

Hubbard Elementary School PTO  
Meeting Minutes - March 7th, 2023

Attendance: Shelley Haley, Amy Perry, Cara Farr, Kelly Brasile, Rebecca Lorch, Christine Gavallas, Amanda Stewart, Laura Galecki, Doreen Vasi, Alison Johns, Cassandra Tellarini-Webb, Al Souza, Rebecca Lorch, Isabel Meagher

\*Order of items adjusted from original agenda due to Mr. Benigni's presentation

Principal Remarks: School Community Picnic - Wednesday May 31st, Rain Date June 7th, looking to make it as efficient as possible. Met with full staff already. Adjustments from prior years: everyone will be out there at the same time. Roughly 1-3, all subject to change. Run lunches for the students on a half day schedule during lunch time for the students only, working out details for cafeteria staff, tents set up by class and grade level, collect licenses, bring everyone through Raptor, each classroom/grade level there will be sides and picnic stuff pre-determined due to restrictions, cooler/ice/waters/snacks will be donated by parents in each grade level, range of activities (kickball, soccer, volleyball, playscape, rock painting, tattoos, etc.), around 2:30 ice cream for everybody, sign out to go home right from there, all the kids stuff will be in the building so at 3:00 kids can go in and get all their things, whole piece has been rebuilt and will be refined. Anticipating that parking will be an issue. Cost will be \$5 a family (try to get things donated)

Riverside Reptile Assembly: very well received, kids were spectacular,

Dana Meachen Rau: coming here for K-5, Tail Wise Science Show for K-5, Traveling K&1 program are all paid for. Still want: High Touch High Tech \$1596 K-5

*Over Budget in Programs by \$1500 Vote to cover High Touch High Tech 10 yes, 0 No*

Field Trips: Curriculum Connection is important but it's also awesome to take kids on trips. Trips & programs important for the experience. Some field trips are: K - Norton Brothers, Fair Weather, Auer Farm, & Fleming Farm, 1st Grade: Beardsley Zoo & Hungerford Grade 2: Peck Library & Aquarium Grade 3 - Eli Whitney (May 10th) & Indian Rock & Grade 4 - BHS Musical Grade 5 - Lyman Center for the Lightning Thief, Mystic Seaport May 5th, PTO will continue to cover transportation for all and admission for 1 trip

*Vote to cover extra field trip for 5th grade to Lightning Thief for \$600 10 yes 0 No*

Superintendent Report: Budget. In order to maintain what we have, we need 4.2% (unionized staff, contracts to meet, rising costs, etc.) original budget came in at 4.8%, BoE increased it by about 1% (\$500,000) to a 5.84% increase. New for Fiscal Year 20224: Career Pathways (\$100,000) New Positions, Mandated Training, Grant Staff, and ESS at McGee (\$110,000), lost some funding through Choice (not meeting the 4%, currently at 3.61%), Berlin ranks 60th in wealth but spends at 100th rank. Projected to have 45 fewer students overall K-12. 400 apartments will come online within the next year and a half.

[Click here to access the budget presentation](#)

President's Report: No new business

Vice President's Report: No new business

Treasurer's Report: BHS donation for Grad Party - annual \$100 donation  
*Vote to donate \$100 to BHS All Night Grad Party 10 Yes 0 No*

Secretary's Report: No new business, mail distribution

Teacher's Comments: Becky Lorch - booked Beardsley Zoo for 1st graders for May 19th, Hungerford used to be through a grant, but now we are paying for that for a ½ day afternoon, need a Coach bus since it is a long drive and need the bathroom, thank you for the \$65 for teacher support, goes to books, Valentines, etc, RULER has been instrumental since CoVid, supplies are appreciated.

5th Grade Committee: No new business

Fundraising Report:

Munson is coming in

Pasta Supper Thursday April 20th 5:30-8:00 - need a subcommittee to run. Email Shelly Haley if interested.

Upcoming Events:

Wolf Pack March 17th

Hubbard Ball: Form will go out 2 weeks before event, looking for a limo and a volunteer to wear a tux and welcome people

Book Fair is in beginning of May 8-11, will try to sell spirit wear

Katie Bouchard will pick day for Teacher Appreciation Lunch

Open Comments/New Business: Will revisit Book Fair and Pasta Supper at next meeting