

HMS PTO General Meeting January 16, 2018

Welcome and Introductions- Alice Waverley introduced Executive Board and welcomed parents and speakers.

Old Business- Motion to approve November 15th 2017 meeting minutes made by Karin Rohn seconded by Mary Blue Henneman.

Principal's Report- Reported by Rocky May, Rubin Pena was attending a principals meeting. We are now mid way through the school year.

Rocky recently spoke to all students reminding them of usage rules for school technology and chrome books. He informed students he receives alerts when inappropriate searches are made and he will personally speak with students about those searches.

Opioid information went out to parents. Speaker is coming to speak to school to 8th graders only.

Tentative graduation day is grading day June 4th 2018.

PARCC testing in spring and there is concern for servers ability to handle all the testing needs at one time. Administrators are looking into doing a mock sign in to help work through problems before the actual test.

Committee Reports

Wrecking Ball Fundraiser- Karin Rohn reported 25% to goal already. Parents were surveyed and stated giving money would be more desirable than going to a fundraising event. It is a 5 week campaign. If you donate \$50 or more you receive a round car magnet that has Sparty in a hardhat.

SELAS- Alissa Messina stated toy drive before winter break was a success. Peoples Resource Center were the recipients of toys donated by HMS families. They were very grateful for donations.

WWII Day – Is scheduled for February 15th 2018- Earlier this year Leslie Smith and Heather Hester volunteered to host event. Details will be coming.

Speaker Presentation: “Top 10 Things Middle School Parents Should Know About College Planning”, Partners for Achievement

Kim Anderson- Director of Community Out Reach and parent of 3 children in our community introduced the presentation and main speaker. This information is meant to be a frame work for the process. None of this is necessarily meant to be shared with students but more information gathering for the parents.

Kevin Krebs- Founder and Managing Partner -Stated much larger pool of kids are going to college. Big name schools have lots of applicants. Most important, know your child's limits. Good health and well being is most important for continued success.

Colleges want to see kids that have made an impact or lasting impression in their community. Kids that start clubs or do service projects are a standout factor- students that take initiative or seek leadership opportunities.

Remind kids to journal their daily experiences. This will help them to remember their experiences for when they write for college admission. Schools are looking for intellectual curiosity.

Financial Aid Eligibility- When kids enter high school parents should get all personal financial documents together. This will save time later. Schools will want all of this. [FAFSA4castor.ed.gov](https://fafsa4castor.ed.gov)-U.S. Department of Education website to help you understand your options for paying for college. Website to determine financial aid npc.collegeboard.org- Northwestern net price calculator helps you explore ways to plan and pay for college.

cappex.com- helps you find ways to pay for college

fastweb.com- online resource for finding scholarships to help you pay for school.

scholarships.com- helps match you to scholarships

schoolly is an app featured on Shark Tank. Helps you navigate the scholarship process

Merit Aid-Financial aid based on academics only. Also look to school counseling offices for private scholarships

Remember to demonstrate interest for the schools you are interested in. Follow schools on social media. Build the relationship with the school you want. Visit the schools and spend time their.

Adjournment-10:54 am

Upcoming HMS Events and PTO Meetings

- Thursday, February 15th: WWII Day
- March 13th: PTO Meeting, “**Curriculum Topic**, TBD”
- May 8th: PTO Meeting, **Budget and New Board Approval**

Upcoming District and Community Events

- Monday, January 22 - World Changers Award Nomination Period Begins
- Tuesday, January 23 - Board Facilities Committee Meeting (6pm, District Office)
- Wednesday, February 7 - Opioid Epidemic Presentation for Parents and Students Middle School & Older (6:30-8:30pm, CHMS Gym)
- Thursday, February 22 - Young Writers Night (6-9pm, HMS)
- Thursday, March 8 - Summer Camp Expo (6:00-8:30pm, Prospect)