



### **HGS Parent Forum Meeting Minutes**

**Date/Time:** October 9, 2014/ 6:17pm  
**Place:** HGS multi-purpose room  
**Chair:** Megan Swann, PF vice-president  
**Number of Members Present:** 19 members, 6 officers John Ezbiansky, Megan Swann, Kathy Platt, Nanette Colachino, Anne Cummins, Kerri O'Boyle

#### **Business:**

- Amy Kenton's resignation (M. Swann)
- Family fun events: Adventure Zone, Roba's, Laser Tag, Timmy's Town Center (M. Swann, Jenny Whittaker)
- Halloween party (M. Swann)
- Classroom Parents/Volunteers, Wishlists, PF Directory (A. Cummins)
- Fundraising Events: Magazine sales, BINGO, Box Tops, Montage (K. Platt, Jamie Jennings, Darren Bamkin)
- PF PR Committee, blog, Facebook (M. Swann)
- Treasurer's report (N. Colachino)
- Comments from Maria Rozaieski, Principal
- Guest speakers: Larry Baracaia, special education and Jeri Hubbard, Title 1
- News and Updates on issues previously raised by parents (Maria Rozaieski)

**Meeting start:** 6:17pm  
**End Time:** 7:29pm

**Topics:**

1. **Megan Swann** reiterated that Amy Kenton has resigned from being the principal of HGS and Maria Rozaieski has taken her place.
2. **Megan Swann** spoke of recent family fun events held at Roba's and the Adventure Zone, which raised \$155 for the PF.

**Jenny Whittaker** has arranged a HGS Laser tag night on 10/30/14 at Dickson City Laser Tag. It is appropriate for kids ages 5 and up and children are encouraged to come in costume (without weapons or long capes/gowns). PF will get \$2 per laser tag game and \$1 per rock climb per child.

**Megan Swann** announced there will be an outing at Timmy's Town Center in early to mid-November geared towards the younger children. Details to follow.

3. **Megan Swann** announced there will not be a big school-wide Halloween celebration with games in the auditorium. There will be parties in the classrooms organized by the classroom parents and a parade around the exterior of the school at 9am.
4. **Anne Cummins** asked for parents with experience in publishing or layout to consider making a year-long commitment to the school yearbook. The senior class will not be helping this year due to their responsibilities with the school newspaper.
5. **Megan Swann** introduced the concept of the school's first PF enrichment program, the Kindness Club which provides community service. It is a volunteer-based club. Discussed possibility of a Kindergarten student in PP1 being first recipient. Other possibilities include visiting retirement homes, snow removal for neighbors, soup kitchen. Parent volunteers are needed.
6. **Anne Cummins** discussed the status of classroom parents. Each class has two and specials have 1-3 based on needs. There will be a note sent home in folders announcing who your classroom parents are.  
The online signup is still live on HGS website. There is a box to click for PF school directory. You must signup here if you want your information included as the school can not give it out. The directory will hopefully be up and running by the beginning of November.  
Wishlists have been taken over by **Jamie Jennings** this year and the link is on the school's webpage. Teachers update often when new supplies are needed.
7. **Kathy Platt** announced that magazine sales made \$1100 profit to the PF and \$180 in online sales which we still have yet to receive.  
Box Tops are being taken over by **Joy Riviello** and **Lori Lane**. The

first deadline is next week and there is one more in the spring. BINGO currently has 100 tickets sold. There is no prize below \$145. It has raised \$3005 minus the cost of BINGO cards. Cards will be sold the day of the event and it is B.Y.O.B. There is a basket raffle and the door prize is a "Basket of Cheer." Donations may be left with Patty Biko in the front office.

Montage Ski Membership fundraiser is being run by **Jamie Jennings** and **Darren Bamkin**. Sales of the memberships will be through November 30, 2014 for 2014/2015 unlimited winter membership, snow tubing and 2015 summer membership. Montage Ski Club...possibility of two different nights. **Jamie** would sell tickets in the lobby on Thursdays after school until 9pm. **Darren** is looking into Sundays from 12pm to close. More details to follow. Elk Ski Club starts in January on Friday nights and is \$150 for the season.

8. **Megan Swann** spoke about forming a public relations committee which is yet to be formed secondary to just finalizing volunteer lists.  
The PF has started a blog at <http://hgsparentforumblogspot.com>  
Signup to receive emails regarding upcoming school events, etc.  
The school Facebook page has been revamped and will be run by the PF to blast out important info. "Like" it at Howard Gardner MI Charter School Parent Forum.
9. Treasury report given by **Nanette Colachino**.  
Last statement in Sept. 2014 \$1871.57  
+\$3005 BINGO  
+\$155 Adventure Zone  
+\$1131.49 magazine sales  
Current balance: \$5968.71
10. Comment from **Maria Rozaieski** introducing herself  
**Larry Baracaia** is the special education coordinator. He defined his role as working with the child study team when teachers or parents ask for a screen to be done to determine if the child qualifies for special education services including adaptations and modifications to be made in the classroom. An IEP is developed and the team determines what will work best for the child. **Larry** offered to help read and explain IEP to parents. He sent out a letter/email on Friday, 10/3/14 to parents of children with IEPs to fill out a survey. the state is currently auditing which occurs by random selection at least every 6 years.

**Jeri Hubbard** gave a PSA telling parents to leave closed captioning on TV as it is proven to help kids realize that written and spoken word go together.

11. News and Updates given by **Maria Rozaieski**.

- Another aide has been hired to assist a few days a week for those classes sharing an aide
- OneCall Emergency system is in place. An email was sent to parents and sign up is completed online. It will also be used for weather related school delays and closings. If the school is in lock-down, there will be no communication until the school is secured. Lock-down is a danger inside the school. Procedure is a code is called and staff secures students in designated areas and wait until secured. Drills have been occurring to ready students and staff. Lock-out is a danger outside of the school.
- Outside play for extended day children is currently a “safety concern” due to staff to child ratio, since going to the bathroom requires one teacher accompanying the student/s. Possibility of parent volunteers discussed, but it was noted that outdoor recess happens everyday.
- Paper towel dispensers are still too high and younger children are not able to reach when they wash their hands.
- Of the pending technology issues that have been brought to the school’s attention, Maria commented on the installation of a stronger router so that devices may be used at the same time. The Parent Forum will continue to follow up on the progress of the other tech issues.
- The issue of indoor recess came up. The Parent Forum will look into this in more detail and try to meet with whomever responsible so to get feedback from the next Parent Forum meeting. The concern is the indoor recess is not physical activity, but coloring.

Any questions or comments can be made to the PF at [parentforumhgs@gmail.com](mailto:parentforumhgs@gmail.com) and can be anonymous.