

Hanna Woods Elementary
Parent Teacher Organization
720 Hanna Road
Manchester, MO 63021

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2026
Meeting Time: 6:30pm
Meeting Location: Hanna Woods Commons PLUS Livestream

AGENDA

I. **Guest Speakers**
   a. Dr. Melissa Schneider, Parkway Superintendent
      i. Prop P Facts + Information
      ii. How did we get here?
         1. Inflation – buses, healthcare (though $8M shift onto employees first time in 10 years, now set to go up $2/year; had most expensive option, but now 2 options)
         2. Hancock Amendment – 80s legislation; 92% of schools are locally funded; limit to what school can collect even if assessment high; either 5% or equivalent of CPI – whichever is LESS; involuntary pull tax rate back to ~3% now
         3. Senior Tax Freeze – what is going to backfill that loss of taxes? Pulled in $3M less in one year, extrapolate that out
      iii. Emphasis on local taxpayers – cost to educate students is ~$16000/yr; we get very little from state or county; state's formula is different for each district
      iv. 10-year forecast – funding does not keep up with expenditures, widens to $75M shortfall over next decade
      v. $275M is total operating budget
      vi. For example, $3M covers all of transportation, or all athletics; $6M covers all fine arts
      vii. What do we see coming?
         1. 25-26 year cuts in staffing, building budgets, $0 in carryover instead went back into operating
         2. In 9 months will be running in the deficit
      viii. Listening sessions with ~180 people in all areas of the district
         1. People said to protect student activities
         2. Cut around the student experience
         3. Seek a sustainable path – don't have this conversation again in 2 years
         4. Maintain Parkway quality and value
      ix. A 46 cent levy could balance out for a decade; not too much or too little

x. Will be on the Nov ballot
    1. Staffing – recruiting
    2. Safe Schools – locked doors, security staffing
    3. Student curriculum
    4. Stability for a decade
xi. This is NOT a bond issue; bond is permission to continue in its debt service at the same amount of payments even though original bond is ending; ex parking lot, capital projects, doors, etc. It is illegal to take bond money and pay for operating costs, can only use for certain projects
xii. $1 per day at 46 cent tax
    1. Are seniors in the senior tax freeze going to get a higher tax amount? NO
    2. Parkway's tax rate is 2nd lowest in the County
xiii. Hancock's effects – some years we didn't win so $ amt keeps going down
xiv. If Prop passes, funding would exceed expenditures, more so in the early years and would level out around the 10 year mark IF we hold spending steady
xv. Last time Parkway had this problem it was 20 years ago and asked for a levy then but it lasted 20 years
xvi. Key takeaways – financial forecast, proactive measures to listen to community, and on Nov 3 will be on the ballot for 46 cents
xvii. At Parkwayschools.net, a FAQ being generated
xviii. Question: What kind of transparency will be around the distribution of funds to make sure equitable in all areas of the district
    1. How are we staffing within each building to meet the needs of the kids?
    2. Dr. Schneider can come out and discuss with the schools
    3. Operational budget doesn't pay for grounds or capital
xix. Question: we have 5-6 elementary schools very close together, how are we thinking about growth/contraction?
    1. Facilities and demographic studies being done right now
    2. ~16000 kids, but US trends are trending downward; schools also built all around the same time might breakdown at the same time
    3. Will need to have listening sessions, cannot have rumors

b. Jessi Fillingham, Citizens for Parkway
    i. Former Hanna parent
    ii. Encourages voting (Parkway can only state factual educational items)
    iii. Website – 3 ways to get involved

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1. Donation – need $40,000
2. Yard signs
3. Canvassing, not necessarily door knocking, gather at doors of people who are most likely to vote yes
4. Most don't answer, just leave items
5. Donations are also going to mailing cards
6. Website up and running
7. Educating those neighbors without kids
8. CitizensForParkway.org

II. Welcome – Denise Boewer, President

a. Back to School Bash Recap + Chalk the Walk
   i. Chalk the walk amazing until it rained
   ii. B2S Bash – mobile build-a-bear; will have DIY kits for purchase on the website soon; raised $246

b. Birthday Gram Update
   i. Sold online now; $347 so far

c. Book Vending Machine Update + Final Totals & Student Participation
   i. Board vote - $5,022 for vending machine, needed ~$6500; Are we in favor of using money from other places (i.e. cash from $1500 from book fairs; penny wars); take PTO money now to pay for it and raise later
   ii. We have $4500 in Scholastic dollars; whatever class wins gets a book from the book fair
   iii. Whatever doesn't cover the machine, use new Penny War challenge + Scholastic cash
   iv. Vote – majority voted yes (6) out of 10
   v. Will arrive by Winter break

d. Class T-shirt update
   i. Sizes already collected
   ii. Quote will be comparable to last year
   iii. Goal to have in-hand by end of October

e. Outdoor Movie Night Recap
   i. Raised $590

f. Color Run Information

i. Need prep time for the November ~~Fri, Oct 30th~~ event
ii. During school day, all students participate, regardless of fundraising
iii. Will include incentives
iv. Will need volunteers to take time off work
v. Can we get a committee – need to get a time frame first!
vi. Can folks from South HS help us – ideas or NHS kids, or HW staff?

g. School-wide talent show (used to be for 5th grade only); April 9th ; try to make it a night as a fundraiser with tickets sold; include concession stand
   i. Need a 5th grade planning date (Kathy Lui taking that on), to occur at night
   ii. Final date needs to be decided the Spring BEFORE school lets out

h. October 7th – Red Robin dine to donate (half day)
i. Dinner for conferences – maybe Bartolino's?
j. Food pantry challenge (Oct 12-16, over Taste of Hanna, use non-perishable item as an entry price)
k. Roadhouse gift fundraiser is in November – needs a more detailed explanation

III. Principal's Report – Mr. Smith & Mrs. Rebert

a. School + Building Updates
b. Mr. Smith – student growth and student achievements
   i. HW improved 15% from 48 to 63% in reading and writing
   ii. Math – 60 to 63%; year before HW recognized by SLU for its growth
   iii. Taste of Hanna coming up Oct 14
   iv. Possible partnership with Magic House
   v. Marquee has died; talked to Jason Brooks Chief Operating Officer; more expensive than HW can afford (i.e. Oak Brook quote was $40k)
c. Mrs. Reibert
   i. NWEA – MAP last year as a building ELA 419 from 390 – very large growth
   ii. NWEA – Math last year increase 12 points (year before was 15 points); math 418, science 419

IV. Treasurer's Report – Jeff Ludwig / Denise Boewer

a. Fiscal year 2025-2026 final figures, compared to fiscal year 2026-2027 budgets
   i. Last year spent $5500 more than we took in bc didn't hit fundraising goals
   ii. So this year more conservative fundraising goals
   iii. We've been spending down our reserves, and eventually we need to right-size spending
b. Diversification of fundraising streams

c. Conservative use of reserves moving forward
d. Streamline pathway to submit debit card purchases, pairing with expense category

V. Fundraising Coordinator's Report – Afton Fendelman & Brandy Drago

a. Tiger Dining Updates
    i. Papa Johns earned $71
    ii. Qdoba $108
    iii. Papa John's
    iv. Idea of trying to get Culver's date set, but also need families to work it
    v. Working really hard to get McDonald's, even staff to work it
    vi. All day Red Robin Oct 7th (half day school); will need flier; 20% sales
    vii. Goal for whole year is $500 (Texas Roadhouse is a separate budget)
b. Date Changes for Trivia Night
    i. Looking at more cost effective locations, like St. Joe
        1. Andres was $5000 just to host
c. Glow Dance
d. Fall Fest + Tiger Boutique = Tiger Carnival in the Spring
e. Question: what is holding us back from raising funds?
    i. Approx 1/3 community participate
    ii. Possible cultural / language barriers
    iii. Trying to find fundraisers that might fit for different families; we're diversifying
    iv. Turnover, fluid population
f. Question: are we cutting back on teacher appreciation this year
    i. Not this year, but may have to in the future in a re-tooled manner

VI. Staff Appreciation Coordinators – Jessica Petrus & Ruth Neiderman

a. Book Fair:
    i. Week of November 9th -13th
    ii. Pushing *All for Books* donations, contests, reminders, etc.
        1. Incentive for most raised – class gets new book each, bookmarks
    iii. Cash accepted this year; this year in Spring will use cash towards vending machine
    iv. Two (2) late nights
    v. Scholastic Dollars balance, use of expiring dollars

b. Staff Appreciation:
    i. Recap of Aug 'welcome back' drink bar for teachers
    ii. IT day, Custodian appreciation day celebrations

iii. Recap of Dolly Carton cart 9/25
iv. Catering for teachers at conference night in Nov

VII. Volunteer Coordinator Report – Mallory Prost & Kristen Pierson

a. Volunteer Coordinator agenda items:
   i. Thank you to movie night volunteers
   ii. Grounds clean up thank you's
   iii. Library and music volunteers update
      1. Volunteers need to be fingerprinted for these bc during school hours
      2. 1hr time blocks, consistency
   iv. How many volunteers for color run? Times etc.
      1. South HS, NHS students
   v. Volunteers for class T-shirts + food pantry challenge in October taken care of
   vi. 4th grade stock the lounge (counting backwards)
      1. New list and new link needed
   vii. Copy Crew details needed
   viii. Upcoming October Celebrations
   ix. Currently have 18 folks signed up to help among all events
   x. Ask Ms. Bickert for insights for Color Run
   xi. Slots for book fair sign up

b. Party Committee:
   i. Planning volunteers will be contacted this week
      1. Same activities for every child in the school
      2. Don't have to come to the party to help plan it
      3. Have a head for each grade level
      4. Don't have to be parkway approved to come to the party bc Ms. Bickert will distribute the form
      5. Nov 24th, day before Thanksgiving
      6. Sign-ups will come through the SCHOOL, not PTO
      7. Planning meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 12, 6 PM

c. Food Pantry challenge – Oct 12-16
   i. Falls over Taste of Hanna, so going to ask attendees to bring an item

d. Denise and Ms. Lui heading up the 5th grade planning committee
   i. Field Trip
   ii. Day of Service (on April 22nd on Earth Day)



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VIII. Boy Scout Update – Jim Ott

a. Aug 19th held Back to School BBQ at Manchester Park
b. Sept 16th had first pack meeting of the year
c. Sept 26th was Manchester clean stream (2-3 scouts attended)
d. Oct 9th–11th is the Fall campout at Robertsville State Park
e. Oct 21st is the next pack meeting – don't have to register first
f. HW PTO is the sponsor for Boy Scouts

IX. Board Attendance

a. Denise, Nicki, Mallory, Kristen, Jessica, Brandy, Afton, Lauren, Megan, Ruth

X. Non-Board Attendance

a. Heidi Frenzel
b. Patricia Hessenflow
c. Jim Ott
d. Catherine Heston
e. Claire Rubemeyer
f. Michael Friedman
g. Elizabeth Pratt
h. Aleta Tate
i. Alex Woodson