



Dorothy Hamm Middle School

DHMS PTSA Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 16th, 2021 7:00pm (Video Conference)

I. Welcome and Introductions

- Debbie welcomed those in attendance, and shared an overview of the evening's agenda.

II. PTSA Business

- The DHMS PTSA recorded PTSA membership approval of the following items voted in November 2020 by electronic ballot:
 - DHMS PTSA FY21 Budget - Amended 11.17.20
 - DHMS PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes (10.13.20)
 - DHMS PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes (11.17.20)

III. APS Math Presentation

- Ms. Shannan Ellis and Dr. Stephanie Nichols provided an overview of the Middle School Mathematics Pathways, including the changes in thinking related to mathematics instruction and implications on students' mathematics pathways.
- The VDOE has shifted the definition of algebra readiness over the past decade and the progression of content knowledge as part of the Math SOLs.
- This shift has compacted the mathematics curriculum for those who take Algebra during middle school, and impacted the math courses offered to each grade level.
- With school closing due to COVID, math placement recommendations were delayed, and data showed extension required in Grade 6. In October 2020, Algebra readiness was determined once data was able to be collected.
- The 2020-21 APS math pathways for middle school can be found online: <https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/MS-Math-Pathways-SY2020-2021.pdf>
- High school math pathways can be found here: <https://www.apsva.us/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/HS-Pathways-SY21.pdf>
- Middle school students will take Math SOLs this spring 2021.
- Placement recommendations for the following school year are completed annually in June, which includes assessments, SOL scores, and student performance.
- Parent questions related to what course curriculums will look like next year as well as material that will be included this school year.

IV. President's Report (Debbie Pearson)

- The DHMS PTSA has used the \$5,000 Safeway grant to support DHMS families in need.
- The PTSA Board decided not to do a fundraising campaign this year, but may consider a target fundraising effort in spring. Parents are welcome to join the PTSA at any time.
- The DHMS PTSA donated \$1,000 to the CCPTA Grant Fund and \$500 to the Hoffman-Boston ES PTA.
- ACTION: Look for the electronic ballot this week to vote on this meeting's minutes and amended PTSA Budget. The deadline to vote is Monday, 2/22.
- The DHMS PTSA is researching additional outdoor seating options. Email Debbie if you are interested in getting involved.
- The DHMS Course Planning Night is this Thursday, 2/18 at 6:30pm for all grade levels.
- The DHMS PTSA will be hosting a Town Hall on Tuesday, 3/2 at 7:00pm.
- The next PTSA Meeting will be Tuesday, 3/16 at 7:00pm featuring student clubs. We will also vote on the PTSA nominating committee.



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V. AFAC Food Drive

- Donate food to AFAC through the DHMS Student Food Drive
- Drop-off at DHMS on Mondays and Thursdays from 3-5 pm through February 28th

VI. Officer Reports

- *Reflections*
 - Congratulations to DHMS winners who have advanced to the state level competition:
 - Literature Category: Outstanding Award - Nadia Lachhab
 - Photography Category: Outstanding Award - Anna Brodsky
- *VP Programs (Angela Huskey)*
 - The PTSA provided teacher appreciation treats to DHMS staff on Friday, 2/12.
 - The next DHMS Author Visit is scheduled for Monday, 2/22 - see the Phoenix Post for details.
 - The PTSA has awarded \$6000 in classroom grants during the month of December.
 - Reminder to donate plastic bags and bubble wrap to the DHMS green initiative now through April 15th.
- *VP Community (Heidi Gibson)*
 - The DHMS Treasure/Scavenger Hunt was postponed to spring 2021. Parents may email Heidi if interested in helping out.
 - Another DHMS Virtual Game Night to be scheduled in March 2021.
- *Spirit Wear (Holly Tenant Billy)*
 - DHMS masks will be available for pre-order via the DHMS EZ Form.
 - New banners to welcome back staff and students with the return to school will be coming in March.
- *Treasurer*
 - Debbie shared the monthly financial report from PTSA Treasurer Kami Ragsdale as well as the amended budget for PTSA Membership approval by electronic vote.
 - The changes to the budget include reallocation of funds between line items, with a net zero change to total funds.
 - The electronic ballot to vote on the amended DHMS PTSA Budget will be sent to the newsletter email list, and voting will close on Monday, 2/22 at 11:59pm. Only PTSA members may vote.

VII. Principal's Report (Ellen Smith, DHMS Principal)

- Ellen reminded parents to attend this Thursday's academic planning night, and thanked the PTSA for giving DHMS mugs and treats to all the staff.
- Ellen reiterated the updated APS camera policy that Dr. Duran shared in today's weekly update about encouraging students to turn on their cameras, especially during live learning and breakout groups.
- With the upcoming return to school, DHMS staff is planning for a safe return for students, including logistics for lunch and the option for outdoor lunch when possible.
- Parent chats are ongoing, as well as regular pick-up windows for books and supplies (unless school is closed).



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VIII. Upcoming Dates

- *New* Wed, Feb. 17 - Curbside Library Pick-up at DHMS (11am -1pm)
- Thurs, Feb. 18 - Curbside Library Pick-up at DHMS (3-5pm)
- Thurs, Feb. 18 - DHMS Academic and Course Planning Night (6:30-7:30pm)
- Mon, Feb. 22 - Author Visit: Omar Mohamed (10:00am)
- Mon, Feb. 22 - DHMS Parent Chat (4:00pm)
- Thurs, Feb. 25 - Middle School Conferences (after school)
- Fri, Feb. 26 - NO SCHOOL (Middle School Conferences)
- Tues, Mar. 2 - DHMS Town Hall (7:00pm)
- *New* Wed, Mar. 3 - DHMS Game Night (Time TBD)
- Week of Mar. 9 - 6th Graders Return to School for Hybrid Learning
- Week of Mar. 16 - 7th and 8th Graders Return to School for Hybrid Learning
- Tues, Mar. 16 - DHMS PTSA Meeting (7:00pm)

The meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.