2026-2027 PTSA Meeting

September 8, 2026
Meeting started: 7:02 PM EST
Meeting concluded: 7:55 PM EST
31 total participants
Guest Speakers (if applicable): Joel Gildea, ITC, DHMS PTSA

Kristina Boehk, President, kicked off the meeting sharing appreciation for the community dedicating time to attend the call. Kristina also reviewed objectives of the call.

Call for approval of June 2026 PTSA meeting minutes - motion unanimously approved by the attendees.

Open PTSA roles - specifically, we need help for the Teacher/Staff Appreciation, Science Fair, chair for Nominations, and assistant Treasurer. Kristina asked the attendees to please reach out to her if interested. Kristina also shared appreciation for several DHMS PTSA chairs who have gotten the school year kicked off on a great note, including the Back to School Breakfast, Open House Spirit Wear, Membership drive, and 6th grade family welcome party.

Treasurer's Report - Treasurer was unable to join; Kristina covered the update. Important to note - we're changing the request for Reimbursement, and the ask to have the forms submitted in a timely way.

Principal Knigge's Update - having a great start to the school year, and appreciation for the PTSA support for the back to school breakfast, and the Open House. Principal K collected very positive feedback from staff after week one. 1,017 students are at Dorothy Hamm this year, and had very little staff turnover this year (all positions are filled this year at DHMS). Principal K reminded parents of ways to stay connected via the applications (ParentSquare, Phoenix Family connection, DHMS Website)

ITC Joel Gildea - speaker spotlight - 4th year at Hamm. Previously held other roles within APS. Joel will have a table at Back to School night in the "nest" - the dedicated space near the Library. Joel plans to share all of the Digital Learning information session links posted to an accessible drive for families [LINK: Technology at DHMS - Dorothy Hamm Middle School] This year at Hamm, they've put an emphasis on not seeing the devices in the hallways. It helps students be focused on getting settled into class and being ready to use them as a support tool,

not as an exclusive tool for learning. Middle school changes include students taking on more responsibility for devices and learning, increased use of platforms such as Canvas and StudentVue. Important to note - This is the last year for students to use iPads - Kenmore and HB Woodlawn are using Neo laptops, and the district intends to transition all schools. Mr Gildea showed a video of SchoolAI and how DHMS students have used it, and ways to partner in ensuring appropriate and educational use of technology for students.

Principal K announced Quarterly Parent Chats and she'd like to embrace safe technology use into some of the dialogue.

Joel transitioned to a DHMS-specific technology and a review of the applications students and parents are able to access. Joel fielded some questions from parents in the chat, and via participation.

Mark Your Calendar segment - upcoming school closures, events, or need-to-know dates (picture day, future PTSA meetings), can all be found in the slides from the evening

Next PTSA meeting is October 13, 2026, and meetings will remain Virtual unless otherwise notified. Kristina and the board offered the community the opportunity to share if there are specific topics of interest, to cover at a PTSA meeting.

Kristina shared the last slide containing 3 important QR Codes! Join the PTSA, Shop the Spirit Wear site, and Stay informed by joining the newsletter.

Meeting concluded.