

2023-24 Horace Mann PTA Meeting Agenda  
 Thursday, May 16 2024 HMS School Library  
 6:00-7:00pm

Agenda Item:	Who:	Time:	Notes:
Welcome and Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approval of the March minutes:  <a href="#">PTA meeting notes- March 18th, 2024 – Horace Mann School PTA (hms-pta.org)</a></li> <li>• Last PTA meeting of the year</li> </ul>	Grace	3 min	Mr. Litwin; Sam Smith; Grace Hanson; Gina Corradi; Allison Deep; Katie Bliss; Delina Ferfon; Ross Stedman; Lisa Ortmann; Christine Holloway; Joy Collman; Chandra Kilgrift; Abby Mosher; Andrea Gleckner; Ellen Osthus
Principal's Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highlights from the 2023-24 School Year</li> </ul>	Mr. Litwin	5 min	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Student surveys               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Focus on closing the gap of racial disparities. Working specifically with students of color to understand their points of view.</li> <li>○ Idea for next year, smaller focus groups / 1-minute conversations with kids</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Reading               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MCA results – reading scores will likely be down, a good indicator to show that moving reading support to 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grades is a good decision.</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Math               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Early indication for math MCA we will meet our goal / maybe be 9 – 10 pts higher than anticipated!</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Behavior referrals               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 950 total referrals: 174 referrals for behaviors we need to change or improve upon, 776 referrals for positive behaviors. 5.5:1 – positive behavior : negative behaviors</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

			<p>5. Attendance goals will all be hit! 95% of kids will be present and attending school for year, all subgroups were at 5, 6, 7% in absences</p> <p>6. We will have over \$350,000 volunteer hours again this year!</p>
Teacher updates	Mr. Lindskoog/ Ms. Kortuem	10 min	<p>No teacher update tonight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lots of teacher activities using supply funds, field trips and appreciation for what we support.</li> <li>• PTA funds used to support 4-5<sup>th</sup> grade musical buying rights of music etc.</li> <li>• Alex has been working with teacher reps to clarify with teachers how to access funds / view available balance on spreadsheet</li> </ul>
<p>Treasurer's Report -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary 2024-25 Budget</li> <li>• Approval of early Fall 2024 expenditures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2024-25 budget is approved in September at the first PTA meeting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Alex/Abby	20 min	<p>See attached: Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In good shape – as above, this is the time of year when we see increased spending.</li> <li>• Plant sale – numbers still coming in. Net might be slightly lower</li> <li>• Proposed budget – reduce cash balance to just under \$50,000</li> <li>• Review of survey overall high-level input from survey participants was to keep things relatively the same as they have been</li> <li>• Goal is to have cash balance between \$30,000 - \$60,000</li> <li>• September 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We will conduct prelim vote on expenses related to readathon, teacher welcome back, spirit wear and field improvement work</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Current Budget discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase field trip budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Will have flexibility to adjust field trip budget next spring, unsure what right amount / student is, currently between \$20-\$28 / student. We will reevaluate in the fall.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Canines for change (EDL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ \$2000 - \$4000 request for students to work with animals to work through social / emotional, this would impact a small number of students (approx 20 x 4<sup>th</sup> / 5<sup>th</sup> graders)</li> <li>○ To compare:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PTA supports EDL programs through lego / robotics</li> <li>▪ Accelerated readers \$2000 / \$4000</li> <li>▪ Rollerskating 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade</li> <li>○ Discussion about Canines for Change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is it a one-time / ongoing need?</li> <li>▪ Ensure that students selected for canines for change would be students who have social / emotional challenges or have experienced trauma.</li> <li>▪ This would be in conjunction with special education teacher</li> <li>▪ Is there opportunity to make accessible during the school day?</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Accelerated Reader discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Unclear who is still using accelerated reader program, what is our process for evaluating in class enrichment programs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Lisa Ortmann to connect w teacher reps maybe during global workshop week before 2024 schoolyear.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>● Field Improvement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In general people support action to improve field. Hesitation is most related to ongoing maintenance and will this work long term. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Grading of field</li> <li>▪ Irrigation</li> <li>▪ Ongoing maintenance</li> <li>▪ Connections made: former HGRA president, parent with knowledge related to obtaining grants for trees</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Next steps: send email to district – engage in formal planning.</li> <li>○ Reviewing previous plans of HM field to ensure we do not make the same mistake with future field planning.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● PTA attendees voted on motion to approve fall budget</li> </ul>
<p>Approval of 2024-25 PTA Board members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● President: Grace Hanson</li> </ul>	<p>Team Chairs</p>	<p>5 min</p>	<p>Motion passed</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vice President: <a href="#">Gina Corradi</a></li> <li>• Treasurers: Alex Stuart and Sam Smith</li> <li>• Recorders: Andrea Gleckner and Sarah Liuzzi</li> <li>• Teacher Representatives: Amy Kortuem &amp; Mark Lindskoog</li> <li>• Communications: Lisa Ortmann</li> <li>• Volunteer Coordinator: Christine Holloway</li> </ul> <p>Thank you to outgoing Board members: Chandra Kilgriff, Abby Mosher, Katie Bliss</p>			
<p>Recognition/ Shout outs / thanks yours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you to Meghan Rodriguez and Kristan Nolan for a great year of Free Family fun nights.</li> <li>• Thank you to Maya Missaghi and the plant sale committee for their work in organizing the HMS Spring Plant Sale!</li> <li>• Thank you to Katie Bliss for her work organizing recognition for HMS staff and teachers and other volunteers!</li> <li>• Thank you to Delina Ferfon for her work on putting together the Yearbook this year and for many previous years.</li> </ul>		3 Min	<p>Thank you!</p> <p>Encourage people to sign up for carnival</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thank you in advance to the Carnival team for all the planning and prep work for this year's carnival: 2024 Carnival Committee: Jill Bathke, Katie Bliss, Jennifer Duda Butwinick, Sara Cerdan, Christina Connelly, Beth Marrinan, Molly Miller Mons, Emily Sadnick, Emily Sevig</li> </ul>			
Adjourn - Have a great summer!	Grace		

**Team Reports:**

**Free Family Fun night**

Last Free Family Fun night of the year - **Friday, May 24, 6-7** at the HMS playground.

**Spring Carnival**

The FREE Spring Carnival is coming up on **Friday, May 31 from 5-8**.

**Auction Committee News**

The auction committee thanks the entire school community for giving generously of their time, talent and resources to make this year's event a wonderful success. With your support, our total dollars raised is now over \$71,000\*!

There are still Great Gatherings happening before the end of the school year with spots available, including fun end of year and summer parties. Tickets can be purchased on the auction website here: <https://one.bidpal.net/hmauction2024/browse/fixedPrice>

The PTA recognizes that not all families have the financial means to purchase Great Gathering tickets. If you or a family you know cannot cover costs and have a student who would love to attend a Gathering, please don't hesitate to reach out to [hmgreatgatherings@gmail.com](mailto:hmgreatgatherings@gmail.com) to request a free signup.

**Auction Committee Volunteer Opportunities**

We would like to take this opportunity to recognize 5th grade parent auction planning volunteers Kaisa Johnson and Joy Collman, who will be graduating from Horace Mann this year. Thank you for sharing your enthusiasm, energy, wonderful ideas & creativity with us!

The auction committee always welcomes new members. We have open spots available for 2024-25 committee leadership and members - please contact Allison Broughton at [auction@hms-pta.org](mailto:auction@hms-pta.org) for more information if you'd like to join the fun!

\*inclusive of event, raffle and great gathering ticket sales; silent and live auction proceeds; donations; event sponsorships and Horace Mann mug sales. Total shown is before expenses.

### **Yearbook**

Yearbooks should be delivered to all students around the end of May. Thank you to all who submitted photos and for Delina Ferfon for putting it together!

### **STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK: THANK YOU HMS STAFF!**

Thank you to the Recognition committee for organizing staff appreciation 2 weeks ago.

To show our appreciation to our wonderful staff, the PTA provided a staff "snack bar" this past week in the break room with drinks and grab-and-go goodies (all week!). We also catered a lunch from Panera on Wednesday.

**Horace Mann Spiritwear Store:** <https://shop.game-one.com/minnesota/saint-paul/horace-mann-school>

New colors: pink and black options

### **Box Tops for Education::**

Support the HMS PTA at no additional cost to you using the Box Tops for Education App. [Click here](#) to learn more about downloading the app to your mobile device. Be sure to select "Horace Mann School, Saint Paul, MN" as your current school.

**Employer match:** We also encourage families to check with their employers as many offer a company match to the cash donations made by their employees

**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)

### **Current Board Members:**

President & Vice President: Grace Hanson & Gina Corradi [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: Katie Bliss [communications@hms-pta.org](mailto:communications@hms-pta.org)

Recording Secretary: Andrea Gleckner [recorder@hms-pta.org](mailto:recorder@hms-pta.org)

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