

2022-23 Horace Mann PTA Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 9th, 2022 (Virtual)

Agenda Item:	Notes:
<p>Welcome and Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Call Meeting to Order/Begin Recording. Welcome and Thank You:</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> HM PTA Meetings for FY 22-23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, January 10th - Virtual</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday, March 14th - Virtual</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Monday, April 24th - In Person</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Monday, May 22nd - In Person</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Possible guest speaker in January from MN PTA</p>
<p>Teacher updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/></li> </ul>	<p>No updates from Amy Korteum. Mark Lindskoog-donations slowly coming in for the Read-a-Thon. Matching donations until 11/17. Communication going out to staff and parents to promote/drum up excitement. Llamas at the kickoff event was well received-kids loved it and the Llamas were calm and friendly.</p>
<p>Principal's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Digital Learning day - Feedback</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Saturday, Dec. 10 is school choice fair</li> </ul>	<p>Feedback survey was sent out this morning to ask how digital learning day went. Potential for a digital learning day if there is a snow day. Attendance was good. Students were given credit if they did any of their work or attended any meetings. Some families do not have internet access and this day will give the school information to be able to support those families in gaining internet access. Students at DC were not able to get on meetings unless the kids signed themselves on. Amy-shared that it is difficult for teachers to find a balance between virtual meetings and independent work.  Jim-If any parent is interested in helping with the school choice fair, please reach out to Jim. Anyone is welcome to participate!</p>

<p>Speaker: Sarah Bosch - Teacher Union rep role and Q &amp; A</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Overview of role</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Q&amp;A</p>	<p>Educators' work conditions are students' learning conditions- Class size was one sticking point in last years' contract negotiation.</p> <p>Language in the contract states that if class size goes over the limit, there has to be a meeting including principal, area superintendent, teacher, union steward, and 2 parents to decide what steps will be taken.</p> <p>-Puts extra support in place for that class so that high quality learning can take place for students and to prevent burnout for teacher.</p> <p>At HMS, there was an odd % split with only 5 5th graders in the class. Mr. Litwin adjusted class numbers which resulted in 2 5th grade classes going over.</p> <p>Committee voted to accept overage with additional supports for those classes.</p> <p>Concessions were an academic support educator full time, added an additional teacher assistant for 5th grade. Still posted and unfilled at this time with 0 applicants.</p> <p>This is the only instance in contract where parents/PTA have a voice in the decision making process.</p> <p>Support is appreciated whenever contract negotiations are happening.</p>
<p>Treasurer's Report</p>	<p>Abby-Some expenses from last year were not submitted until this school year, but</p> <p>Revenue this year is just over \$2,000, which is expected because biggest fundraisers have not yet happened (read-a-thon and auction)</p> <p>Working on setting up a process to spread out large expenses such as music teacher position.</p> <p>Jim-wondering if there is a PTA budget on the PTA website for when he is asked questions by staff. Also, he feels that transparency would be helpful as an organization raising money for the school.</p> <p>Abby-we will work on having this available on the website, but it is not</p>

	currently.
<p>News/Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> HM School Website (see below)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> HM PTA Employer match and Amazon Smile (see below)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> What the PTA has been up to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Leadership and Volunteer Opportunities and Updates for 22-23 school year</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Business partnerships chair/co-chair 22-23</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Horace Mann merch store: <p><a href="https://shop.game-one.com/minnesota/saint-paul/horace-mann-school">https://shop.game-one.com/minnesota/saint-paul/horace-mann-school</a></p> </li> </ul>	<p>Horace Mann spirit wear is print-on demand and 10% of sales goes to the PTA. There are many options for both kids and adults including shirts, sweatshirts, pants, shorts, mugs, etc. All feature the Horace Mann logo with the gnome-the same as on the red t-shirts that all Kindergartners receive</p> <p>Amazon smile is set up, so please order through amazon smile and designate Horace Mann School PTA!</p>
<p>PTA Team Updates (see below)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Free Family Nights - Bingo on Nov. 15</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Read-a-thon - Nov. 1-27</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Scholastic Book Fair - Dec. 1-9 HMS school library - Looking at 3 days after school Dec 5-9</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Silent and Live Auction Team - Great Gatherings</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Give to the Max Day - Thursday, Nov. 17</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> MITI event, Dec 1</li> </ul>	<p>Book fair is happening, but due to a conflict it isn't during conferences. Will take place after school on 12/1-9. Information coming shortly.</p> <p>12/1 Make it Take it with many craft items!</p> <p>Great Gatherings-associated with the HM PTA Auction. Anyone can sign up. Horace Mann Families host gatherings typically in spring/summer-can be a playground meet-up, adults only events, themed parties, end of school year parties. It's a great way to build community and raise funds. Many families will partner together on the same event. The families who host cover the cost of the event. All proceeds go directly to the PTA.</p> <p>Red hats will be ordered for Kindergartners (will continue going forward if approved by the board) and working on adding them to the store so that older kids can purchase them as well.</p> <p>BooBash was a great fundraiser (most ever raised!) for the Eagle Bluff field trip. Will greatly reduce the cost of for students.</p>
<p>Open Forum/Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> January meeting - Amy Nelson MNpta president</li> </ul>	

<input type="checkbox"/> Over 9K raised at the Boo bash	
Adjourn	

**HM PTA website:** [www.hms-pta.org](http://www.hms-pta.org) If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please email [web-admin@hms-pta.org](mailto:web-admin@hms-pta.org)

**Employer match and Amazon Smile:** We also encourage families to check with their employers as many offer a company match to the cash donations made by their employees and if you are an Amazon user, go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and search for “PTA Minnesota Congress 008740 Horace Mann PTA” and designate HM PTA as your charitable organization.

#### **Treasurer’s Report Fiscal Report for 2022-23 School Year:**

- If you are interested in more details of the PTA budget please contact Abby or Alex directly at [treasurer@hms-pta.org](mailto:treasurer@hms-pta.org)

#### **Team Reports:**

##### **Give to the Max Day**

GiveMN's annual statewide giving date, Give to the Max, is coming up on November 17. We are once again fortunate to have a MATCHING GIFT for the occasion — anonymous Horace Mann families will match dollar-for-dollar every donation made to the PTA, including online or offline Readathon donations. That includes gifts made beginning November 1 through Give to the Max Day on November 17th.

[2022 Horace Mann Read-a-Thon | GiveMN](#)

##### **Directory, Carley Odens:**

Digital version has been sent out to parents and paper copies were sent home with oldest student during the week of 11/1.

##### **FVS, Kristan Nolan & Meghan Rodriquez:**

- BINGO Night 6-7pm 11/15
- Movie Night 1/13 6-8pm
- Dance Party 2/10 6:30-7:30pm

##### **Make It Take It, Grace Hanson**

Save the date: December 1st, 2022 4:30-7:00 for winter crafting in the cafeteria

Later this week in Perspectives we will be posting more information about the crafts and how to sign up/RSVP.

##### **Read-a-thon, Becky Mayer & Andrea Mayer:**

- Theme: Friendship and Belonging
- Date Range: Nov 1-Nov 27
- Opening ceremony was Wed, Oct 26 at 930 am in the gym
  - Great event! Llamas were a hit with the students!

- Closing ceremony is Fri, Dec 9 at 8am in the gym
  - All School Challenges
    - Read 600,000 minutes as a school for Principal Litwin to complete the Principal Challenge. Who remembers what that is? (guesses) That is right! Kiss a llama from Rick and his llamas!
    - 100% participation for a school-wide pajama party and the students get to pick the pajamas Litwin would wear, and Litwin will read the llama pajama book.
  - Individual Classroom Challenge
    - Individual classroom with the most minutes read will get a pizza party

#### **Scholastic Book Fair, Maureen Hartung:**

- Date/Event: December 1st - 9th in partnership with Read-a-thon and in person.

#### **Silent & Live Auction Team: Allison Broughton:**

- In-person, adults-only evening event at University of St. Thomas - Friday, March 3 – get ready for a boatload of fun!
- Silent Auction bidding will be online, opening 1 week ahead of 3/3/23 event
- Save-the-Date with more details in December
- Seeking event sponsors & donated items (it's never too early!)

#### **Current Board Members:**

President & Vice President: Jen Williams & Grace Hanson [president@hms-pta.org](mailto:president@hms-pta.org)

Treasurers: Abby Mosher & Alex Stuart [treasurer@hms-pta.org](mailto:treasurer@hms-pta.org)

Teacher Representatives: Amy Kortuem & Mark Lindskoog [teacher-rep@hms-pta.org](mailto:teacher-rep@hms-pta.org)

Communications: Karen Vander Sanden & Katie Bliss [communications@hms-pta.org](mailto:communications@hms-pta.org)

Recording Secretary: Catherine Guglielmo & Allison Broughton [recorder@hms-pta.org](mailto:recorder@hms-pta.org)

Volunteer Coordinator: Chandra Kilgriff: [volunteer.coordinator@hms-pta.org](mailto:volunteer.coordinator@hms-pta.org)

#### **Attendees:**

Grace Hanson

Mark Lindskoog

Jim Litwin

Andrew Fink

Katie Bliss

Lucas Koerner

Andrea Mayer

Delina

Catherine Guglielmo

Abby Mosher

Brandon Mason

Jen

Sarah Munro

Rachel Abbott

Robyn Brown

