May 5, 2015

HUFS D PTA Council Meeting Minutes

- Meeting called to order, Pledge of Allegiance, approval of minutes from 4/14/15
- Treasurer’s report
  - No changes to report since April meeting
  - Paying for the expenses for the budget vote stickers
- President’s Report
  - Arts in Ed added a program at Woodhull (Amani Winds)
  - Voted to make a donation to Arts Honor Society to create an Arts in Ed logo
  - Meet the Candidate Night was April 28 at Finley- there are 4 empty seats and currently 4 candidates. It was a light turnout. The town banner is up to remind about budget vote
  - Council Nominating Committee for 2015/16 – in progress. Slate will be presented at Council Luncheon.
  - Council Luncheon is on June 3. Presidents pay from their budgets--Council End of the Year Meeting and Luncheon will be at the Bay Club on June 3. Meeting at 10am and luncheon at noon. Board is paid for by unit. Presidents can decide how to handle incoming board members.
  - Two high school students (Alyssa DeVoe and Jess Straub) spoke about Relay for Life- an overnight event to raise money for cancer research. It starts at 5pm with a survivor dinner followed by a survivor lap with the survivor and their caregiver. $58,224.84 has been raised so far. The goal is $150,000. Huntington High School is sponsoring and will be a presenter at the event. They are donating $20,000. Luminaries will be released at 8-8:30. There is a flyer going home to all the primaries. The PTA’s should consider collecting the luminaries and donations.
  - Arts in Ed Committee needs a chair and to decide and vote on contributions for next year so that units can plan accordingly
  - Summer reading program is being settled. Dr. Card is suggesting that e-books be incorporated
  - PTA Council Scholarship being awarded. Kitty Klein and Mr. Cusack will select based on school spirit, community involvement and commitment to academics.
  - State PTA sent both an advocacy email about testing and a survey about testing for membership to take.
  - Irwin Simon presented at the last President’s Meeting and a deal is being worked out for all schools to use them as photographer in return for some special pricing and incentives.
  - May 13 is Suffolk Region PTA training
  - New officer’s training is June 4 at Candlewood Middle School. People need to pre-register for the workshops on line.
  - July 18 is Suffolk by the Sea training at the Melville Marriott for executive committees.
  - Roll call of approval of each unit of new Council Bylaws- approved by all units.
  - Special guest Mr. Madden presented information on Summer Booster clubs.
  - Discussion on doing the Reflections program for 2015/16 school year
  - Discussion of PARP recognition
- Units should remember to file form A on-line once new boards are voted on. They should also make sure by-laws are updated and that insurance is paid.

- Superintendent’s Report
  - Assessed value based on historical trends went down. It will change the tax rate which will be lower on each tax payer’s bill. The number will go down in the fall.
  - Smart School bond act- local BOCES involved to determine what we need. We have 1.4 million to spend on technology. Possibly give each staff member a tablet device. Possible upgrading of smart boards.
  - Starting in September grades will be mandatory posted in the Parent Portal.
  - Question asked about field testing and whether Huntington schools are participating. Mr. Polansky drafted a letter to state ed stating that adding field testing is over the top. These tests do nothing to add to or enhance student performance.

- Unit Reports
- Meeting Adjourned