PTSA General Membership Meeting  
Tuesday, November 13, 2018 7:00pm   
Committee/Liaison Reports

After-Prom - Caroline Bodziak & Laura Munns

Committee meeting planned for end of November. Actively looking for volunteers to assist Lisa Solomon with Sponsorships and Social Media, and to shadow for positions that will be open next year, e.g. food and tickets.

Glory Days - Laura Munns.

I am setting up our month for Glory Days receipt collection for January.

Guidance Volunteers - Srini Gorantla, Vivian Amos

Once we get more info, we will start working towards getting the students their service hours.

Hospitality - Terri Gainey, Erin Lanthier

The teachers have mandatory meetings out of the building on Monday Nov 19, so Joelle Miller asked us to move the luncheon to TUESDAY Nov 20. The menu remains the same - loaded baked potatoes, salad bar, drinks and dessert. Look for a Sign Up Genius soon and help us treat the staff to an early Thanksgiving meal.

Loyalty Programs - Jennifer Hopkins

Membership - Trish Ververs, Nhung Tran

351 Families

795 Members

Mulch Sale - Mary Pearce

Still looking for someone to shadow me this year.

Reflections - Steven Barker, Deborah Bosilovich, Kimberly Pfeiffer

Promotion is ongoing. Applications are being taken. The celebration is planned for the Prism Concert on Nov. 14th.

Scholarships - Laura Munns & Amy Cargiulo

A lot to discuss. Due to financial tax regulations we need to decide whether to reduce the amount of each scholarship to $500 and have 20 of them or stick with the 10 $1000 scholarships and only offer them to students who are going to a college. We can not write $1000 checks to individual students. The problem with writing checks to colleges is that limits the scope of these scholarships to college bound students and they may only use the $$ for tuition Do we want to do that?

Amy and I met with Veronica Valentine, Team Leader of Student Services, to discuss and to begin revamping the application.

Student Services will continue to collect applications for us, however, we are working to put together a PTSA/teacher group who will make the selections and no longer leave that up to school staff to decide. Ms. Valentine said she has never been a part of a high school where the PTSA does not have a hand in selecting their own scholarship winners. Will utilize the Viking Backers Rubric in making selections, but need to decide the make-up of the group. Amy will chair this first year, as Laura has a Senior.

Senior Banners - Cindy Anderson

Nothing to report.

Staff Appreciation - Sandi Miller

We appreciated the staff in October in two different ways. We left a bowl of starbursts in the workroom for the staff. The bowl said, “We’re bursting with appreciation for you.” In addition, on October 25, we placed a special “gift” in each of the staff mailboxes. The card attached said, ‘Thanks for keeping our students *sharp*” and attached to it was a Sharpie marker. We will leave another treat in the workroom during the month of November for the staff, but will not doing anything else as the hospitality committee is planning a meal for the staff this month.

Student Directory - Cindy Carrico

Working to update script to manage data in the way we want. Paper is purchased, process in place, we expect to have hard copies ready to distribute when the Membership Committee distributes cards in December. HCPSS has given permission to post the Student Directory online in a password protected site that we are researching with the PTSA Web Masters.

Volunteer Coordinator - Erin Lanthier

Spread sheet of volunteers was sent out. Contact [erinlanthier@yahoo.com](mailto:erinlanthier@yahoo.com) if you didn’t receive it and would like it.

Website - Caroline Bodziak  
PTSA meeting info, e.g. agenda, minutes, handouts, is now available on the website. Investigating including the Student Directory in a password-protected area, and creating a “live” list for Safe Home Pledges so families can self report.

HCDrugFree Liaison Report - Sripriya Sundararajan

Mt Hebron had a team of students and parents at the HC DrugFree Drug Take-back day event Oct. 27.

776.3 lbs of Medication was collected at HC DrugFree’s Convenient Drive-Thru Site.

18 Bins of “Sharps” (Needles, Syringes and EpiPens) were also collected.

Total pounds of medication collected in Howard County on October 27, 2018 = 965.3.

ESOL Parent Liaison Report - Tara Anderson

Special Education Liaison Report - Alesia Richter

* Attended Special Education Citizen’s Advisory Committee (SECAC) meeting 10/29
* Next meeting will be 12/10 at Firehouse
* Speaker was Fran Bowman and Dave Ramsey
* Fran Bowman - Reading and Dyslexia
  + Recommended listening to Hard Words Podcast by Emily Harford
  + Talked about the science behind reading
  + Suggested teachers are not being taught the science of reading, which is not good for our students with Dyslexia and other reading disorders
  + For more information, please email [SECACChair@gmail.com](mailto:SECACChair@gmail.com) and Lisa Scott can provide you with contact information for Fran Bowman
* Dave Ramsey - HCPSS Transportation
  + All school bus service is outsourced to private bus companies
  + HCPSS Policy 5200 and 5220
  + Current legislation to put cameras on outside of buses to prevent people driving through bus stop signs/lights
  + Silver Equinox cars following buses daily to ensure bus drivers are successful with providing safe, reliable, and efficient transportation for students
* Upcoming Family Support Dates
  + <http://www.hcpss.org/special-education/calendar>