embed character in a comprehensive way
      - Committed to character and not just academics
      - Teachers do best to meet needs of individual kids
      - Areas of growth, which staff agree with:
        - Create in our common areas like hallways and cafeteria, some visuals that show what the core values look like
        - As staff, want to move from just doing community service (doing something for someone, like fundraising) as a school to doing service learning (use what are learning in the classroom to doing something in the community that matters) – this is challenging to implement
        - Invite parents to see core values in practice – in May, are going to invite students to participate in Hawk’s Nest
    - One higher designation – National School of Character
      - Wait until next year to consider a national designation
  - The moveable wall between the cafeteria and gym has broken and needs to be fully replaced – the wall will remain closed for the remainder of the year for safety and functional reasons – a purchase this large has to go to the school board and be put out for bid - then items need to be ordered and installed – we will have a new wall, but it won’t be until sometime this summer
  - Check-in with Rob Carson, Operations Director – find out if we will be one of the first schools for playground replacement and see if it impacts the Family Picnic on May 15<sup>th</sup> – think it’s early enough that Family Picnic won’t be impacted, but Dr. Recker will confirm
- Faculty Update – Ms. Garvelink
  - No updates
- Thank Yous
  - Liz Waldman – Family Dance
  - Ashley Alexander – Family Dance
  - Hilary Ballentine – Family Dance
  - Jan Caruso – Family Dance
  - Kristy Osterlund – Family Dance
  - Rachael Fleischman – Family Dance
  - Everyone who donated items for the staff lounge
  - Staff Character Committee
    - Ms. Bovee | Mrs. Bosio | Mrs. Weiner
- Join us for our next meeting

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- March 18<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm
- Q&A
  - How many schools in the country receive the Blue Ribbon and School of Character Awards?
    - Dr. Recker is unsure. There were 98 schools in the country who go the School of Character Award this year.