



HGS Parent Forum Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: Wednesday, September 14th 2016 at 6:00 PM

Place: HGS Multi-purpose room

Chair: Kerri O'Boyle, PF President

Number of Members Present: 25 members, 4 PF officers: Kerri O'Boyle- President, Jennifer Wolff- Secretary, Susan Hynds- Treasurer, and Renee Samuel- Fundraising Coordinator. Also in attendance, Maria Rozaieski-Principal. Ilona Ezbiasky-PF Vice-President and Larissa Allspaugh- PF Volunteer Coordinator were not in attendance.

Agenda:

- Welcome
- Introduction of the Parent Forum Officers
- Primary Teachers to present: Chrissi Polizzi, Ross Patane and Olivia Patane
- School Store: Joy Nelson
- Discovery Dollars: Stacy Nivert
- Volunteers: Parent Survey, Lunchroom Help
- Fall Bazaar: Vendors Wanted, Co-Chairperson needed
- Treasurer's Report: Susan Hynds (Teacher Disbursements, PF Vote for Chrome Books)
- Fall MixerDetails
- Questions/Comments

Business:

1. Kerri O'Boyle introduced the Parent Forum Officers and gave an overview:

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| President- Kerri O'Boyle | kerri.haza@gmail.com |
| Vice-President- Ilona Ezbianski | ilous@hotmail.com |
| Secretary- Jennifer Wolff | jennyvwolfie@gmail.com |
| Treasurer- Susan Hynds | susiq226@msn.com |
| Volunteer Coordinator- Larissa Allspaugh | larsy@me.com |
| Fundraising Coordinator- Renee Samuel | vinsmom09@gmail.com |

- A. She explained the goal of the Parent Forum (PF) is to help enrich and enhance the overall experience for all students at Howard Gardner. Many events, activities, and fund-raising initiatives occur throughout the year in order to accomplish that goal.
- B. The upcoming meeting dates and other important dates for the 2016-2017 School Year are as follows:

September 14th – PF Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
October 14th- PF Fall Mixer at 6:30p.m. @ The Waldorf
November 7th – PF Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
November 14th- Fall Bazaar at 2:00 p.m. @ The JCC
December 6th- PF Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
December –TBD Winter Holiday Celebration
January 12th- PF Meeting at 6:30 p.m.
January 29th- 3rd Annual Family Bingo @ The JCC
February 8th- PF Meeting at 7:00 p.m.
March 6th- PF Meeting at 5:30 p.m.
April 4th- PF Meeting at 6:00 p.m.
May- TBD Spring Mixer @ The Waldorf
June 2nd- Field Day

*Parent forum information can be found on the school website under the “about” tab.

2. Primary Teachers Present:

- A. Chrissi Polizzi, Ross Patane and Olivia Patane gave an overview of what they do in the classroom.
 - a. Group and Independent Lessons
 - b. Task Card Work- Independent works that are hands-on
 - c. Students help students
- B. Literacy Skills We are Learning at the Primary Level
 - a. Literacy Elements
 - b. Independent Reading
 - c. Creative Writing Stories
 - d. Learning about Time and Money
- C. Friendship and Group Projects

3. Title I Reading and Math

- A. A handout that was prepared by Jeri Hubbard was passed around by Principal Maria Rosaieski. Topics included in the handout were:
 - a. Conversations about school
 - b. After-school questions
 - c. What does respect look like?!
 - d. Strong Study Habits
 - e. Talking to kids about money

4. School Store- Joy Nelson

- A. Overview of the store
 - a. Run by 3rd and 4th graders
 - b. 2nd Year of this project and students love it
 - c. Sample items were presented
- B. Teaches the students valuable skills
 - a. Entrepreneurship
 - b. Business Skills
- C. Open Tonight and on Parent Nights. Otherwise, the store is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8-8:25 a.m. Joy is hoping to enlist the help of senior class students to assist.

5. Discovery Dollars-Stacy Nivert

- A. Stacy gave an overview of Discovery Dollars and all the participating places
 - a. A portion of each purchased gift card/ gift certificate goes right back to Howard Gardner, while parents simply need to purchase them at face value.

- B. Last year, over \$ 4,000.00 was raised from participating families.
 - a. This money goes into Scholarship Funds for families with certain needs
 - b. It also goes towards other areas such as maintenance of the garden, etc.
 - c. Proceeds are also used to help offset the costs of various school expenses
- C. The best part is that the purchase of Discovery Dollars does not actually cost us anything. It simply changes the way we pay for items. You can enroll right on your phone.

6. Volunteers

Kerri O'Boyle, speaking on Larissa Allspaugh's behalf, gave an update on:

- A. Parent Survey- Links can be found on facebook, the website and have also been sent in home with students in their folders. The deadline is September 16th, and once all the responses are received Larissa will then compile all the information and figure everything out.
- B. Lunchroom help- Mainly needed for the Pre-primary and Primary grade levels. Parents can use the Sign-Up Genius if they are interested in volunteering. The link to access this was sent home with the students and can also be found on the Facebook page.
- C. Box-Tops- The person who has been responsible for maintaining them in the past no longer is able to commit to this. Someone is needed to volunteer to take on the Box-Tops. Kristen McCann volunteered at the meeting to take over this role.

7. Fall Bazaar

A. Susan Hynds gave an update on the Bazaar, with 2016 marking its 2nd year:

- Kids activities will be available
- Various vendors
- This year it will be held at the JCC. This was an obvious choice as there is more parking readily available and an overall larger space for the activities.
- Vendor call sheets will be sent home in the student folders in the near future
- Co-Chair is needed- Nancy Petalver immediately volunteered to help
- It will be held on Sunday November 13th from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

8. Treasurer's Report- Susan Hynds

- A. Annual Update
 - a. Income Sources- \$13,056.78
 - i. Family Fun Night

- ii. Bingo
 - iii. Fall Bazaar
- b. Expenses- \$8,563.09
- c. Parent Forum is now considered a charity
- d. Net Income Surplus- \$4,493.69
 - i. \$2,400.00 of the above amount is being donated by the PF in the purchasing of 22 Chrome Books
 - ii. Vote is taken by Kerri O'Boyle- The vote is unanimous in support of donating the \$2,400.00
 - iii. Maria Rosaieski states that she will match that number so that the school can purchase even more Chrome Books

9. Fall Mixer

- A. Kerri O'Boyle gave an update on the Fall Mixer stating that it will be held Friday October 14th at 6:30 at the Waldorf. This is a nice, relaxing event that allows the parents to get together and socialize. It also gives the Parent Forum officers a chance to talk to some parents
- B. Kerri concluded with reminding everyone at the meeting that there are sign-up sheets available for all the different functions and events.

10. Questions/Comments- None