**Hillsdale Elementary School**

**PTO Membership Meeting**

**Friday, March 18th 2016**

**Attendees:**

Karen Horan(PTO President) Amy DeFonzo(PTO Vice Pres.)

Beth Rosica (PTO Vice Pres) TaraAnn O’Meara (PTOTreasurer)

Kate Semon (PTO Secretary) Alicia Holden

Karen Orkin (Assemblies Coordinator) Kelly Catania

Julianne Pecorella (School Principal)

1. Introductions and Attendance
2. Principal’s Report
3. Winter Dance was well attended
4. Spring Break next week
5. Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Pecorella tweeting for Hillsdale, twitter handle

#HDEELEM

1. Honors Orchestra and Band Concerts this week
2. New Emergency Evacuation Procedures- District Wide Focus
3. April 8th Author Nick Bruel to visit school, Mr. Hober is working on banners
4. Report Cards April 15th
5. PSSA’s coming up- More parents opting out this year (Religious Objections are the only State accepted reason)
6. Deadline for submission is located on PSSA information letter
7. Monday before PSSA will be an all school assembly to encourage and celebrate: Bubble Wars, Break Thru The Banner, etc.…

4 days ELA, 3 days Math, 2 days Science

1. Post PSSA Parties for 3rd, 4th and 5th grades

15th at 2:45 popsicles for all outside

21st at 2:45 popsicles for all outside

28th at 2:45 popsicles for 4th grade only outside

1. Co President’s Report
2. PTOC report

1. State Budget and the effect on area schools was discussed

2. Full Day Kindergarten is still being discussed, Mrs. Pecorella feels that Hillsdale can easily accommodate full day kindergarten and is very excited about the prospect.

3. Narcan was not recommended in schools at this time

4. Athletics policies district wide are being revisited and revised with ongoing training regarding hazing and bullying

5. Course Planning at High School Levels on going, introducing Blended Learning/online and Face To Face / AP Art History has been added to the curriculum

6. Board Members have stated that our district is a model for the state

7. Hillsdale’s Half Day Community Service Projects were mentioned and might become a district wide model

B. PTO is to work on “marketing” the PTO and reinforcing their involvement in the schools activities.

C. Tracy Duggart (Communications Director for WCASD) is sending pictures to Mrs. Pecorella to make a slide show highlighting the PTO for use on Back to School night, Open House, etc.….

D. Fundraising in school – Limited because finding volunteers to head up the committees continues to be very difficult.

Ideas For Fundraising:

1. Fernhill hosted a Fun Run that raised $20,000
2. PTO dues to be recommended next year, this would be a suggested donation and will require an alteration to the PTO bi-laws. A majority of schools in the district already collect dues/recommended donations

E. PTO current Presidents still actively seeking two Co Presidents for next year.

1. Teacher’s Report

Nothing at this Time

1. PTO Vice Presidents Report
2. Giant A+ program Last Day was Thursday March 17th, $6,400 at last check raised for Hillsdale
3. Campbell Soup Program to end and Campbell’s are establishing a new program to take its place. PTO will be using all previously accumulated points to purchase Visa Gift Cards to be used at a later date Final collection date for Hillsdale will be end of April
4. Winter Carnival raised $4,700
5. Teacher Requests:

5th grade is requesting $325 for a Colonial America Trunk Show

Will be a discussion for then and now.

Approved

Mrs. Zwianski is requesting funding for new wildlife puppets and nonfiction readers for the kindergarten

Approved

Mrs. Roberts requesting $116 for a fish tank stand (please reference the Catania Presentation)

Approved

1. Dining out for Hillsdale: considering holding the event every other month instead of monthly.
2. Open E Books app- for Title One schools: Families can borrow books on line (up to 10 books at a time)
3. Treasurer’s Report

The final payment made on new playground equipment installation

1. Secretary’s Report

Nothing at this time

1. Committee Report
   * 1. School Wide Dance- March 11th, very successful
     2. Author Nick Bruel Friday April 8TH
     3. Yearbook Shout Outs are school wide, yearbook planning and assembly continues smoothly
     4. Winter Carnival was very successful, thanks to all volunteers
     5. Volunteers Days going well:
        1. Lions Club came and explained their glasses donations/collecting and distribution programs
        2. Breakfast Bags assembled for Safe Harbor
        3. Paradise Farm Over Night Trip was declined for the fifth grade.