# **Hillside Avenue School**



**PTA Open Meeting**

# October 24, 2017

1. Call to Order
   1. 7:11pm
2. Approval of the Minutes
   1. Minutes Approved
3. Corresponding Secretary Report (reporting for September) – Jennifer Goodwin
   1. The PTA received thank you notes from the teachers for book donations from the book fair.
   2. The PTA sent engagement cards to Ms. Brown and Ms. Cullinane.
4. Treasurer’s Report – Shahnaz Ali
   1. Staring the month with a little over $23,000.00.
   2. Some bigger payments were put towards assemblies, Book Fair and Red Ribbon day.
   3. Our PTA membership is doing great and bringing in revenue.
   4. You can find a copy of the 2017-2018 approved budget as well as the Treasurer’s Report on the [HAS PTA](http://haspta.digitalpto.com/) website.
5. Elementary School Report – Mrs. Eulas and Mrs. Riggi
   1. Kindergarteners are becoming authors and writing stories where they are the stars! They have been discussing trees and weather in science.
   2. First graders are learning about sound in science. They particularly loved the drop chamber. They have made fiddles to hear different sounds. They are enjoying their reading and writing units and have started to explore math stories.
   3. Second graders are having fun with pumpkin themed math problems. They have been busy working on their personal narratives.
   4. Third graders are having a great time with their reading workshops.
   5. Fourth graders are really having a blast with their math and science programs.
   6. Fifth graders think the new science program is AWESOME! All the kids really, really love it and the teachers love all the materials that are now available to them.
   7. The elementary school teachers wanted to thank the PTA for a GREAT book fair and a wonderful Pumpkin Patch Event.
   8. Mrs. Waxman (via email) wants to thank all the parents for sending in materials for the new Makerspace Program. She asked to keep the donations coming! (list of what she can use is [here](http://haspta.digitalpto.com/)) The kids love the program and are having a blast.
6. Middle School Report – Mr. Maloney
   1. Thank you for the nice response to the DC trip meeting. Had a great turnout.
   2. The 8th grade website has important due dates for fundraisers and other important information.
   3. The pretzel sale had to be moved from Thursday to Friday this week.
   4. Thank you to all the parents for their support at Back to School Night. The 8th grade team was trying to shake things up and do things a little different. Feedback is welcome!
   5. On November 8th, the middle school will be having a Veteran’s Assembly.
   6. The Latin Classes and Social Studies classes are having a CSI/Julius Caesar event.
   7. The students have a lot of access to technology and computers.
   8. The middle school clubs are back and off to a great start!
   9. The 7th grade team has sent a survey to all 7th grade parents regarding the class trip. Please be sure to voice your opinion!
7. Principal’s Report – Mrs. Santa
   1. Thank you for the great Pumpkin Patch!
   2. There was a safety meeting today for K-5 students where 2 officers from the CPD came to discuss pedestrian, bicycle and Halloween safety.
   3. The elementary school is hosting a local author on 11/8/17. She will read her book and discuss the author process.
   4. The Halloween Parade is a go with Mr. Falisi leading the way with the drums.
8. Committee Reports
   1. Class Parent Committee – Dorothy Schoening & Sarah Clark
      1. There is a template letter/form that Class Parents need to complete and send in to their teachers before they host a party with food. The form requires pictures of labels and other information. The letter goes to Dr. Fogas, Mrs. Santa, the teacher, the nurse and needs to be sent in NO LATER THAN 2 days before the event.
      2. Class Parents forms will be available and updated on the [HAS PTA](http://haspta.digitalpto.com/) website.
      3. The Class Parents have $180 to spend on their class. Class Parents can ask for any kind of donations except monetary.
   2. Middle School Committee – Terri Hecht
      1. 6th Grade – The 6th Grade Reps (Kim Reilly and Cheryl Weaver) had a successful meeting with Dr. Fogas to discuss the proposed event. The social event is proposed for a Friday night in February (9th or 2nd) from 7pm-9pm. Activities will include: Mega Musical Chairs, Amazing Race, and Dancing.
      2. 7th Grade – The 7th Grade Reps (Michele Hulse and Lisa Pizzuta) had a successful meeting with Dr. Fogas to discuss the proposed event. The social event is proposed for Friday, March 16th from 7pm-9pm. Activities will include team and individual contests, trivia and dancing.
      3. 8th Grade – The 8th Grade Reps (Jana Battiloro and MaryKate Santulli) have been in contact with Dr. Fogas regarding adding a voting activity to the calendar. The proposed event would have the 8th graders vote on when they would like to have their “Class Night” dance.
      4. All information regarding what the Middle School Committee has been up to can be found under the Middle School tab on the [HAS PTA](http://haspta.digitalpto.com/) website.
   3. Mini Grant Committee – Mariah Gianakouros
      1. The committee has received all the grants and will begin to review them. There were less grants received this year.
9. Unfinished Business
   1. Thank you!! – Christine Daly
      1. Walk to School Day – Thank you to the Chair, Jennifer Goodwin and all the volunteers! Was a very well-run event.
      2. Book Fair – Thank you to all the people who stepped up BIG TIME to help out: Cady Tadros, Jen Silverman, Jen Stevens, and many, many more! So many people helped out to make the day a huge success!
      3. Pumpkin Patch – thank to Danielle Oxley. Went off without a hitch and was wonderful! Thank you!
      4. Mrs. Siciliano was on hand to discuss the Week of Respect. All HAS students (K-8) received a puzzle piece and were asked to decorate the piece with what they think respect looks like. The peer leaders and Mrs. Siciliano will put the 800-piece puzzle together and display it. She thanked the PTA for sponsoring the puzzle piece project.
10. Upcoming Events
    1. Red Ribbon Day is on October 26th. There is still a need for volunteers and small water bottles. If you are volunteering, please stay after the meeting.
    2. Trick or Trunk is on October 27th. Chairs Ayleen Rooney and Amy Warren asked for more volunteers to decorate their trunks. They have 13 volunteers and would love to have 25. Donations of candy can be dropped off in the main office. Non-allergy friendly candy will be donated to the CFD and the CPD.
    3. 4th Grade Bike Rodeo is on October 27th Danielle Oxley spoke on behalf of chair Kelly Patt. Everything is all set and ready to go.
    4. 4th Grade Family Engineering Night has had a change of date. It is now scheduled for November 2nd. Kathy Kennedy is running the event and asked that 4th grade parents please RSVP.
    5. Holiday Shoppe will be on December 7th and 8th. Kim Reilly is the chair for this event. Volunteers can sign-up [here](http://signup.com/go/MiWVkkZ).
    6. Teacher Soup/Salad Luncheon is scheduled for December 19th. Lisa Ford will be the chair for this event. Look for the sign-up page soon.
11. New Business
    1. Middle School Social Events
       1. Lisa Ford made a motion to use the 6th grade social event money for the 6th Grade Activity proposed by Kim Reilly and Cheryl Weaver and planned by the 6th grade sub-committee of the Middle School Committee. Kelly Kleinhandler seconded the motion. The motion carried.
       2. Lisa Pizzuta made a motion to use the 7th grade social event money for the 7th grade “This is Not a Dance” party on March 16, planned by Lisa Pizzuta and Michele Hulse and the 7th grade sub-committee of the Middle School Committee. Amy Warren seconded the motion. The motion carried.
       3. The 8th grade sub-committee of the Middle School committee would like to incorporate the use of the voting machines into a civics lesson. The voting would take place during Mr. Maloney’s social studies class. MaryKate Santulli made a motion for the 8th graders to vote for when they will have their “class night” dance. Michele Hulse seconded the motion. Motion carried.
       4. MaryKate Santulli made a motion to use money from the budget line “8th Grade Social Event” to pay for the use of voting machines. Melissa Keene seconded the motion. Motion carried.
    2. Kids Vote
       1. The PTA would like to add a voting experience to the PTA calendar in the future for the K-7 students if all goes well with the 8th grade voting.
    3. The PTC is asking for each PTA for $86 for a Parent Academy Assembly on “Raising the Resilient Child”. The HAS PTA has a budget of $200 for “Joint School Events”. Sarah Clarke made the motion to use $86 from the $200 Joint School Events for this assembly. Kelly Kleinhandler seconded the motion. The motion carried.
    4. Next meeting: Since the Middle School Committee was able to present their events to the members and have voted on them, there is no need for a November meeting. The next PTA meeting is on January 10, 2018
12. Open Discussion
    1. Consisted of a question about Trick or Trunk and announcement about Red Ribbon Day.
13. Adjournment at 7:55 pm.