



**PTO Business Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2017**

Meeting Called to order at 9:04 am

Secretary – Kelly McMahon requested approval of the January 18, 2017 minutes. Motion made to approve the minutes by Fatima Hussain and second by Karin Schueler. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report

Tanya Andoniadis is currently collecting for the Father Daughter Dance tickets and Post Prom via the PTO Paypal account. The HCHS PTO donated \$1,500 to the Post Prom Committee. The PTO also made a \$250 donation to the Solstice Committee after their presentation at the meeting.

President’s Report

Sarah Magnesen reported that the Directory Spot Application is up and running with Hinsdale Central information. Parents are encouraged to download the application and provide feedback to Sarah. The PTO will be moving to completely digital directory next school year and will not be publishing a paper directory.

Principal’s Report

Principal Bill Walsh reported that the administration is currently focusing on the class schedules for next year.

He also reported that there will be more of a concentration next year on SEL, which has been an established program in D86 since 2010. The district is coaching some teachers on leveraging tools and concepts from the Bradford RULER.

March 3rd is a county wide teacher institute day. One of the topics covered will be the teachers running through an offsite evacuation drill.

Mr. Walsh was asked about the Car Crash simulation that has been conducted the week before Prom at Hinsdale Central in the past. Due to the expense and high level of logistical planning this event has occurred every five years. The last simulation was in the Spring of 2016.

Committee Reports

Coat Check – Teena Rajan, the committee chair, reported that there were enough volunteers for the Winter Dance on February 4, 2017. The volunteers commented on how polite and friendly the students were.

Devils Diner – The committee provided hot chocolate for the HCHS Administration to distribute to the students on 1/31/17, the week prior to the Winter Dance. They also distributed Valentine cookies to the students on Valentine’s Day.

Directory – Directory Spot Application is up and running with Hinsdale Central information. Parents are encouraged to download the application and provide any feedback to Sarah Magnesen.

D86 Speaker Series – The second event of the school year was held at The Community House on Tuesday, February, 7, 2017 at 7:00pm and Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at 9:00am. The event featured Dr. Kristen Race, author of Mindful Parenting, who discussed self-compassion, empathy, and stress reduction. Dr. Rice also spoke to Hinsdale Central teachers for 2 hours during her visit. The final Speaker Series event for the year will be a documentary film entitled Screenagers: *Growing up in the Digital Age*. The screenings will be May 2, 2017, 7:00-9:00 pm and May 3, 2017, 9:30-11:30 am, both at The Community House.

Families Helping Families – The committee distributed Valentine Bags to 18 families at HCHS that contained toiletries, canned goods and other food. The Cheerleaders collected the non-perishable food items.

Father-Daughter Dance – This Paris themed event is March 18, 2017 from 7:00pm until 10:30pm at Ruth Lake County Club. Invitations have been distributed. Margaret has been doing much advertising. The head count will be limited to 190 people, so those interested need to purchase their tickets early.



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Interview Skills – Workshop was Saturday, January 29th. This event was very successful and over-subscribed. Over 150 students participated in the interviews.

Insight Collaboration – Currently supporting one student in the Community House counseling services.

Make a Difference – Currently taking nominations from parents and students for the next round of awards to be presented in March. Nomination forms can be found at <http://www.hcpto.org/make-a-difference-form>.

Parent Network – On February 22nd there is a session on Writing the Timed Essay at 7:00pm in the Community Room at Hinsdale Central. On March 15th there will be a Parent Networking Event for parents of Special Ed. students at 7:00pm in the Community Room at Hinsdale Central. April 6th at 7:00pm in the Community Room there will be a discussion about financial information for children with disabilities.

Reading Rocks – Over 300 students participated in the reading marathon on February 14th. Thank you to all who donated baked goods.

Teacher Appreciation – The committee distributed Valentine candy bars with the note: Bar None You are the Best to the teachers and staff. The committee will be distributing pretzels in March.

Red Devil Spirit Scholarships – Application forms are available in the Dean’s Office. Completed applications are due on March 20, 2017. A description of the requirements to be considered and the application form can be found at <http://www.hcpto.org/red-devil-spirit-scholarship/>.

New Business

Nominating Committee – We are looking for people who are interested in being on the HCHS PTO Executive Board or a Committee Chair. We will have a list of open positions at the March PTO meeting. Anyone interested should contact Sarah Magnesen.

Three students from the Solstice Club gave a presentation about the fund raising campaign that they are currently running. The club produces the Solstice Art & Literary Magazine annually which is a collection of art and literary works of the Hinsdale Central students. The magazine has won an award every year since 2007 and last year it won the Columbia Scholastic Press Gold Crown, a nationally-recognized award. Their goal is to raise \$2,000 to pay for the production of the 2016 – 2017 magazine. Each student member in the club has a goal to reach out to local businesses and solicit \$50 in donations. Due to changes in the registration process and communications this year, the usual donations to Solstice were atypical and they did not get fully funded during registration, so that is why they are fundraising. Anyone interested in making a donation should contact Ms. Pat Potokar at ppotokar@hinsdale86.org or Mr. Jim DiDomenico at jdidomen@hinsdale86.org.

Next Meeting, Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 9:00 AM

Conversations: Topic is Understanding Identity Issues and the requirements for school. The presentation will immediately follow the PTO meeting at 10:00AM in the Community Room at HCHS.

Next D86 BOE meeting is Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 7 PM at Hinsdale South High School

Meeting Adjourned at 9:51 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Kelly McMahan, Hinsdale Central PTO Secretary