

HADLEY SCHOOL PTA
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2016 at 1:30 PM

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- No minutes available to approve.

II. FUNDRAISING:

- Yan's China Bistro fundraiser will be January 26 and 27. Designed to be around conferences when parents are around.
- Café Press. There are Hadley Logo items available on Café Press. The PTA gets a portion of each sale. Sara tried to also do items with a Swampscott Logo including the town seal, Thomas Younger said no to that idea. There may be the ability to do Swampscott gear with just text that is less Hadley oriented for a larger draw.

III. BOARD POSITIONS FOR 2016/2017: Jenn Dorsey

- There are many positions available for 2016/2017 these include President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, ASP Coordinator, etc. Please reach out to acquaintances on the play ground to get volunteers.

IV. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Stacy Phelan

- Roof work was done over break. It was done in one long day. Since there has been a bit of water, but it isn't clear if the water came in before or after the repair.
- There has not been any work on the boilers. We will be managing with the current boilers for the year. Someone comes in at 5:30 to check and be sure that the heat is working properly each day.
- Capital funds have been approved to resurface the hot top on the park side (in the back) of the building. Lighting for the gum was not approved.
- The school improvement plan went through the School Council on Monday. Next it goes to the School Committee then to parents. The main points are curriculum, health and wellness, and data collection.
- Katie Porter the STEM Coordinator will be at Hadley in January. She already has lessons for the teachers up on Google Drive. The 4th grade unit is 26 lessons with many components including a research project that will cross curriculum with ELA.
- Evaluations. There are 10 new teacher that all need observation and evaluation. Mrs. Phelan is impressed with the level of instruction she has observed.
- Mrs. Oxton has worked on the revised snack list. This met with resistance from some parents and teachers. This precipitated a long discussion on treats and class parties.
- Parking. Parking for teachers continues to be an issue. The town is looking to establish 7 spots on Monument (Town Hall side) for teachers.
- Homework policy. Mrs. Phelan gets the initiative from the Curriculum Director. Word study is different from the word lists of the past. This could include sight words, phonic rules, etc.
- Student Leaders. The 4th grade student leaders will be making "blessing bags" for the homeless. Fliers will go home to parents. Other PTA members suggested possibilities of birthday wishes boxes, personal care packs (tooth care, skin care).

V. LIBRARY:

- a. Some classes have 1 or 0 volunteers. PTA is worried that library may be canceled for those classes. Pam Angelakis suggests that teachers could help out. Mrs. Phelan and teachers agree that is already happening. Will continue to encourage. Christina Murphy states that there has been significant scrambling to cover library times. Looking for more volunteers to help in the library..

VI. OPEN QUESTIONS: None.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned.

A True Record.

ATTEST

KC Hubeny

HADLEY SCHOOL PTA
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2015 AT 1:00PM

I **Welcome and Introductions:** Melissa DeFilippi

- Minutes from meeting on Thursday, October 1 were approved
- Vote passed on changed MA PTA by-laws

II **Principal's Report**

- Student leaders: encouraging more community involvement
 - ⇒ October: My Brother's Table Walk for Hunger (raised over \$500)
 - (1) Leaders were in the local paper
 - ⇒ November: Clean-up Fisherman's Beach
- Update on school approved snacks
 - ⇒ Mrs. Phelan spoke with students after the Halloween parties and the overall feedback was positive. The kids were ok with the healthier snacks.
- Homework policy to be revised: District-wide
 - ⇒ Changes are based on practices for improving competency and fluency in reading and math
 - ⇒ Practice the skills that will improve their abilities and build confidence rather than worksheets that may not be at everyone's level. Focus on the fundamentals in or to make critical thinking easier.
 - ⇒ Want students reading at their individual level and reviewing math facts at their level.
 - ⇒ There will be a forum for parents to explain the changes and inform them of the language being used around these changes
 - (1) Choosing my "just right" book
 - (2) At home v.s. In school books (why there is a difference sometimes)
 - (3) Building reading endurance
 - (4) Reaching the students at their level
- Parking
 - ⇒ Problematic, and very stressful, for teachers because of resident only parking and residents being uncooperative on streets that are not designated "residents only"
 - (1) Calling the police to have cars ticketed
 - (2) Moving cars from driveways to street in order to prevent teachers from parking there
 - (3) Mean-spirited notes left on cars and FaceBook posts
 - ⇒ Mrs. Phelan explored this ongoing challenge and requested parking privileges at the following places but was denied for various reasons:
 - (1) St. Johns, First Church, Blaney School
 - (2) Double standard: residents can park in Hadley lot at night and on weekends, but Hadley teachers cannot park on streets during the day.
 - (3) At this point, this is a town issue. This is not an issue for the School Committee.
 - (4) If any teacher or parent has an unkind note put on their car, please share it with Mrs. Phelan.
 - (5) Next steps: open the Hadley parking lot to the teachers.
 - (a) Park by 7:45am
 - (b) Cannot leave until after 2:15pm dismissal
 - (c) Looking into lining up children on park side of Hadley
 - (d) A notice will go out to the parents before anything is put in motion
 - (e) Ideally a small group of parents will form to take this to the town

III Treasurer's Report

- The latest report has been posted.
- Only need five more PTA memberships to meet membership from last year.

IV General Board Updates

- Voted "YES" for by-laws
- To start discussing PTA positions for next year
 - ⇒ Form a committee to fill the positions

V Fundraising

- Bookfair went really well
 - ⇒ Of the total sold (\$5,660) Hadley gets 50% (almost \$3,000)
 - ⇒ Saving \$1,600 for teacher books next year
 - ⇒ Library received a lot of book donations
 - ⇒ Mr. Citino said the set-up this year look really nice – like a bookstore.
- Unos on 11/19
- Logo items (Hadley & Swampscott) will be available soon on CafePress
 - ⇒ In time for the holidays

VI Events

- Spooktacular went well / broke even
- Wellness Day is 11/12 – volunteers needed
- Turkey Trot is 11/21 – sign up by 11/10 for T-shirt
- Teacher Holiday Lunch is 12/11 in the library

VII Enrichment

- Waiting to hear about a grant for all-school performance (Rebecca Spellios)

VIII Communications

- Phone Pals
 - ⇒ 20 more signed up after first edition
 - ⇒ James DeFilippi is working on mass email capabilities

IX Member Announcements

- Jen Donovan is starting a marker recycling program at Hadley
 - ⇒ Free service to schools through Crayola
- Girl Scouts final sign-up event on 11/10 (need more girls to make an additional troop)
- Maura Lau is setting up Surf Dog
 - ⇒ Every grade has a binder
 - ⇒ 1-2 books at a time
 - ⇒ 2 bags/classroom
 - ⇒ Bag to be kept in the library

HADLEY SCHOOL PTA
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015 AT 8:15 AM

I. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Jenn Dorsey

- Minutes from meeting on Thursday September 10 were approved
- Elizabeth Erickson spoke regarding efforts to standardize the role of room parents, how much and the way money is collected for room parties and teacher gifts. She is meeting with Mrs. Phelan to create the procedures associated with being a lead room parent and there will be one lead room parent for each room as well as established dates and times for parties. Each room will have a lead room parent that teachers will coordinate with. That parent will delegate duties to other room parents.

II. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Storms of 9/30/15 lead to leaking in Mrs. Hounsell's room and the breezeway between the annex and the main building. The breezeway roof had been replaced during the summer. The company who did the work during the summer will install a bigger drain and pipe for getting water off the breezeway roof (pipe was cracked).
- New boilers will be phased in replacing some of the approx. dozen boilers used to heat the building.
- Mrs. Phelan will be attending a meeting regarding the roof this morning, Pam Angelakis, Dave Castellerin, Evan Katz and Garrett Baker will be in attendance.
- Mrs. Phelan noted that some parents have inquired about extending the lunch and recess time. She said there was research that indicated that having 30 minutes (instead of 20) was better. It allows for longer time to eat the foods that are healthier but take longer to eat (moving away from food packaged to be consumed quickly, but that is less healthy, and also that kids tend to eat sweets first, leaving healthier main lunch options uneaten). Now is an appropriate time to address this issue as this is a year for contract negotiations with teachers. It is the contract requirements of the teachers that make it complicated to change these times.

III. PTA NEWS: Jenn Dorsey

- Some tweaks will be made to bylaws to conform with the rules of the national organization
- Kelly Boudreault and Mike Citino will fill the teacher liaison positions this year
- Annie Pulaski noted book fair will be setup on 10/19 and run from 10/20-10/23. She requested feedback from the group on whether we take Scholastic dollars versus cash. There was a discussion with input from Melissa Upton and teachers (Mrs. Carr, Mrs Hounsell) that the quality of books available through Scholastic dollars is lesser than those available on their primary website.
- Robin Leopoldo noted the December teacher luncheon would be on regardless of whether there will be a craft fair or not. She told the teachers that were present that she is open to suggestions for what to serve and where in the building to have the luncheon. She also suggested an Open House for the library and social event for kindergarten parents. Dates were discussed as well as the viability to have Open House for Library on the same night the Book Fair has evening hours. Gargi Cooper will run the Spooktacular on 10/24. Leopoldo and Rebecca Spellios will be meeting with Mrs. Phelan to flush out dates of events for the year.

- Rebecca Spellios noted that she and Maura Lau are communicating with teachers from each grade to determine which sorts of enrichment programs they would like PTA to schedule this year.
- James DePhillipi almost done with Phone Pals
- Elise Dallimore Banks spoke about her involvement with foster parenting and encouraged anyone who might be interested to reach out to her regarding respite, short term or long term foster arrangements.
- Allie Oxton asked that the snacks at class parties adhere to the list of approved snacks she will provide to lead room parent to help avoid allergic and anaphylactic reactions.

IV. MEETING ADJOURNED

A True Record.

ATTEST

Rebecca Spellios

HADLEY SCHOOL PTA
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2015 at 7:30 PM

VIII. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS: Jenn Dorsey and Melissa DeFilippi

- The PTA board was introduced.
- Volunteer opportunities are listed on the “We’d love your help!” handout. Specifically, Jenn Dorsey is reviving the beautification committee. Any interested parties meet at the Surf Shop after drop off on Friday, Sept. 11. The PTA is looking for a vice president, any interested parties talk to Jenn or Melissa.
- The Room Parent program will be testing a new structure. Each classroom will have one lead or point person. There will also be a Room Parent Liaison who will work with Mrs. Phelan and the teachers and the lead room parents to have consistency in the school. Elizabeth Ericson will be heading this program.
- Melissa DeFilippi made comments on the role of the PTA at Hadley. PTA pays for enrichment programs. The budget for this year is \$13K. The PTA pays for extras in the school such as classroom bean bags, shelving, and rugs and shelving for the library. Dues are a major fundraiser for the PTA, please send in dues. Other PTA funding comes from Big Blue Bargains volunteering and free fundraising (Box Tops, Stop and Shop, Target, Shutterfly). Please consider volunteering with Big Blue Bargains or signing up for free fundraising.
- The meeting schedule is varied to accommodate parent and teacher schedules. Meeting alternate between morning, afternoon before pick-up, and evening.
- Phone Pals is now online. There is a link from the PTA website. There are paper forms available.
- To keep increase communication, please join the email list. A newsletter goes out on Sundays. Join us on FaceBook for brief updates and news.

IX. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT: Stacy Phelan

- There were many summer improvements and changes at Hadley this summer. The cupcake policy has gone into effect. Even in this short period of time there has been a difference in the amount of activity in the hallways. There has been painting, moving classrooms, and a major decluttering of the building. Every teacher did special work to make classrooms inviting.
- There are a few facilities changes left. Specifically, the boilers and the roof repairs have not been started. There will be a meeting upcoming between the Selectman and the School Committee that will hopefully provide more information. The asbestos in the building is an issue for the boilers. The pipes are wrapped in asbestos which makes a full replacement difficult. Looking at ways to retrofit without touching the pipes.
- Curriculum changes for the year. Readers Workshop is now fully implemented. All teachers will be receiving professional development. There will be internal and external support for the program. Universal Design is a curriculum development system that teachers will be getting professional development on as well. Hadley will be using an electronic, standards based report card this year. This is a new system that the teachers will be trained on. Hadley will also be piloting an electronic teacher evaluation system. The science curriculum is being revised this year. Kellee Bouldreault along with other district teachers are revising and creating new expanded science curriculum. The new library looks great. This was a major move. The large smart board should be installed soon.
- There have been improvements to the building’s technology. The district is trying to get WiFi into the school. There have been some barriers that are caused by the age of the building and potential asbestos contamination. The computer lab has all new MacBook Air computers and WiFi. The teachers’ computers have all been updated to Microsoft 7. This is a big improvement.

- There are 10 new staff members this year.
- Monday Minutes will continue this year.

X. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

KC Hubeny reminded all that ASP packets will be coming out soon. There are some great classes, be sure to sign up early.

XI. MEETING ADJOURNED

A True Record.

ATTEST

KC Hubeny