

**Highland Academy PTSO
Meeting Minutes
Sep 12, 2024 5:30 PM
5:30 pm, In-Person/Zoom**

Members Present:

Call to Order: 5:35

PTSO Contact Information:

email - hacsptso@gmail.com

cellphone - Heidi - 907-223-5948

**Address - Highland Academy Charter School Parent Teacher Student Organization (HACSPTSO)
5530 E Northern Lights Boulevard
Anchorage, AK 99504**

Attendees: Afshan Raja, Heidi Barnes, Brenda Bidwell, Denise Reed, Maryanne Andrew, Ellie McCrary (Blue's mom), Robin Brosius, Katy Bakker, Andy Ratliff, Charlie Peters, Peter Johnson, Skye - Student Liaison, Cathryn O'loughlin (Kameron's mom)

Welcome: Heidi

- **Purpose:** The PTSO shall be organized and operate to support HACS's vision and mission and serve to enhance the educational and social environment of the school through effective activities and communications designed to support family engagement, academi, and financial goals.
- **Mission Statement:** The PTSO is to enhance and support the educational experience at Highland Academy Charter School, to develop a closer connection between school and home by encouraging parental involvement, and to improve the environment at HACS through volunteer and financial support for programs and school resources funded outside of the annual school budget. The PTSO shares the core value beliefs of HACS. The PTSO does not actively participate in curriculum or school administration.
- **Intro of attendees: Board Members, short intro**

Minutes approval: Skip today

Administration Report: (10 min.) Katy Bakker

Open house went well. Great start of the year. Finished up tie-dying this week. Wrapped up MAP testing. Currently - 208 students. Aiming for the 210 mark.

Student Government Report: (5 min.)

First lock-in: Oct 4th

Spirit Week: Oct 4th

Anchorage Youth Court presented to student government class

Expanding Recycling efforts

Highland Academy PTSO Board Minutes (continued)

Need parent volunteers for the lock-in. Please become an approved volunteer - paper form is available at the front and also online.

Old Business:

Skip today

APC Liaison Report: (5 min.) - Maryanne

Action item: Science teacher position is on the books - motion passed (long term sub Ms. Lee right now)

Coming up - Strategic work plan session.

Reviewing community surveys

16 Participants

New Vision Statement: Educating to empower. Learning for life.

Mission statement: APC

Focus Areas: identity of Highland, physical resources, family engagement, etc. Board develops the goals and aligns with the focus areas - ongoing

Treasurer: (5 min.) - Brenda

- Financial Update - brought in about \$80 in Fred Meyers reward program and dues and donations during the open house. Expense - \$14.99 for the bazaar advertisement.
 - Ending balance of \$10,872.70
 - Barnes & Noble gift cards - \$329.51 + \$944.51. Cards can be placed at Highland (lockbox). Need to ensure we get the school discount before we put in the order by going through our point of contact at Barnes & Noble - Brenda will share the person's name with Katy and Robin

Bake Squad - Maryanne

October Parent teacher conferences requesting Muffins, Rolls etc. for 20-25 people. List of food intolerances will be in place by our next meeting.

President: quick run thru

New Business:

- Phoenix Membership Drive
 - Open house we added a few families
 - A welcome email will be sent soon
- Treasurer in Training
 - - Andy Ratliff
 - Heidi motioned, Afshan seconded. Everyone voted in favor
- Gaming PTSO Member
 - Need to have 2 people onboard
 - Heidi is in the process of contacting a couple of places
- Barnes & Noble Chair
 - Maryanne can help
 - Saturday, 11/23
- Holiday Bazaar in training this year and take over for next year

Highland Academy PTSO Board Minutes (continued)

- Garage Sale Chair
- Car Wash Chair - working with student govt.
- MultiCultural Night/ Sauce Off
- Garden area/ Plants Chair
- Papa Murphy Fundraiser
- Canes Chicken Fundraiser
- Parent/Teacher conferences - October 23-25. Soup Lunch provided by PTSO
 - looking for 3, 4 families to donate soup. Food intolerance list will be update by next meeting
- Amazon Wish Lists-
 - Robin will get 1 wish list going for all the teachers/staff instead of having multiple wishlists or donors choose projects
- Lunch Card Donations - current budget - not to exceed \$800
 - Lunch donation invoice for September - \$100
 - Parents have the option to pay on Q
 - Lunch card drive in October - bake sale or quarters/change drive during parent teacher conferences
- Ideas
 - Paint night
 - Nerf gun night
 - Sign for PTSO night
- **Takeaways**
 - Info for Fred Meyers and Office Depot reward programs will be added on our website/ FB page (Katy Bakker)

Upcoming Meetings: (5 min.)

- **Bylaws-**
 - Review in the November 2024
- **Next meeting October 10th @ 5:30 pm**
- **Meeting adjourned - 6:30 pm**