



Dorothy Hamm
MIDDLE SCHOOL

DHMS PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 7:00pm
Held via Zoom

DHMS PTSA General Meeting Welcome and Call to Order

PTSA President Lindsey Englerth welcomed attendees to the PTSA meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Secretary Update

PTSA Secretary Kristina Boehk made a motion to approve the PTSA meeting minutes for October and November 2024. The motion was seconded and approved by the membership attendees.

Principal's Report

Principal Smith provided school updates, including:

- Started the third quarter and halfway through the year
- Course request forms have gone to students and questions should go to grade level counselor
- Career Day for 8th grade is March 5 – speakers are needed and looking for variety of backgrounds
- Sports and club news
- Joined Food for Neighbors, a non-profit that collects and collates food from donor's door to DHMS for distribution to students
- New garden boxes coming to DHMS and will need help over the summer
- Student-led conferences: spring conferences are March 13 (afternoon) and March 14 (morning). Conferences are run by students. Presentations are prepared in Phoenix Time and allow students to reflect on their growth, share their goals, and share their skills. Students must attend conferences. Watched for Parent Square sign up from students' TA.

Spotlight Topic

In February, students have multiple opportunities to learn about DHMS history. Encore Theatre visited school to present to 6th and 7th students, and 8th grade students attended a talk with a University of Maryland professor. Staff viewed the story produced by Arlington TV about the integration of the school, called "It's Just Me" and many participated in a scavenger hunt to learn about relevant local desegregation history. Additionally, a group of staff visited the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

At tonight's meeting, attendees were shown a sneak preview of "Stratford Stories" which APS will post on their website following next week's School Board meeting. Students will have an opportunity to view as well. Arlington County (arlingtonva.us) also offers resources for Black History month for students and the community.

President Updates

Ms. Englerth went through upcoming events and calendar information and reminded everyone to check PTSA emails for details.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:35 pm.