Hillview Middle School PTO
Executive Board Meeting
Friday, August 28, 2026

Executive Board Members Present: Lisa Rakowski, Christina Vitale, Julie Hartstein, Josie Cheung, Jory Macdonald, Mick Johnson, Arion Espinoza, Andrea Henry, Cristina Gibbs, Danielle O'Brien, Michelle Eakin, Tosin Falasinnu, Barbara Nguyen-Vu, Jennifer Baskin

Executive Board Members Absent: Jed Scolnick, Danielle Zienka, Lindsay Nalevanko

Agenda

8:30am	Call to Order / Presidents' Report ● Greetings and Introductions ● Board Members Hard at Work	Andrea Henry & Michelle Eakin
8:50am	Approval of Minutes (May 29, 2026)	Lisa Rakowski
8:55am	Principal's Report	Danielle O'Brien
9:00am	Teacher's Report	Arion Espinoza
9:10am	Treasurer's Report	Barbara Nguyen-Vu
9:20am	OCC Update	Lindsay Nalevanko
9:30am	Meeting Adjourned	Andrea Henry & Michelle Eakin

8:35am - Call to Order/President's Report - Andrea & Michelle

- Already making an impact
  - WEB Day went well - PE Uniforms distributed
  - Otter pops handed out first day of school
  - Picture Day - thank you to volunteers
  - OCC Ambassadors came to Back to School Night
- Newsletter Team: hvmsnewsletter@gmail.com
  - Submit by noon every Wednesday
  - Yvonne Abelon, Jessica Bayliss, Christa Peterson
- Post BTSN Drinks at Barebottle
  - Not a great turnout
  - Feedback: Difficult to be out so long on a weeknight, especially after BTSN
  - So early in the year - not many opportunities to message it (appeared in one newsletter)
  - Should we do something on a different night and focus on new families?

- Last year, holding social get together for parents was part of Academy Leads job description. Explore doing something like this again.

8:42am - Principal's Report - Danielle

- Great start to the school year
- Hosted District Day on Monday
- PTO provided lunch for Teachers on Tuesday
- WEB Day - 8th graders and teachers did a great job
  - Called students ahead of time
  - Cheering tunnel
  - Invited new 7th and 8th grade families to come in the afternoon
  - Parents met with Danielle, students got tour from WEB leaders
  - Pre-covid - did a day-long WEB day where students did activities together and got to know each other well
    - Working on training teachers and bringing this back
- First Days of Class
  - Visited every classroom
  - Students got lanyard with ID badge
- Teaching teams thinking about technology
  - How can we be a 1:1 ipad school yet also limit screentime? Stressing idea of being lower tech.
  - Math teachers moving more toward showing work on paper
  - Textbooks in classrooms
  - Taking notes by writing - studies show more effective for learning and remembering
  - Form for requesting textbooks is open
    - Some teachers sent this out
    - AI: Need to include in newsletter

8:50am - Teacher's Report - Arion Espinoza

- Will be POC along with Amy Mathenia
- 7th grade science teacher - 20th year of teaching
- Thank you to PTO for teacher lunch, travel mugs, coffee cart
- A few highlights from teachers
  - 8th grade science - working on hands on labs - energy and forces
  - 7th grade science - started Ecology unit. Will be starting the brine shrimp lab - students will study salt concentration versus hatch rate. Teachers share supplies so do it different weeks. Thanks to OCC/PTO for financing this
  - Robotics - Mr. Ritter - Students receiving robotics kits
    - Revamped kits thanks to STEM fund a need a couple years ago
    - Mr. Ritter taking over woods. 6th grade wheel - starting wood carvings

8:54am - Treasurer's Report - Barbara

- 2025-2026 Year End Highlights
    - Total income: $170,461
    - Total Expenditures: $185,003
        - Spend down year over year surplus of $14,542
    - Available surplus for 2026-2027r: $73K
- Every program was 100% on budget last year
- Passthru Programs - goal is to get Afterschool sports to net zero. Spending down $84k surplus and slowly raising fees over next two years
- Drama has $6k seed money
- 2026-2027 Proposed Budget
    - Goal: $175,000
    - Have already spent $22k on teacher Supply Grants and $3.3K on staff welcome back appreciation
- Considering a couple field trip ideas which will help bring down surplus
    - Ex: Outsiders play in SF for 7th and 8th grade
    - 6th Grade - Egyptian exhibit at DeYoung
- OCC Tracking

9:06am MPAEF & OCC - Lindsay Nalevanko and Cristina Gibbs

- OCC kicked off at HV BTSN
- Goal is to raise $4.1M among 4 schools
- Increased suggested donation from $2k to $3k
    - Brings us on par with other local school asks
    - First increase since campaign launched in 2019
    - Months of discussion and analysis went into this
- Feedback: Teachers did a great job of talking about OCC impact. Very heartfelt
- Dates
    - Sept 25 - last day of OCC
    - Oct 13-16 - Dine Out (Teacher conference week)
    - Nov 14 - Wine Walk (1-4pm)
    - March 20, 2027 - Auction Party
    - May 23, 2027 - Schoolhouse Rocks Run & Festival
- 45th birthday of MPAEF (est. 1982)

9:30am - meeting adjourned

PTO Executive Board Members 2026-2027

Co-Presidents	Andrea Henry & Michelle Eakin	Principal	Danielle O'Brien
Co-Vice Presidents	Kathy Cronin & Tosin Falasinnu	Parent Engagement Coordinator	Christina Vitale
Treasurer	Barbara Nguyen-Vu	Student Community Coordinator	Lindsay Nalevanko
Vice Treasurer	Josie Cheung	After-School Sports Treasurer	Joyce Wong Kanemitsu
Financial Secretary/ Data Tracker	Jory Macdonald	Parliamentarian	Jen Baskin
Recording Secretary	Lisa Rakowski	Staff Appreciation Coordinator	Danielle Zienka
Communications Chair / Volunteer Coordinator	Julie Hartstein	Teacher Representative	Aimee Mathenia Arion Espinoza
Auditor	Mick Johnson	MPAEF Liaisons (non-voting)	Cristina Gibbs Lindsay Nalevanko
MPCSD Board Member Liaison (non-voting)	Jed Scolnick		

Bylaws:
https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1731451023/districtmpcsdorg/yssysb323aznlvxos63h/REVISED_2024-2025HillviewPTOBylaws.pdf