



# GENERAL MEETING

**March 14, 2022 / 7:00 PM / In-Person & Virtual**

**PTA and School Staff Attendees:**

**LHMS PTA:** Suzanne Zurn, President; Kimberly Hotz, Treasurer; Candice Benvenuti, Secretary; Traci Pickering, Spirit Wear and Membership

**LHMS Staff:** Aimee Monticchio, Principal; Ms. Liz Falcone, Staff Grants and Math Department Chair

**Parents/ Other:** Muhannad Taghi, Amma Gradishar, Jessica McInerney

**7:02 PM Meeting CALL TO ORDER by Suzanne Zurn, President.**

President Remarks & Welcome – Suzanne Zurn President

- Welcome everyone. We are in the library with our hybrid meeting.

Presentation/Monthly Topic: Summer Opportunities for Students, Aimee Monticchio, Principal

- Presentation Highlights: Summer Opportunities for Students
  - Supported in summer programming by Mr. Franklin Kyle.
  - He put together summer opportunities for our students. There are a number of programs back at Hughes this summer.
  - Panther Preview – for rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders; two days. August 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, estimated to be from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon. We do have busing for this program. Students can pick up the bus at their local elementary school. Students will get to know the school, staff, and other future classmates.
  - Reston Teen Center Action Camp – June 13<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> at the Teen Center at the Reston YMCA. They have field trips and can get community service hours.
  - Learning opportunities by invitation:
    - Young Scholars – July 11<sup>th</sup>-July 29<sup>th</sup> for 4 hours to push students further ahead.
    - IMAGINE – July 11<sup>th</sup>-July 29<sup>th</sup> for 4 hours per day to catch up students.
  - VIP Camp – June 28<sup>th</sup>-July 28<sup>th</sup> – full day camp with field trips and STEM/STEAM activities, and team building. Free.
  - Looking forward to our students being engaged over the summer and enjoying these programs.
  - Any questions, reach out to Ms. Monticchio or Mr. Kyle.

## February Meeting Minutes – Candice Benvenuti, PTA Secretary

- Presented the meeting minutes for approval; meeting minutes were also shared on screen.
- There was a motion to approve; 2<sup>nd</sup> to the motion.
- February meeting minutes were approved and will be posted to LHMS PTA website.

## President's Report – Suzanne Zurn, PTA President

- We have a good turnout here in the library and in person. It's nice to see everyone. Shout out to our committee chairs. We have a few things coming up: Basketball Game, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Party, and Teacher Appreciation Week. We have made a lot of progress together. We are very appreciative.
- Next month, we are looking to reach out to the elementary school PTA members to help them get familiar with us and encourage them to get involved with our PTA.
- E-mail: [president@lhmspta.com](mailto:president@lhmspta.com)

## Principal's Report – Aimee Monticchio, LHMS Principal

- The federal grant money that we received coming out of the pandemic has been used for small group math support. We have begun boot camps.
- I send out a lot of specific information in the e-mailed newsletters. Please read those. It contains a lot of information.
- We have two computer online systems. One for literacy and one for numeracy. They expand into the high school level. From the results of that, we have begun boot camps that can happen during our connections period or in afterschool sessions. We are all hands on deck trying to get our students to the point that they feel comfortable and
- Coming soon to your inbox will be a free online opportunity for tutoring. They can link into tutors through Schoology. That should go live in April.
- This week is all about spirit. We are getting ready for our Basketball Game on Friday. Today, we celebrated Pi Day. Wednesday we are going to dress for success and our students are going to interview us around the building. Thursday is St. Patrick's Day, so we will be in green. Friday is all about Hughes and our community supporting our basketball players in the game. The games will be 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls, then 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys and girls. 5:30 the games start. It should be wrapped up by 8:00 p.m.

## Treasurer's Report – Kim Hotz, PTA Treasurer

- We have done really well with the Skate Nights.
- Total income = \$2,182.51
- Expenses - \$200.00
- Net Income = \$1,982.51
- Total Income YTD = \$2,365.40
- Skate Night = \$823.30

## Spirit Wear/ Membership – Traci Pickering

- This Friday is our basketball game. Friday at lunch only, we are selling pom poms. These will be on sale at the game too. We will have our spirit wear on sale at the game.

## New Items for Business

- Staff Mini-Grant Applications – Liz Falcone
  - We received an application from Jeanette Thomas, one of our 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science teachers. She has requested \$100 to purchase a composting bin. She wants to bring together The bin will be used to support joint projects including instruction in the environmental science 7<sup>th</sup> grade program; the Langston Hughes Environmental Society (after school club); and a Girls Scout Gold Project.
  - We technically exhausted our staff mini-grant funds. We have one that we did for \$250 for the Panther Pride cards, but because we have had so many donations, we have not had that one come for reimbursement. Given how far into the year we are, we could use the funds from that one and use it for this. If they submit a request for reimbursement, they are entitled to one. The other thing we can do is reallocate \$100 somewhere to cover this grant.
  - Moved to approved and 2<sup>nd</sup>. This staff mini-grant application is approved.

## Other Items for Discussion

- Basketball game, March 18<sup>th</sup> – Anna Gradishar, basketball chair – We are good on donations. Doors will open on 5:00 p.m. Ms. Boger's leadership club is helping staff the game. We also have parent volunteers for ticket sales and concessions. The game is being run by Mr. Kyle. I asked Flippin' Pizza to give us a bigger discount than originally offered. They agreed to give us a good discount so we could make some money on it. There will be pizza, chips, and drinks for sale at the game. Presale tickets on sale starting today for \$3/person. At the door, they will be \$5/person. Ms. Boger will be passing out purple wristbands on Friday during Connections for those that have purchased tickets. Leadership club has been collecting ticket sales this week. Come out and enjoy the game!
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Party – We had a longer presentation from our committee chair at our last meeting. Once we get past the basketball game, we will put more of a plug out for volunteers and support needed. Any 7<sup>th</sup> grade parents, we welcome your help with the party, shadowing the party, and learn from what we are doing this year so you can do it better next year.
- We need to form a nominating committee. If anyone is interested in participating in the nominating committee, as a role on the PTA, or as a committee chair. We are looking for a few new parents to join us.
- Bylaws Review – Not as onerous as it sounds. The PTA has a general template that we are provided, but we still have to do a review. Anyone that wants to be a part of that process between now and our next meeting, please let us know.

- Questions:
  - What are the dates for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade SOLS? They should be the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May.
  - Are these days going to be the same for all counties? It is varied between counties. Loudoun is on a different schedule.
  
- Key Dates:
  - March 18<sup>th</sup> – Basketball Game: Langston Hughes Middle School v. Herndon Middle School
  - March 31<sup>st</sup> – 2-Hour Early Release - End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter
  - April 1<sup>st</sup> – Teacher Workday – No School for Students
  - April 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> – Spring Break – No School
  - April 11<sup>th</sup> – PTA Meeting - 7:00 p.m.

Thank you everyone!

**Meeting ADJOURNED at 7:45 pm.**