



DHMS PTSA General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7pm

Held via Zoom

MINUTES

DHMS PTSA General Meeting Welcome and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Lindsey Englerth, PTSA VP, Community. All attendees were notified that the meeting was being recorded.

Approval of January meeting minutes

The meeting minutes from the February 13, 2024 DHMS PTSA general membership meeting are available online on the DHMS PTSA website. There was a motion to adopt the meeting minutes, which was seconded and approved.

Approval of Nominating Committee

Olga Kasyan, Diane Lee and Heather McIntyre have been nominated to serve on the nominating committee to identify volunteers for the 2024-25 school year. All members participating in the meeting voted in favor to approve those three volunteers.

Principal's Report

Principal Smith highlighted the activities occurring in the fourth quarter of the school year:

- Track/Swim/Dive began a couple weeks ago and the teams are experiencing much success so far.
- SOL Testing begins this week.
- End of year activities, specifically for the eighth graders promotion planning are underway.
- Upcoming Events – Frozen Jr. will be shown Thursday, Friday and Saturday.
- Dance – May 3rd from 6:30-8:30 – Sneaker Ball
- Spring Awakening - The community recently celebrated Iftar (Breaking the Fast) which was highly successful. This was the first one but there will be a second Breaking the Fast Celebration with the Jewish community members.

Green Team Update

Heather Shinn provided an update on the Green Team activities since the last PTSA meeting:

- The committee is again asking for donated sneakers and cleats from the community. In the fall, the committee received 127 pairs of shoes and so far has collected 45 pairs this spring. The collection is ongoing through the next month and members were encouraged to donate lightly used sneakers and cleats for this effort.
- Trex Plastic Film Collection – The PTSA met its goal of 1,000 pounds of donated recycled film. As a result, DHMS will be receiving a new Trex bench for the school.
- Hydroponics – This new system has been set up in the Teen Living Classroom. Vegetables are growing and the committee is getting ready to plan another crop this week. Heather McIntyre



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is soliciting suggestions for new crops to plant through this and locations within the school to plant. They are also looking for family volunteers to do the planting at their homes during the summer.

- The committee raised money through the Fields to Table program and is soliciting suggestions on how to spend these funds.
- Ms. Latanja Thomas provided additional updates on the Green Team projects for which the students are working on through the Green Team Club. Those projects included:
 - The Green Team Club is working to get Hamm identified as an Eco School by the National Wildlife Federation.
 - Textile diversion projects where the Club is collecting t-shirts and other clothes to be recycled and donated.
 - Paper/Cardboard Recycling – The school is now recycling paper and not cardboard in the classrooms. They are working towards a recycling program in the cafeteria for the next school year.
 - Zero Hunger Project – The Club has created new plots on the school's grounds to have seeds planted so that the resulting food crops can be donated to the Arlington Food Assistance Center. Ms. Thomas needs more soil and is looking for assistance on this purchase.

Volunteer Opportunities

The following volunteer opportunities were identified as crucial needs for the PTSA:

- Gardening at DHMS with Ms. Thomas.
- Host a hydroponics system in your home during the summer.
- Chair to lead the 6th Grade Welcome Party.
- Chair to lead the 8th Grade Promotion Reception.
- Principal Smith also mentioned that there may be a need to have a volunteer to monitor DHMS students at Woodstock Park, especially on Friday afternoons.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Amy Erwin reported on the income from March which included \$4400 from school pictures, spirit wear and dine out events. The expenses for March were just over \$2000 from the author visit, teacher grants and the back to school party. Currently, the balance is just over \$52,000. The known remaining expenses for the school year include teacher grants, teacher appreciation week costs, 8th grade promotion party and reception and supplemental uniform needs for certain DHMS sports teams.

Remaining Key Dates



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The last day of school is June 14th which is an early release of 12:05 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.