



General Meeting 2020-2021

Wednesday, November 18, 2020 | 6:30 PM | Zoom Meeting

MINUTES – DRAFT

Attendees: Whitney Stoebner, Lisa Riley, Nikou McCarra, Barrett Donahue-Mink, Ali Cooper, Heather Whitfield, Kathi Peters, Amy Seeburger, Ashley Christian, Shannon Hunter, Jen Vaden, Cathryn Estes, Claire Wrigley, Chi Tsai, John Holmes, Katrien Van Roosbroeck, Laura Gibson, Nicki James, Shannon Holy, Shivali Dhruv, Tina Reddy, Tracy Mossman, Uyen Vu, Veronica Presas, Vinita Allam, Amy Tissue, Carla Godina, Deidra Allen, Debbie Masters, E Larson, Geetika Moore, Michelle O'Neill, Nicki James, Noe Ramirez, Stacy Upchurch, Kristen Ankenbrand, Melissa Rodriguez, Lorri White, Tori ?

6:34 PM

- First PTA General Meeting of the year

6:35 PM President

- Agenda, and introducing the board
- Talk about projects, Treasurer will give report, Membership, Fundraising update, and how to stay connected
- Introduction of board: Pictures so you can put face with the name.
 - Each grade rep oversees that grade. We also have facebook groups this year for each grade to stay in contact.
- Examples of projects funded by PTA:
 - Garden in conjunction with Urban Harvest
 - Assemblies – we will have them this year. They will look different. Stay tuned for more on that.
 - Teacher requests – they each get an allotment throughout year.
 - Library supplies – furniture, library needs, scanners, etc.
 - Covid-19 – technology needs – we paid for webcams for all the teachers, will help all the kids. Headsets & clickers for teachers. Air purifiers for each classroom – hopefully, soon.
 - Teacher appreciation – weeklong in the spring, and also throughout the year – lunches, breakfasts, gifts.
 - Community building – usually have play dates and movie night. We are trying to be creative. We did a scavenger hunt. We are trying to come up with more ideas.

6:41 PM Treasurer's Report

- Budget numbers – not actual money collected
- Big fundraiser – auction. Also get money for spirit wear sales, and miscellaneous items. School supply sales. We do accept company and employee matching for donations, as a non-profit
- Auction generates 80% of revenue.
- Top 5 investments: teacher requests, garden, field trips/student enrichments, Covid safety, hosting spring fundraiser.
- Other investments – playground updates goes towards repairs, we've funded computer carts – we're supporting a limited version this year.

6:46 PM VP Membership

- PTA Membership Drive – going on NOW through Dec 16. If you've been at Harvard a while, you haven't paid dues do to long time ago decision. Now we have to pay national and state dues to be a voting member of the PTA. There are lots of perks to being a member.



HARVARD ELEMENTARY PTA

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- How to join – anyone can join!
- Incentive: Class with most joiners, kids get \$10 scholastic gift card.

6:49 PM Fundraiser!

- This year will look different – we are trying to do community building, and also fundraise for our school. We are trying to figure out what it will look like. We won't have the big party, but trying to make it fun. We'll have some dinners. We'll have one big night virtually for our auction. We are trying to do a couple events leading up to it, including one in Dec. Our teachers and front line workers are superheroes! Promoting safety and helpfulness. Trying to build community for new families and those trying to build connections.

6:52 PM How to stay informed: social media, website.

- Spirit night on Dec 3 with Dish Society
- PTA Newsletter – updated on a regular basis.
- We don't have Living Tree so we are trying to use a wide variety of platforms during this time
- Grade Level facebook pages – a great way to meet and get to know people. Grade reps are reaching out and answering questions. The facebook page is manned by volunteers who also try to answer all questions.
- Please JOIN THE PTA. It is new this year. Sign up on website.
- Volunteer! There are still opportunities to volunteer!
- Auction Fundraiser is a great way to get involved.
- If you have an idea to pitch to PTA – you can present before our PTA Board meeting.

6:57 PM Questions?

- If we have an idea to present before the board – like about the school's being forthright with information about Covid?
 - We have discussed with Admin. Our role is limited, and they are going with guidance with district. You may want to have discussion with admin or HISD.
- Admin lunch time chats: There was one today – VP Education took notes, will post. Nurse will provide most information, per Ms. Alaniz. We are hoping Nurse will do a Q&A. Pay attention to Admin Newsletters, there is info about the meetings. We are hopeful they will have a Covid communication meeting.

7:03 PM Final Discussion

- Please join PTA so you can vote!
- Gen Meeting in January will be planned

8:25 Meeting adjourned