



GENERAL MEETING

January 11, 2021 / 7:00 PM / Virtual

PTA and School Staff Attendees:

LHMS PTA: Ana Gabriela Godoy, PTA President; Kimberly Hotz, Treasurer; Annmarie Swope, Secretary; Nicola Hamilton, Communications, Traci Pickering, LHMS Spiritwear and General Membership

LHMS Staff: Aimee Monticchio, Principal; Michele Beard, Director of Student Services, Karen Bach and Phyllis Degraffenried - School Counselors

7:03 PM Meeting CALL TO ORDER by Aimee Monticchio, LHMS Principal.

Principal Remarks & Welcome

Rising 8th and 9th Registration Presentation

- Ms. Monticchio introduced the guest speaker – Ms. Michele Beard, Director of Student Services
 - Ms. Beard introduced Karen Bach and Phyllis Degraffenried (School Counselors) to assist with any questions during the presentation
- Presentation can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pG2R6TEz8Zc&feature=youtu.be>
- Ms. Beard presented in English and Ms. Monticchio provided translation in Spanish. Highlights included:
 - 8th graders will be taking 5 SOLs this year (Writing, Reading, Math, Civics, and Science)
 - The Writing SOL is supposed to take place in March. Due to the pandemic there may be an alternative method of testing that the state allows for the Writing SOL.
 - There is discussion regarding status of remaining 4 SOLs as well due to the pandemic
 - Some students who fail a SOL test or need remediation will take a support class instead of an elective 8th graders would normally take a day trip to Finance Park. Due to COVID-19, they are looking to create a virtual experience for the students. The experience is like the Life Game where students will receive money and need to make life decisions on where and how to spend.
 - All registration information will go live on the LHMS website on January 13th.
 - All 8th grade students are expected to have completed 15 hours of community service. There are volunteer ideas and opportunities on the LHMS website.
 - All students grade 7-10 at LHMS and SLHS are part of the IB Middle Years program. All students considering IB Diploma at SLHS should take Algebra and World Language by end of 8th grade.
 - Rising 9th grade meetings with students took place during school the week of Dec 4th.
 - Electives for HS are for year not a semester

- German and Japanese are offered at SLHS and transportation is only to students in SLHS boundary
- Herndon Counselor(s) will be presenting on January 26th for those students who are slated to go to HHS.
- Transfer window opens on February 1. Information will be sent to students not in SLHS boundary.
- Students will have the opportunity to take classes over the summer.
- Key Dates for Course Selection for Rising 8th
 - Jan 19 – Feb 19: Counselors will meet virtually with students (through History Class) for academic advising and course selection
 - By March 5th: Final course selection Google forms are due
 - Early Spring: Parents may view Course Requests in SIS (Student Information System)
 - May 27th: Course Change Request are due to LHMS Director of Student Services (Ms. Michele Beard)
- Ms. Beard presented the options for courses and electives in 9th grade as well as opportunities to join a sport(s) and/or club(s) at SLHS
- Key Dates for Course Selection for Rising 9th
 - January 13th: Virtual Curriculum Fair
 - Jan 19 – Feb 5: Counselors will meet virtually with students (through Civics Class) for academic advising and course selection
 - By March 5th: Final course selection Google forms are due
 - Feb 5th: Course selection google forms are complete
 - If students are scheduled for HHS, counselor will be visiting students during Connections on Jan 26th.

November Meeting Minutes

- Annmarie, PTA Secretary, presented the meeting minutes for approval
- Meeting minutes were also shared onscreen
- Gabriela made motion to approve
- Tony (parent): 2nd the motion
- November meeting minutes were approved and will be posted to LHMS PTA website

President's Report

- Initiated outreach regarding recruiting new PTA Board members for next year
- Multiple Board members will be moving to high school
- If any member is interested in learning more about PTA Board positions and shadow a Board member, please reach out to her (ptapresidentlHMS@gmail.com)

Treasurer's Report

- Kim, PTA Treasurer, presented two changes to the 2020-2021 budget for approval
- 1st Motion
 - Move Reston Orthodontics sponsorship (\$300) of 2020 basketball game to assist with securing gift cards for Panther Power raffles. Panther Power cards are awarded by teachers to students who exhibit positive attributes including being punctual, showing ownership, are welcoming, are engaged, or show respect
 - Kim made a motion to approve, there was 2nd.
 - Motion was approved

- 2nd Motion
 - Move PTA President and Principal Discretionary Funds (\$250/) to assist with securing Gift Cards for BUG (Bring Up Your Grade) program. BUG GCs are awarded to students by their teachers who show initiative in bringing up their grades over the course of the semester
 - Kim made a motion to approve, there was 2nd.
 - Motion was approved.
- The \$300 for Panther Power and \$500 for the BUG program were placed in the Student Recognition line item in the budget.
- After both Motions were approved, a parent questioned rewarding students with gift cards for good grades. Ms. Monticchio addressed and clarified this was an option while students were not in school. She would prefer to do an in-school celebration

Principal's Report

- Staff is anxiously waiting for students to return
- Recommended referencing presentation and chat for updates
 - School Renovation: Mild weather has assisted with keeping to the renovation schedule. Phase II will be done the end of February and Phase III (back of school) will start then and go until the end of the school year. The gym will be done over the summer.
 - Updated Return to School plan will be presented by Dr. Brabrand on February 2nd

Committee Chair Reports

- Fundraising is working on another Dining for Dollars event in January
- Spirit Wear
 - a new magnet design will be out shortly
 - they are updating the LHMS logo for Spring and Fall to include the full school name
 - Spiritwear can still be purchased on the website:
<https://www.lhmspta.com/home/lhms-spirit-wear3741666>

Other Items for Discussion

- There we no other items for discussion

Key Dates:

- January 13th: Registration goes live on LHSM
- January 18th: Holiday – Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- January 20th: Holiday – Inauguration Day
- January 22nd: End of Quarter – 2-hour early release
- January 25th: Student Holiday (Teacher Workday)
- February 8th: PTA Meeting
- February 15th: Holiday – President's Day

Meeting ADJORNED at 8:08pm.