

Hoover PTA Meeting
Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018

MINUTES

PRESENT: Cristina Battaglia (President), Ann Werzyn (Vice President), Nicole Giehll (Second Vice President), Lauren Taylor (Treasurer), Melissa Harman (Secretary), Pauli Green, Kristy Brancolini, Kirsten Bruder, Courtney Brouse, Jamie Drummond and Jamie Freeman.

Start time: 7:05 p.m.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes: Kirsten Bruder (1st); Courtney Brouse (2nd)

Correspondence: Nothing this month

Executive Committee Reports

- a. Historian, Nancy McKenna: If there are any questions about your chair duties or reporting to the Historian, reach out to Nancy.
- b. Treasurer, Lauren Taylor: Current balance is \$8,623.52. Please turn in receipts from holiday parties. We have plenty in the budget for these last months before the end of the school year.
- c. 2nd Vice President, Nicci Giehll: Thank you for everyone's participation in Adopt-a-family. Many generous contributions were collected and sent to a school that's near, but truly needed the help. The Holiday Shop's new location in the gym worked well, and the teachers adapted well to the gym being unavailable those few days – thank you! The kids really enjoyed all of the fun new crafts that were for sale. This year, it was very much a community effort and we really appreciate the unique gifts. Winter parties went well, and the set menu with food helped us all to keep all the kids safe (which is our first priority). Our first cultural arts assembly of the year was just held. Carnegie museum came by to talk about engineering solutions inspired by nature. Kids loved it. The HES spelling bee is coming up, and interested students are participating in a lunch club in which they can practice, too. Lunchtime clubs are running smoothly. Kids enjoy the different activities especially, when the temperatures fall so far as they have recently. Our Talent Show is coming up. Kids are practicing and getting excited to perform in front of their friends and families. The food drive is coming up the same week as the Talent Show, and we will ask for a food item as your "ticket" to get into the show at Jefferson. The district's 2018/2019 calendar was approved by the Mt. Lebanon school board and was just shared publicly. Monday will be a practice

lock-down drill on Monday, Jan. 29. Routines need to be practiced so we are prepared. Also looking into having a Maker Space family night and need people to help us plan that – let me know who might want to help with this event. Principal's coffee this coming Thursday morning for parents. It will be an open Q&A format at 9am in cafeteria. Mrs. Hogenmiller is taking a leave of absence and we have identified a new long-term substitute – Mrs. Sichko is going to start on Monday, Jan. 29. She is excited to start! Feb. 22 at the high school, the district we hold its 3rd annual STEAM showcase event to experience the maker and steam activities going on in the district. It will be a fun family for all ages, so be sure to stop by with your kids.

- d. Vice President, Ann Werzyn: No report.
- e. President, Cristina Battaglia: I just learned that the recent Mt. Lebo campaign to raise \$1 million actually surpassed that goal, and the additional money raised will be filtered down into all of the other schools in the district. Over \$300,000 over so many years will be coming through to Hoover. We will not have a bake sale at the special election on March 13 – FYI. We'll wait until May. If you have receipts, please turn them in ASAP to Lauren. Lost and found is super full – please take a look in the cafeteria to see if your kids have left anything behind. We are having a major problem with the drop-off zone in the mornings. Mrs. Giehl has been out there directing traffic, and we appreciate it so much. It's a hot topic at PTA Council about our children's safety with people not following the rules and not following the Go Zone rules, throughout the district. So, we know administration is looking at ways to help further. Valentine's Day parties are coming up with the same set menu; emails have gone out about volunteering. We are so sorry about the meeting being cancelled last weekend but appreciate everyone turning out tonight instead.

Committee Reports

- f. Holiday Shop, Cristina Battaglia for Carol Rossetti: Thank you for all the help, time and donations at the shop in the gym this past December. It was the best holiday shop ever, according to many teachers. Carol really went above and beyond with her help and organization. We are excited hopefully to receive even more donated items next year. We will start early on it next year. And, we will be mindful to try to make it happen before Chanukah.
- g. Adopt-A-School, Ann Werzyn: Beechwood Elementary was so ecstatic with what we delivered to them. We received so much stuff: 30 coats, 100 gloves/hats, three huge boxes of food...it was truly amazing.
- h. Barnes & Noble book fair, Cristina Battaglia for Natalie Wagner and Sharyn Mcill. Our book fair at B&N is coming up March 3. At the event, from 10-4pm, the choir will sing, there will be many prizes and activities, and a scavenger hunt. If you are able to help, even for 30-60 minutes, please reach out. We will have a teachers' wish table where you can purchase things for them and their classrooms. Mr. Hain might share artwork on display. It's a fun day with a great

community feel. Also, there will be a raffle where kids can win the chance to be assistant principal for half-day.

- i. Talent Show, Cristina Battaglia: We are sending emails out now about getting ready and preparing for the big day. High school AV students will film and live-stream the event online. We also hope to have a TV in the classroom where the performers can see it live as they wait. We are looking for volunteers back-stage, in the hallway and concessions. We hope to keep this at about one hour. Rehearsal next week at the school, and then rehearsal at Jefferson on the 6th and show in the 8th.

Old Business

Nothing else to discuss at this time.

New Business

We currently are searching for a new President. We do have a VP – Carol Rossetti, who will be on the ballot. You have a great support system with past presidents and council and the rest of the board on-hand to help whomever will take over this position. It's something that can be done if you are a working parent also. We need someone to step up in the next 30 days before the February meeting. Everyone else on the board will continue for the next year. Amy Boomhower can take questions about the nominating process at any time.

Adjournment at 7:50 p.m. – Kirsten Bruder (1st) Kristy Brancolini (2nd)

Next PTA meeting – February 13, 2018, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria