

**Minutes - Hayfield Secondary PTSA Monthly Meeting**  
**HSS Media Center**  
**Wednesday, April 10, 2014 - 6:30 p.m.**

Mike Lambert, President	Tracey Phillips, HSS Associate Principal
Dana Bensusky, 1st Vice President	Monica Selcik, Hospitality
Robin Jones, Treasurer	Cheryl Spohnholtz, Corresponding Secretary
Cynthia Andrews, Membership Chair	Lisa Grant, Parent
Marie Sudik, ANGP Co-chair & CFC	

**Meeting Opening**

- **Mike Lambert** convened the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

**Approval of January, February, & March Meeting Minutes:**

- Copies of the January, February & March draft meeting 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 May meeting.

**President's Report: Mike Lambert**

- Mike mentioned that our PTSA desperately needs a Nominations Committee to step up and form a new slate of officers and committee chairs for the 2014-2015 school year.
  - Ideally, this temporary committee is made up of a chair and two helpers who asks all current, “non-graduating” parents serving on the board if they intend to return to their existing (or a new) board position, as well as soliciting for new parents to fill critical vacancies for the new school year.
  - Critical vacancies for the 2014-2015 school year include 1st and 2nd vice president, recording secretary, membership chair and CFC chair.
  - It’s important to at least have our proposed HSS PTSA executive officers slate (president, both vice presidents, treasurer, corresponding & recording secretaries) ready for the general membership to vote on during the end of year band concerts in late May/early June.

**Principal's Report: Ms. Tracey Phillips, HSS Associate Principal**

- **Ms. Phillips** reported the following:
  - HSS administrators and staff are in the midst of staff planning for the 2014-2015 school year -- and there WILL need to be adaptation to budget cuts.
  - The FCPS school board was voting on April 10 to extend the 2013-2014 school year to June 25, and it’s likely that the motion will pass; if it does, there will be half days for HSS undergraduate students from graduation day (June XX) onward.
  - During the week of April 7, senior packets were starting to be mailed out and were also posted on the school website.
  - SOAR time had to be modified to accommodate revised teaching schedules, which were in turn modified due to so many missed days from inclement winter

weather -- all SOAR time changes have been documented and posted to the school website.

- Hayfield Secondary will get a new roof in stages, over the next three summers.
- Finally, Ms. Phillips asked for opinions on whether to A) continue having the “Hawk Flight” student information distribution events in late August over TWO sessions (ONE evening and the FOLLOWING morning), or B) to have ONE extended evening session. All board members in attendance unanimously agreed that having ONE Hawk Flight session was a better option.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Robin Jones**

- Robin reported that the balance as of the end of February was \$15, 153; her monthly treasurer’s report has been filed with these minutes.

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **All Night Grad Party**

- ANGP 2014 Co-chair Dana Bensusky reported that it was 68 days until graduation...another “Countdown to Graduation” & Silent Auction event is set for May 15, and Dana had fliers for distribution available at the meeting.
- Dana noted that senior fees this year are \$80
- Cynthia Andrews reported that the ANGP account currently had \$22,374 in funds -- and that they will likely surpass their fundraising goals for this year, leaving a “comfortable” amount of funding for the ANGP 2015 committee to start with.
- Remaining ANGP fundraisers for the school year:
  - PSAT practice test on April 15; selling candy on at Giant Food on Fridays and Saturdays during April/May; and flocking will continue until June 1

##### **Membership**

- **Cynthia Andrews** reported that there were no new members added in March or early April, and 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**

- No report.

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

- No reports.

##### **SGA**

- **Chloe Morton** was not present, but Ms. Phillips mentioned that the SGA continues to promote and prepare for the junior/senior prom, which is set for May 30.

##### **Hospitality**

- **Monica Selcik** reported that the staff appreciation luncheon is set for May 7; Kumo

Asian Bistro will again cater the event, and Monica already has many dessert donations lined up; she also had a donation of four Washington Nationals baseball game tickets, which will be raffled randomly during the staff luncheon.

- Monical also reported that Dunkin Donuts donated 400 breakfast sandwiches, which will be used for a breakfast during staff appreciation week (May 5-9).

### **Fundraising**

- No report.

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

- **Marie Sudik** reported that our PTSA received a check in the amount of just over \$4,000 from the most recent CFC fundraising cycle; in recent years, we've received over \$5,000, but with sequestration and furloughs throughout the federal government in FY13, a lower payout was anticipated.
- \* Do we need to reprioritize
- \* Giant Food total: ~\$3,500 on file for HSS

### **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. **Mike Lambert** was going to contact Dr. Halla to determine if there's been an agreement reached in any further discussions with NOVAM.
- **Mr. Jeff Berggren**, a HSS physical education teacher, followed up with an email to Mike Lambert on his plans to revamp the HSS weight room and asked if he could count on the PTSA to provide any fiscal support for equipment upgrades/replacements, pending a discussion with the HSS student activities director
  - Mr. Berggren provided a brief presentation in mid-2013 on some preliminary weight room plans that he had at that point in time.
  - Mr. Berggren and Ryan Wood, another HSS instructor and coach, were planning to meet with the HSS student activities director at the end of March to discuss a possible move of the HS side of the weight room to the HSS Auxiliary gym.
  - This discussion of providing PTSA funding for any upgraded/replaced equipment was tabled for a future PTSA meeting, pending the outcome of Mr. Berggren's meeting at the end of March.

## **New Business**

- Given that the HSS PTSA has been unable to approve the three most recent months' worth of PTSA meeting minutes due to a lack of a quorum (which, by definition of our bylaws, consists of at least half of the HSS PTSA executive board members -- officers and committee chairs -- being physically present at the meeting to vote), **Mike Lambert** suggested that we consider coordination with the Virginia State PTA on the editing our bylaws to update the definition of a voting quorum. This discussion was tabled for a future meeting (likely after the change in officers in early summer).
- **Mike Lambert** asked PTSA member **Lisa Grant** if she'd share some comments about her participation in a recent FCPS Strategic Vision Parent Focus Group at Mt. Vernon HS, where the district invited a small group of parents from across our pyramid to gauge their opinions on the present state of FCPS, on what parents would like to see FCPS strategically implement two to three years out, and then 10 years out. Among the questions they asked:
  - What are some programs that are strengths at your school?
  - What are some of the challenges at your school?
  - How can we get students to engage in the collaborative process with administrators, teachers and parents, to be better communicators, etc.?
- Lisa mentioned that parents attending the focus group said we need to provide teachers with better pay, that FCPS needs to focus on recruiting more talent, and that more work is required on alleviating school overcrowding (trailers, portable classrooms, etc.).
- After all parental focus groups are concluded in all FCPS pyramids, a survey will be sent to all FCPS parents -- one of the emerging focus areas will likely be on technology.
- Lisa said that the intent of the focus group was to help level-set expectations, and provide a baseline for Q/A in the larger "pulse" survey that would be issued across all FCPS in the future.

## **Announcements**

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

**Adjournment** - 7:43 p.m.

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