**Hollis Elementary PTA Meeting Minutes**

**September 12, 2018 Start Time**: 10:00 am **Location:** HUES

**Attendees**: Amy Kellner, Lexy Brooks, Karen McKenna Zomchek, Marsha Bottino, Sarah Constantine, Paula Izbicki, Sandy Van Sciver, Rita Ullal, Debbie Caron, Alicia Soutter, Franzi Schuster, Nicole Tomaselli, Candice Fowler, Officer Bergeron

**Call to order**- **Lexy** Approval of April, May, and June minutes to occur in October via email

**Treasurer’s Report**: **Amy** Highlights- PTA has been “spending down” a surplus of funds over the last 3 years. Fundraising efforts have also declined at the same time due to some unforeseen circumstances (cancellation of the live action due to low ticket sales, etc.). The 2018-2019 budget is tight with the goal being to maintain $24,000 in reserve. For the 18-19 school year, each grade has been granted $1800 for student enrichment as well as $2000 for each Principal to host school wide events.

Budget Vote: 1st Motion: Lexy 2nd Motion: Marsha All Approved!

**Lego League**: **Ritu Ullal** Discussions are being started to form Lego League in both schools. Several aspects of forming teams have to be investigated including the funding, coaching of teams (only 4-5 kids per team), meeting times/places and number of teams that can be managed with the goal of being able to offer it to all children. Funding is being sought through corporate sponsors, the schools as well as the PTA.

**Parent Talks: Amy** Colleen M, Charity B, and Amy K have been organizing this year’s parent talks. This year, 2 parent talks will be supplemented with a book club with evening and daytime meetings being made available for parents and staff.

**New Ideas for Fundraising**: PTA is looking for people to bring forward new ideas for fundraising as many current events seem over done in the community. We will continue to investigate the casino funds and are looking into restaurants that would donate a percentage of money for holding “Dine Out Night” events in coordination with the PTA.

**Principal’s Report: P. Izbicki** Start of school is going well for all! Successful fire drills on the second day. A new kindergarten teacher has been added with the kindergarten class increasing from 56 last year to 80 this year. Other staff have move around a little with Roos-Unger and White joining HPS and Renaud moving up to HUES. Gual moved out of state over the summer. Currently, HPS is working on next year’s budget. Looking at add an additional para due to the increase in students. The school is also exploring the idea of adding Environmental Science full time which would be unique to the school and assist in evening out the specialists’ schedule.

Construction is complete with the heating/cooling system in place and functioning well. A few smaller projects to be completed over time. The school is looking for assistance in adding shrubs to the front of the building post construction. A member of the PTA will reach out to a local landscaping company to see if they might be interested in donating plants!

**Principal’s Report: C Fowler** School opening is running smoothly. Emergency drills have gone extremely well especially for the new 4th grade students getting to know the school. Bus Safety is currently being addressed with all students. Safety is the number one goal! Bus timing is also being addressed. To assist in helping, the Hollis Police Department is providing an officer to help with traffic during peak car pool times to help move the “double run” buses. Several teacher switches have also occurred: Mr. Rubin moved from 5th to 4th, Mrs.Renaud moved up from HPS to 4th, Mrs. Happy joined the 4th grade team. HUES is also working on the budget for next year. The school library is also looking to add some more volunteers.

**President’s Report: Lexy**

FERPA- This new law has changed the PTA’s ability to receive information from the schools that would have been available for the Student Directory, Room Parents, etc. Because of this, we are solely relying on the parents to send back student information if we want to be able to provide a directory or communicate with them about classroom and school activities.

All PTA votes must be made by those who are official members of the PTA (dues paid)

Evening Open House PTA meeting to be offered in November!! This will provide an opportunity to go over the big picture and give everyone an understanding of what the PTA does, what happens during the daytime meetings and all of the work that happens via committees, etc.

We would like to welcome our New Volunteer Coordinator, Karen McKenna Zomchek!!

Halloween Fun Fair: October 20th!  Stay tuned for more information including the volunteer signups for the Fun Fair and the Haunted House.

Reflections Program: PTA needs an individual to organize the Reflections Program. We are currently the only school to complete in all State categories and we would love to continue the doing so. We are also in hopes of the school being able to assist the children in prep for this via afterschool enrichment programs. The PTA has been asked to make available some of the “end products” of the program for others to see in order to get a better understanding of what the reflections program is all about.

**Adjourn:** 10:40 am