

**Minutes - Hayfield Secondary PTSA Monthly Meeting  
HSS Media Center  
Wednesday, March 13, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.**

Mike Lambert, President	Warren Carrington, HSS Subschoo Principal
Dana Bensusky, 1st Vice President	Lisa Grant, Parent
Robin Jones, Treasurer	Caryn Emanuel, Parent
Cynthia Andrews, Membership Chair	Jacki Walker, Parent
Marie Sudik, ANGP Co-chair & CFC	

**Meeting Opening**

- **Mike Lambert** convened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

**Approval of January 2014 & February “Virtual” Meeting Minutes:**

- Copies of the January and February “Virtual” Meeting draft minutes were posted on the [hssptsa.org](http://hssptsa.org) website for review in advance of this meeting, and were also distributed among the group for review at this meeting. However, because there was NOT a quorum present at the meeting to approve meeting minutes, any discussion or motions to approve minutes would be deferred until the April meeting.

**President's Report: Mike Lambert**

- Mike reported that he received an email from Mary Shoukat, a HSS psychology/sociology/history teacher, who asked if the PTSA would be willing to offer financial assistance to one student for a two-week long Spanish-learning immersion trip to Costa Rica sponsored by the World Affairs Council (WAC). The WAC pays two-thirds of the total cost of the trip (\$3000) while sponsored students must pay one-third of the cost (\$1500). Ms. Shoukat said that the student, who happens to be a free/reduced lunch student, told her that her family could not afford the entire \$1,500 cost of the trip and was seeking other options for affording the trip, which is why Ms. Shoukat was approaching the PTSA
  - After lengthy discussion of previous, similar financial requests (e.g., funding several Boys State and Girls State participants through the HSS career center), and the recognition that the PTSA works with HSS administration to provide funding for requests that benefit the largest amount of students whenever possible, it was determined that the PTSA would \*not\* provide financial assistance for this request, as it did not wish to set a precedent for funding a request that would benefit only \*one\* student (regardless of the amount of need).
- Mike also mentioned that Ms. Jessica McHie, an HSS 8th grade science teacher, sent a request for parent volunteers to serve as panel members in a proposal judging exercise in her classroom (and several others) in late March. He distributed the list of dates for meeting attendees to review.

**Principal's Report: Warren Carrington, HSS Lafayette Hall Principal**

- **Mr. Carrington** reported the following:

- The new “street signs” are posted in the school’s hallways at major hallway “intersections,” which will aid parents and other visitors to better navigate the school’s large campus.
- Mr. Tremaine met recently with Jeff McKay, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Lee District representative, and they stand together in support of FCPS Superintendent Dr. Karen Garza’s proposed budget (reductions of \$96.5 million and a requested transfer of \$98.1 million from Fairfax County), as well as the 5.7% increase over last year’s transfer from the County that will be necessary to realize Dr. Garza’s proposed budget. It was stressed that the County has publicly stated since last year that the County will only transfer up to 2% this year, so it’s important for constituents to contact their Board members and make their opinions known.
- Parent **Lisa Grant** asked Mr. Carrington if A.P. testing dates will be shifted, given all of the missed school days due to inclement winter weather -- he said no decision has been made on that issue, but that it is under consideration.
- Lisa also asked if the cluster or FCPS had any official response to the recent uptick in FCPS student suicides; Mr. Carrington mentioned that both Mr. Tremaine and Ms. Phillips had met several times with FCPS administrative staff to discuss the warning signs for teen suicide, and that steps have been taken to equip FCPS teachers and staff with this knowledge.
- Parent **Jacki Walker** asked if there really WAS a shortage of copier paper in the school, given that one of her student’s teachers asked parents to send in a ream of copier paper in response to a shortage. Mr. Carrington assured her that there is plenty of copier paper to go around the school, but that parents were welcome to send in extra supplies if they felt compelled to do so.
- Ms. Walker also shared her concerns about and experience with the occasionally lax enforcement of security protocols at the school’s main entrance, where visitors must now be “buzzed in” by front office staff. Mr. Carrington mentioned that he wasn’t aware of any issues with security, but that he would take it up with Mr. Tremaine and the front office staff.

**Treasurer's Report: Robin Jones**

- Robin reported that the balance as of the end of February was \$17,475.83; her monthly treasurer’s report has been filed with these minutes.

**Committee Reports:**

**All Night Grad Party**

- Around 67 HSS seniors are registered thus far for ANGP 2014.
- ANGP account balance is \$17,224.
- For the five ANGP 2014 sponsored “practice SAT” sessions scheduled in September and November of 2013, and February, March and April of 2014, a total amount of \$2,477.26 was collected through the end of February.
- Buses for transporting students to ANGP cost ~\$6,000 to rent for the evening.
- The 1st “Countdown to Graduation” event went well; the committee raised \$1,092

through its auction.

- The committee intends to do several more rounds of fundraising in the final months running up to ANGP, including an online auction for Kaplan test prep, a candy sale at Giant Food in April, and more at the next and final “Countdown” event in May.

### **Membership**

- **Cynthia Andrews** reported that for the 2013-2014 school year through March 13, a total of \$8,333.10 in membership dues have been collected from a total of 707 members.
- Cynthia also reported a total of \$918 in donations have been collected as of March 13.

### **Academic/Mini-Grants**

- **Amy Zirkle** was not present but reported that Cheryl Wagner (HSS financial officer) would be receiving a check for all approved mini-grants the next day.

### **Athletic Boosters / Drama Boosters / Band Boosters / Orchestra Boosters / Choral Boosters**

- No specific report, but several meeting attendees mentioned that “Marvin’s Room” was selected as the drama show for the spring, and is set for a run on April 3-4.

### **SGA**

- **Chloe Morton** was not present, but Mr. Carrington mentioned that the SGA is involved with the promoting the junior/senior prom, which is set for May 30.

### **Hospitality**

- **Monica Selcik** was not present, but reported that she has started planning the teacher appreciation luncheon for May.

### **Fundraising**

- No report.

### **CFC / eScrip / Box Tops for Education**

- **Marie Sudik** reported that our PTSA now has over \$3,000 in funds on file with Giant Food’s eScrip program.

### **Volunteers**

- No report.

### **Unfinished Business**

- **Dr. Ken Halla**, an HSS history/government teacher, requested at the December 2013 HSS PTSA meeting a yet-to-be-determined increase in the amount that has typically been provided by the PTSA (~\$440 each year) to fund a family life & education (FLE) presentation by the Northern Virginia AIDS Ministry (NOVAM) in the spring months at HSS. NOVAM nearly doubled the price of the presentation to \$800 this year, but asked our school to pay what they could, and that they could make up any shortfall in the fee in “scholarships.” A unanimously-passed motion by the

PTSA board recommended that Dr. Halla begin negotiations with NOVAM at a starting point of \$500, with an authorization (on behalf of PTSA) to go as high as \$600. Dr. Halla will keep us posted on the outcome of further discussions with NOVAM.

**New Business**

- None.

**Announcements**

- Next month's meeting will be Thursday, April 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the HSS Media Center.

**Adjournment** - 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Lambert (on behalf of Ashley Levesque)