



## HGS Parent Forum Meeting Minutes

**Date/Time:** April 27, 2016

**Place:** HGS multi-purpose room

**Number of Members Present:** 9 members

### **Agenda:**

- Teacher Presentation: Steve Kurilla and the Ukulele Club
- Approval of March Minutes
- Finding of Parent Forum Survey
- Announcement of new officers/ On-going search for a new Secretary and Volunteer Coordinator for 2016/2017 school year
- Field Day June 3, 2016
- Career Day 2016; Professionals still needed
- Treasurer's Report
- Questions/ Comments for the forum and Maria

**Meeting Start: 6:20pm**

**End Time: 7:00**

### **Business:**

- Steve Kurilla discussed the music program and the success of the new 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Marching Band. He is also running a Marching Band Scamps from 6/20-6/24 for students in 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade. Please contact him if interested. [Steve.kurilla@myhgsd.com](mailto:Steve.kurilla@myhgsd.com)
- Minutes were approved from the March meeting.

- Kerri O'Boyle thanked all of the parents that took the time to complete and return the survey and shared the Parent Forum Survey Results.

Parent feedback from the surveys received:

- 1) Concern: Tuesday is a bad day to hold the meetings.  
PF Response: We will schedule the meetings for varying nights rather than just on Tuesdays.
- 2) Concern: The meeting time is too early.  
PF Response: We will host one meeting at a time later in the evening as a trial.
- 3) Concern: There is concern about the financial situation of the school.  
PF Response: We acknowledge the concern and we feel that is a topic to be addressed at a School Board Meeting.
- 4) Concern: There is a request for an update on the search for a new principal.  
PF Response: We acknowledge the concern and we feel that is a topic to be addressed at a School Board Meeting.
- 5) Concern: There is short notice of the meeting dates.  
PF Response: the meeting times for the school year are in the minutes of the first Parent Forum meeting in September. They are also posted on the school website [www.howardgardnerschool.com](http://www.howardgardnerschool.com). In the event that a meeting needs to be reschedule due to inclement weather, we will do our best to get that new date and time out as quickly as we can. We will attempt to get the Agenda to the upcoming meeting out further ahead of time so that parents will have advanced notice of the topics to be discussed at each meeting.
- 6) Concern: The information shared in the meeting is always the same.  
PF Response: There are items that tend to flow from Agenda to Agenda as they require more than just a month's time to complete. We have made the meetings less formal and more conversational by eliminating the use of the power point presentation and the old arranged seating style. Those two changes hopefully will encourage parents to bring their thoughts and ideas forward in the future.

We are still brainstorming ways to provide child care during the meetings. We have asked any Seniors that need some service hours if they would be willing to entertain children in one corner of the Multi-Purpose Room during meetings. We have not received any response yet. Please contact Kerri O'Boyle if there is interest or any other suggestions.

- Kerri O'Boyle announced the new officers. She has moved into the position of President. Ilona Ezbiansky will be the new Vice President. We are still in need of a Secretary and a Volunteer Coordinator for the 2016-2017 school year. Anyone that is interested, please contact Kerri O'Boyle at [kerri.haza@gmail.com](mailto:kerri.haza@gmail.com) or the Parent Forum mailbox [parentforumhgs@gmail.com](mailto:parentforumhgs@gmail.com).
- Field Day will be 06/03/2016 this year. Aimee Adames ([kmamja6712@gmail.com](mailto:kmamja6712@gmail.com)) is chairing the event. Committees are being formed. There are only 10 volunteers at present. We are in need of more volunteers for the first half of the day, the second half of the day or the whole day. We will be using SignUp Genius and an email will be out shortly.
- Susan Hynds shared the Treasurer's Report. April income: \$434.55  
April expenses: \$851.76

Parent Forum received a Student Experience Request Form from Jade Volchoff requesting \$100 to purchase Bingo prizes for the April Positive Behavior Award Bingo Game. Parent Forum officers unanimously voted “yes”. Those in attendance voted on and approved two other Student Experience Request Forms:

- o Renee Dougherty requested \$400-\$500 (still looking into prices) for an ice cream truck to come to the school again as part of the May Positive Behavior Reward.  
All in favor? Yes. Opposed? No.
- o Megan Wolfe requested \$300 for a raised Learning Garden for the younger students. She has had a lot of success with a similar project with the Seniors classes  
All in favor? Yes. Opposed? No.
- Kerri O’Boyle reminded Maria that the next meeting is our last meeting for this school year and some of the Board members usually attend that meeting. The parents and teachers are given an opportunity to ask questions and/or discuss concerns with the Board members. That meeting is scheduled for Tue May 24 but may be moved to a different night as survey feedback suggested. We will send out the date as soon as it is determined.
- The first day of the new school year will be 09/06/2016.
- Maria handed out Reading Connection: Tips for Reading Success in the absence of Jeri Hubbard.