



HIJH PTO BOARD GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, November 13, 2015  
9:30 am-11:00 am  
HIJH Small Conference Room

Attendees: Tim Mankin, Paul Count, Becky Gerig, Stacy Nielsen and Jen Watkins

1.) Welcome – Becky Gerig

2.) Principal's update-

a) ISTEP update - Parent letters went out last week. Parents that lost or misplaced the code for their student's results, must go through the Department of Education to get a replacement code or generic code. Last opportunity to ask for a re-score is November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at noon. All re-scores are handled by the Dept. of Education. This year's test was much harder than previous years and all student scores were lower. Final scores will be available December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

b) Superintendents referendum meeting – Attended by nine parents. The most recent referendums have maintained the tax rate at 10 cents. The new referendum will maintain the 10 cent tax and include a new 11 cent tax. Most surrounding counties are 25-30 cents. An example of the increased amount would be about \$150 on a \$250,000 house. If the referendum does not pass, the district will not only lose the 11 cent increase, but the original 10 cent tax will expire also. Which would mean about \$7 million per year. There is no plan B. If this referendum does not pass, it would mean increased class size, budget cuts and cuts in personnel.

c) Chad Guest has requested volunteers to help with basketball games. He needs ticket takers, concession workers, score clock and announcers. Board to discuss this via email at a later time.

**ACTION ITEM:** Jen Watkins to start recruiting volunteers to work shifts. Jen will send out an email to all board members giving more information about Chad's request.

3.) Approve October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting minutes.

Paul Count motioned to approve October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting minutes. Becky Gerig seconded, motion approved by all present.

4.) Committee updates

a) Spirit Wear – All orders have been delivered, there is a large amount of inventory that needs to be sold. Amy Stivers is planning on selling at basketball games. Amy placed a newsletter submission with left over inventory items for the December newsletter. Julie King is trying to

set up an online website. The website is free, however there is a 2.75% fee through Square for each transaction. The bulk of the inventory is 100 camo dry fit, 109 basic blue, 95 blue hoodie and 59 HIJH tumblers. There are 70 tumblers that could be returned to the vendor for a full refund. For next year, we do not want the year on the spirit wear. Dates to set up a booth include: December 9<sup>th</sup>, orchestra concert for 6-8 grade; December 14<sup>th</sup>, Choir Concert for 7-8 grades, and December 16<sup>th</sup>, band concert for 6-8 grade. Board decided the December 16<sup>th</sup> would be the best date to have a booth. Jen Watkins motioned to approve the online sale of spirit wear, Paul Count seconded, motion approved by all present. Online sales will begin immediately.

**ACTION ITEM:** Becky to send out an email with event dates and each board member to sign up for time slot.

**ACTION ITEM:** Julie King to set up online spirit wear website.

**ACTION ITEM:** Julie King to email a newsletter blurb and website link to Tabitha Arnett ASAP.

b) Staff Appreciation – Holiday breakfast will need to feed 95 staff members. Other schools in the area have done a monetary request for the teacher breakfast. Lincoln Square Is willing to cater the breakfast for \$8.50 per person, which would be about \$900.00. Breakfast would include fruit, muffins, danish's, biscuits and gravy or pancakes, sausage and bacon. We would also like to do some type of gift for the teachers. Possibilities include a Keurig for the teachers' lounge. Current budget for Staff Appreciation is \$2000.00, of which we have used \$682.00. There are 2 half days, holiday breakfast and teacher appreciation week remaining. Board felt that we should not ask for donations from parents. Stacy Nielson inquired if there was a place that information could be uploaded for teacher wish lists. One option would be on the PTO webpage but it would be up to Lori Haneline to load that information. Paul Count mentioned that Scrips program is great for teacher gifts.

**ACTION ITEM:** Stacy Nielson to reach out to other schools to look into the Scrips Program.

c) Fall PTO Fundraiser - Becky Gerig is still collecting money and books. Committee does not have final numbers. Many people expressed confusion on why there were two fundraisers. We received two negative emails regarding our fundraiser backing the schools fundraiser. Firm sales numbers will be supplied at the December meeting.

d) All other committee updates to be sent via email.

**ACTION ITEM:** Jen Watkins to send committee updates to board members.

5.) Treasurers Report - Paul distributed the treasures report and the tax return that will be filed immediately. Jen Watkins motioned to approve the treasures report and the tax return as submitted, Becky Gerig seconded, motion approved by all present.

6.) Youth Mentoring Initiative - Board needs to approve or deny a monetary donation to YMI. Paul Count stated that from a treasures stand point we have our budget set for the year and that we are willing to entertain the idea for next year's budget. Jen Watkins motioned that the HIJH PTO board will support YMI coming into the school, but we do not make a monetary donations at this time, seconded by Paul Count, motion approved by all present.

**ACTION ITEM:** Tabitha Arnett to invite YMI to present at the December meeting.

7.) HSE Foundation Fundraiser Basket Donation – HSE Foundation would like 100% participation with all HSE PTO's. Theme will be "Family Fun".

**ACTION ITEM:** Stacy Nielson to check into possibilities for our gift basket donation.

**ACTION ITEM:** Jennifer Watkins to create a letter that Stacy Nielson can supply to multiple businesses to request donations.

**ACTION ITEM:** Jennifer Watkins to supply a copy of 501 3C to Stacy Nielson.

**ACTION ITEM:** Stacy Nielson to put a blurb in the newsletter for donations for the basket.

8.) Athletics Dept. – Athletics would like volunteers to fill in the open shifts for concessions, ticket takers and scorekeepers during basketball season.

**ACTION:** Jen Watkins to send out an email with more information and available dates to our volunteer list.

9.) Book Drive - Scheduled for November 16-20<sup>th</sup>. HIJH Library/Media Center would like more 5/6 materials for its collection.

10.) Book Fair - Book Fair is scheduled for November 30<sup>th</sup>-December 8<sup>th</sup>. Parent night is Tuesday, December 1, 5:30-7:15. Volunteer spot is available for volunteers. A blurb and the link were sent out in the December newsletter. Lori Haneline will also send out a Skylert with book fair information on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

11.) Thrill the School – Event was a huge success, raising over \$2100 for the Related Arts Dept. (Ticket sales were over 311 parent tickets and about 290 student tickets.)

Upcoming events:

Book Drive – November 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>

Book Fair – November 30-December 8<sup>th</sup>

Next PTO meeting December 11<sup>th</sup> 9:30-10:30