



January 11, 2023 HIGHCREST PTO EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- I. Call to Order: Called to Order – Megan Gemp at 9:17 am.**
- II. Minutes from November 2022 PTO Executive Board Meeting pending.
Please note there are no minutes from informal December 7 Executive Board Holiday Gathering at the Bottle Shop.**
- III. Principal's Report - Kelly Jackson**
- Updates on the Garden Team/Outdoor Classroom: Keep an eye out for a calendar of weekly workshop events with a sign up genius. Implementation of the Living Wall to come as well. Parent volunteers will be needed in the garden - stay tuned for more information!
 - On January 18, there will be a Parent Education series entitled Supporting Friendships and Connections.
 - Fourth to Fifth Grade Transition events / webinars are being planned. February 2 is the language webinar for new HMS parents. Note that orientation will be on the first day of school 2023. More information to come, including information on extracurriculars.
 - High Five concert coming up.
 - Students will be voting on the movie selection for the January Wilmette Theatre movie afternoon.
 - Museum of Science and Industry Field Trip happening this week.
 - Boys' volleyball information is coming out - with a 1.20.23 sign up.
 - Fun and successful Hawks' Day occurred after Winter Break; it was a community building day integrating social emotional learning skills for our students after a long winter break. Reconnects the students in their school environment.
- IV. Teachers' Report - Maayan Sloan**
- Thank you, thank you for the teacher and staff holiday gifts! Very generous and appreciated.
 - Discussion ensued as to PTO funding for languages, including Chinese programming. Each language receives \$250 / yr for programming.
 - Discussion ensued as to funding of potential new enrichment programs
 - Thank you to the PTO and parents for funding the MSI Field Trips!
 - Update on fifth grade activities: fifth graders are learning how to create websites and creating Google sites.

V. President's Report – Megan Gemp

- The Wilmette Theatre is sponsoring a movie on January 27 (early release day); however, this is not a PTO sponsored event. More information to come on the movie selection.
- All Holiday Gifts were delivered successfully - thanks to all who contributed!
- Construction of the HMS PTO slate for 2023-2024 is taking shape. Please pass along ideas for interested and committed parent candidates. Please note that a budget meeting will occur in mid to late February.

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ways and Means: Casey Brown

- Spiritwear update provided and discussion ensued with a potential spring launch for new designs and sales of legacy inventory.
- iGNITE donations are progressing - 91% of the goal! Discussion ensued as to the iGNITE goal. Thank you, thank you to all parents and families for your contributions. Without your contributions, enrichment programming like field trips to MSI and in school enrichment programming would not occur.
- Donations for Birthday Books are steady.

Enrichment: Rebecca Freeborn

- Museum of Science and Industry field trips are coming. Very exciting to have field trips again for our students.
- Discussion ensued as to Outdoor Classroom plans for the spring.

Special Events: Elizabeth Jensen

- Spring Party (formerly known as Aloha Spring) is scheduled for May 12 with a May 19 rain date.
- Will follow up to determine if the Parent Connections Party (combined HMS and WJHS parent party) may occur in late winter / spring.
- Nothing additional to report

Communications: Johanna Toppenberg (verbal report provided by Megan Gemp)

- PTO website updated; if you notice errors, please contact Communications.
- Discussion ensued as to advertisement for Skyline production and adding D39 Paddle Party information to Friday's Headlines
- Discussion ensued as to Spring rollout communication plan with WJHS

Community Services: Carrie Phillips

- More information re: Yearbook. Jostens website is live. Do not wait to order your student's yearbooks. Order today!!
- Valentine's Day breakfast for teachers and staff being planned.

Student Programs: Dan Magestro (verbal report provided by Megan Gemp)

- After school clubs are moving forward. Have three new coordinators coming on board.

- Chess, yearbook, and Skyline winter sessions starting this week.
- High Five, Debate registration opening up this morning.
- Boys' Volleyball ramping up - 1/20 registration with a 2/13 start date for 18 spots.
- School Store - Hawks Hut - Jennifer Engelhaupt noted that sales are going very well.
- Variety Show - March 17 show date confirmed; rehearsal schedule to come.
- Reading Challenge - Matt Aho will be the contact with a spring roll out.

VII. Treasurer's Report – Patrick Parmentier

- Updated financials were provided on Sunday, January 8 as well as the updated budget.
- Transition from PayPal on the A-Z app by the end of January

VIII. Adjournment (no time specified)

UPCOMING DATES:

- February 1 - 9:15 am Exec Meeting in HMS Conference Room
- March 1 - 9:15 am Exec Meeting in HMS Conference Room
- April 5 - 9:15 am Exec Meeting in HMS Conference Room
- May 3 - 9:15 am Exec Meeting in HMS Conference Room
- June 7 - 11:30 am Exec Meeting and Final Celebration - Evanston Golf Club