



GENERAL MEETING

May 9, 2022 / 7:00 PM / In-Person & Virtual

PTA and School Staff Attendees:

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

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

Parents/ Other: Jessica McInerney, Margaret Perry, ___

7:05 PM Meeting CALL TO ORDER by Suzanne Zurn, President.

President Remarks & Welcome – Suzanne Zurn, PTA President

- Thank you for joining us in the library or remotely. Tonight, we will cover summer learning opportunities.
- A representative from the library was unable to join us this evening, but can come back next month, if there is enough interest. I will share some information about summer learning opportunities.

Presentation/Monthly Topic: Summer Learning Opportunities, Suzanne Zurn, PTA President

- Presentation Highlights:
 - The county is recommending opportunities where there is learning without a grade, but there are opportunities for retaking courses.
 - Librarians are putting together a wellness board. Through Fairfax County Library, there is a Beanstack app for kids to challenge them to read. Times the reading, tracks what books they are reading, and helps kids select what to read. Kids will get badges and prizes. To register for an account, go to: www.fairfaxcounty.beanstack.org
 - Fairfax County Public Schools Parent Resource Center has resources available all year long, but you may want to look at it for summer resources. They have over 10,000 books, eBooks, DVDs, and CDs. You can get to their resources on their website.
 - FCPS has summer learning opportunities. Most classes close registration on June 10th. Students have to have their own computer for the summer classes.

Review and Approve April Meeting Minutes – Suzanne Zurn, PTA President (for Candice Benvenuti, PTA Secretary)

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

President's Report – Suzanne Zurn, PTA President

- Much gratitude to this community and to Jessica McInerney for organizing our Teacher Appreciation Week. It was amazing.
- Virginia State PTA has their annual meeting in two weeks outside of Richmond. I am planning to attend. There are some items that will be voted. We have a few more voting spots available, if anyone is interested in attending.
- E-mail: president@lhmspta.com

Principal's Report – Aimee Monticchio, LHMS Principal

- I echo the gratitude of the parents for their contributions to our Teacher Appreciation Week. We had raffle tickets and gave out prizes.
- We received support from Melanie Maren, our school board member and future parent. She donated to our spirit weeks that we are having now.
- We kicked off our SOLs.
- Our awards ceremony at the end of the year will be in person. We will have a talent show in person, as well. We had a live audience for our performance of The Wizards of Oz.
- We celebrated our National Junior Honors Society students.

Treasurer's Report – Kim Hotz, PTA Treasurer

- Thanks to our wonderful parents and community for supporting our efforts. We raised \$807 for Teacher Appreciation and over \$2,000 for our 8th grade party.
- INCOME:
 - Donations = \$2,909.07
 - Dining for Dollars = \$46.51
 - Spirit Wear = \$230.08
- Total income = \$3,186.14
- EXPENSES:
 - Spirit Wear = \$175.00
 - Basketball game = \$405.00
- Total Expenses = \$580.01
- Net Income (April-May) = \$2,606.13
- Overall, we have about a \$9,000 net revenue. That will come down when we see the expenses come in for the 8th grade celebration. We will still be good standing to rollover about \$2,000-3,000 to next year's PTA board. Thank you for all of your support.

Committee Reports

- Hospitality/ Teacher Appreciation Week – Jessica McInerney
 - There was about 7-8 of us that pulled together and took on Teacher Appreciation Week.
 - Monday: Teachers received pencil bag with pencils in it;
 - Tuesday: We had a cookie bar of baked goods that teachers could fill a takeout box of baked goods;
 - Wednesday: We had raffles for gift certificates to various restaurants, spirit wear, etc.;
 - Thursday: We had a mock margarita bar;
 - Friday: We had a food truck and gave out gift bags of mints, gum, etc.
 - The parent volunteers enjoyed putting it together for the teacher.
 - There are a bunch of drinks leftover. We had a lot of people donate goods and funds. We were covered all the way around.
 - Ms. Falcone stated that the staff really appreciated everything the parents did for the teachers. It was very special.

- 8th Grade Party – Margaret Perry, Chair
 - I did this 8 years ago for my first child, and hope to do it again in 2 years for my last child.
 - We have a lot going on and the party is less than a month away. There are three QR codes on the screen.
 - The 1st is to share with your 8th grader. They need to input the information on the link and can help choose the music for the DJ to play at the party.
 - The 2nd QR code will take you to our signup genius that is regularly being added to as we come up with things we need. Most of the need is for the day of. We need a lot of help decorating, during the event, and cleaning up.
 - The 3rd QR code is for the Amazon wish list. It is a long wish list, but we hope to get as much of it filled as possible. If you choose to purchase anything at Sam's Club, BJ's, or Costco, please let us know. We will work with you to get them to the party and check them off on the wish list.
 - We have about 500 8th graders. We would love for all of them to attend, but recognize that it might not happen. This was the first group of students that missed out on their 6th grade celebration, so we are excited to give them an in person celebration.
 - What that will look like is called the Panther Lounge. They will be getting a brochure invitation. Three areas available to the students:
 - Cafeteria – ice cream sundae bar and treats; pens to sign t-shirts
 - Main gym – DJ and photobooth
 - Aux gym – theater to watch short movies with popcorn and water
 - Tickets will be on sale at lunchtime for \$5/ each. If this is a burden to your family, please contact the front office. We want every child to attend. We will hand out wrist bands to those that purchase tickets. The party is 7-9:00 pm. When they arrive at the party with their wrist band on, they can walk right into the party. Tickets will be available at the door.
 - Friday, June 3rd, 7-9:00 pm at Hughes Middle School, tickets \$5. Questions or can help, email: 8thparty@lhms.com

New Items for Business

- Staff Mini-Grant Applications – Liz Falcone
 - Most PTAs have a program in the school to support staff and students in the form of mini-grants. We have one more application from Mrs. Burke who is our AVID coordinator. She is planning an end of year celebration for the kids and is asking for \$200 for the celebration. I know this will need special consideration since I know our funds have been depleted.
 - Kim Holtz, Treasurer - There has been discussion and after evaluating the budget and donations received, we can cover this expense. It will throw us over in that category. We can do it and it won't hurt the finances this year. I am for supporting this.
 - Motion to approve and second. This application is approved.
 - Next year, it is suggested to increase this line item. Kim Hotz has been Treasurer for the past two years and has agreed to serve a 3rd year, so with her experience, we will have a more realistic budget moving forward.
- Nominations for 2022-2023 LHMS PTA Board.
 - We need to advance the slate to fill President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
 - Nominees for the PTA Board: Jessica McInerney for President, Candice Benvenuti for Secretary, and Kim Hotz for Treasurer.
 - We had others step forward for leadership: Karen Vlcek for VP of Membership, Ellen Harr for Webmaster, Maria Walkup for Fundraising, Mercedes Barton for Hospitality, Cathy Wilkins for Skate Night Chair, Anna Gradishar for Basketball Chair, and we are waiting to hear back on the 8th Grade Party Chair.
 - We need to officially advance the three positions for President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The by-laws state that we present the slate, it sits for 30 days, and then it will be made final at our June PTA meeting. Please show up so we have a quorum.
 - Thank you for everyone that has served. To those that have stepped forward to serve next year, we leave you in good hands with wish you luck.
 - Jessica McInerney – Rachel Oh has volunteered to do the 8th grade party. She has twins in 7th grade this year. I will put her in touch with Margaret Perry. To those doing the 8th grade party, if there are any items left over, let's collect those for future use. Margaret Perry – we can create a closet in the school to hold the left over items from parties. There is a corner in the closet for PTA that we can store bins and other items for PTA use.

Other Items for Discussion

- We discussed getting a link out to the rising 7th graders to purchase spirit wear, etc. We can discuss this further.
- Communications – We need a volunteer step forward for a communications position. The position would write the email blasts that get sent out. Our VP has been putting this together. It is not something in our by-laws, but it is a needed position.

- Key Dates:
 - May 11th – SOL Reading 7 & 8
 - May 17th – SOL Math 7, Math 7 HN, Pre-Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II
 - May 30th – Memorial Day – Schools and offices closed
 - June 3rd - 8th grade party, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at LHMS
 - June 6th – PTA Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
 - June 10th – Last day of school – Early Release

Thank you everyone!

Meeting ADJOURNED at 7:59 pm.