**High Bridge Parent Teacher Organization**

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 18, 2022**

1. **WELCOME**
2. **HIGHLIGHTS/OLD BUSINESS**
   1. **Discount Cards**
      1. Finished with sales
   2. **PTO Membership**
      1. No new members
   3. **Spirit Wear**
      1. Pickup went smooth; a few didn’t pick up and Laurel dropped off
      2. Profits unknown yet; seemed like we sold more than usual because the holiday sale is usually the best one
      3. Will do another one in the Spring
      4. May order some to have on hand during the Spring order; will check finances
   4. **Raffle Centerpieces**
      1. Mrs. Gomez won at the ES
      2. Mr. Doerwang won at the MS
   5. **Middle School KNO**
      1. Cancelled for January 21
      2. Can’t have extra-curricular items until we’re out of the “red”
      3. Usually do a dance, but not enough time to put something in place even if numbers go down
   6. **Holiday Gifts**
      1. Given to Administration, Office Staff, Nurses, Crossing Guards and Janitorial Staff
      2. All very much appreciated
3. **FINANCE REPORT**
   1. See Finance Report
   2. Holiday expenses
   3. PayPal deposit was leftover pie sale money
   4. Paid Cultural Arts bill in December for $675
   5. Box Tops check came for $319.70 – not yet deposited
   6. Current balance is $12,214.28 – majority of this is money being held for next year so we can have a full budget when things open up
4. **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Dr. Hobaugh/Coleen Conroy
   1. COVID - Health Dept and State information changes rapidly
      1. School District is directing everyone to the school nurses for the latest regulations
      2. If parents vaccinate their children, please send in Vaccination Card so they can properly calculate amount of time needed for quarantine – scan and send to school nurse via email
      3. Too difficult to do both virtual and in-person well
      4. Absences will be treated as sick days but if they are out because of Covid, it’s considered an excused absence; no one will be held back
      5. Can the MS teach with Chromebooks open or have someone check in with students?
         1. More challenging because they are short staffed and subs can’t do this, but they are having teachers work with students when they come back
         2. Everything is posted in Google classrooms for MS – Mr. Kolton sent out a directive to all staff to update them as numbers started to rise
         3. ES is not using Google classrooms; would be on a case-by-case basis
      6. Main goal is to keep the schools open
   2. MS is still planning for Cultural Arts, environmental club, 8th Grade class trip, graduation
   3. Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) is moving forward
      1. ES has been doing Wingman & small groups with Mrs. Patane
      2. Wingman not at MS; created their own program
      3. Needs change year-by-year; MS is evaluating weekly as things come up
      4. Climate survey indicates needs; taken very seriously
   4. MS working on play right now
      1. Tech Week dates are set
      2. Will ask PTO to help with dinners those nights
      3. Probably no concessions because people will have to take their masks off, but we can do candygrams
   5. Planning for MS sports – baseball and softball
   6. TREPS will be happening the Friday before Mother’s Day, held outside
5. **SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS: February 7 & 15**
6. **NEW BUSINESS/UPCOMING EVENTS**
   1. **February KNO**
      1. Date was tentative for February 4 but looking at numbers, not likely to happen
      2. Parent volunteers would need to be vaccinated or do a COVID test through the school – parent would need to sign a consent and nurse would review/approve
      3. Looking into doing something for the Spring, possibly a dance or something outside
   2. **501c4 to 501c3**
      1. Katy met with a tax attorney but was too expensive – asking $7,500 plus filing fees
      2. Katy taking online course to learn process
      3. Filing fees run around $750
   3. **ES Book Fair**
      1. Date held for March 4-11 – should be OK because classes will go in the same groups they are already in
      2. Set up on March 4 and book fair is the following week
      3. End of April is MS book fair – right after spring break on April 26
   4. **Basketball Game**
      1. January 31 – boys at home
      2. Presenting cheerleaders with flowers
   5. **K-Turns at MS Drop Off**
      1. Police Dept. will try to increase presence
      2. Nicole to email parking signs to Coleen Conroy
   6. **Brennan Family**
      1. Katy to find out long-term family plans
      2. Approved a $250 donation
7. **QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:** Feel free to contact the PTO with any questions or comments at [HighBridgeSchoolsPTO@gmail.com](mailto:HighBridgeSchoolsPTO@gmail.com)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Nicole Groover, President; Laurel Gecek, MS Vice President; Kelly D’Ambola, ES Vice President; Courtney Bolger, Treasurer; Katy Lido, Secretary. Members-at-Large: Renee Brown, Suzy Supnet. Administration: Dr. Hobaugh, Coleen Conroy.