



Dorothy Hamm
MIDDLE SCHOOL

DHMS PTSA General Membership Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 7pm
Held remotely via Zoom

DHMS PTSA General Meeting Welcome and Call to Order

PTSA President Lindsey Englerth welcomed attendees to the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 7:01pm.

School News

Assistant Principal Lauren Johnson shared information on a retirement celebration in honor of Principal Ellen Smith. Multiple activities are planned for Friday, May 15. She noted that the community will be invited to participate both on-site and earlier through video recordings via Dropbox. More details will be sent out.

Treasurer Update

Ms. Englerth provided an update on the PTSA operating budget.

Principal's Report

Principal Smith highlighted school news:

- Rising 5th graders recently visited
- Successful cereal box drive
- Successful Heritage Night event
- No school on April 21
- Q4 has begun and end of year activities quickly approaching

Guest Speaker

Ms. Poorvi Shah, DHMS Testing Coordinator, presented details on standardized testing, including:

- CogAT (Cognitive Abilities Test)
- Access Test for English Learners
- NWEA MAP Growth Assessments (reading and math)
- SOL Tests (Standards of Learning for VA Middle Schools)

Ms. Shah discussed how both scores and growth are considered as they hope for students to own their growth. Ms. Smith noted that the students present some of the testing results during spring conferences as another way to encourage ownership and understanding. In addition, Ms. Shah noted tips for families to prepare students for testing days and noted that parents can contact her with follow-up questions.

Events Update

Ms. Englerth noted upcoming events and reminded attendees that dates are included in Monday emails.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30pm.