



**Harney Middle School (HMS)
School Organizational Team Minutes
Thursday, September 18, 2025
3:00 pm**

The Harney Middle School - School Organizational Team meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm on September 18, 2025. The meeting was held in the PLC Room (room 602).

Voting members attending in-person or virtual:

Licensed Staff: Tara Bunker, Zachary Edwards
Parents: Jasmine Durham, Megan Farnsworth, Ashlee Merback
Principal: Phongsavanh Skvarek

Non-voting attendees in-person or virtual:

HMS Admin/Staff: Ms. Brown, Ms. Coronado, Mr. Pritchett, Mr. Shakespear, Ms. Tatlock, Ms. Thurman, Ms. Wise

Voting members absent:

Support Professional: Kim Hawthorne

Agenda Items

- Welcome, Roll Call and Previous Meeting
 - The minutes from the August 2025 meeting were presented.
 - Motion by Farnsworth, second by Merback, unanimously approved.
- New Items
 - Budget/Staffing Updates (Skvarek)
 - Enrollment is higher than last year
 - Reviewed proposed budget
 - Skvarek shared she may consider a SSA position and vehicle purchase to help with situations where students do not have rides home from school. Admin shared scenarios when this occurs and that they are seeing a rise in occurrences.
 - Farnsworth and Merback shared feedback that this expense feels high and asked Admin to consider looking into sharing resources (vehicle and/or staff) with a neighboring school who has a vehicle. Confirmed this is not specifically line itemed in current budget proposal.
 - Added 5 positions this year (Art, Ancient Civilizations, ELA, Computer, and Strategist role) + 1 additional General Resource (SPED)
 - Cutting 2 positions this year (5th CSM – flown and never filled, AP)
 - STAR On support consists of remote/distance learning and initial feedback is positive (attendance is taken by period rather than by day)
 - Farnsworth motioned for approval, Merback seconded. Unanimously approved.
 - Plan of Operations (Skvarek)
 - Changed to Bell Schedule to ensure teachers receive full lunch time (schedule posted to website)
 - Facilities/Athletics (Brown)
 - Received quote for 3 additional water filling station (drinking fountain upgrades) to be installed
 - Working with CCSD to repair fencing near soccer field that has been damaged
 - This is a growing year for sports team – playing well, but struggling to win
 - Brown is working with CCSD to start intramural play early since season starts earlier
 - No longer offering Cross Country at HMS. This was not sanctioned and required HMS to pay for all expenses rather than cost sharing with CCSD.
 - Volleyball is similar, but has had more interest so it will stay.
 - COSA students are eligible to play.

- Communications/Testing/Activities (Wise)
 - Continuing to utilize ParentSquare
 - All Fall Testing now complete
 - PSAT for 8th Graders in October
 - Clubs are up and running
 - Fall Festival will be 10/3
- Curriculum/Title 1 Parent Engagement (Thurman)
 - Class sizes are relatively low (~30 students/class)
 - Intentionally keeping math classes lower
 - Teachers have provided positive feedback
 - Opened another section of 8th Grade English due to demand and to keep class size reasonable
 - Parent Engagement Committee has met and continues to brainstorm ideas to increase parental presence on campus
 - Three Square food donations have been confirmed to continue
- Focus Ed data (Wise)
 - Behavior Events have declined YoY from 557 to 231
 - Attendance has improved YoY from 36% chronic absenteeism to 21%
 - 92% average daily attendance

Information

- Next meeting October 16 at 3pm in room 602.

Public Comment Period

- No comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:46 pm.