



MEETING NOTES

Hyde Park School PTO Board Meeting

May 7, 2025

Jen Eisenstein - President | Nick Schuckman - Vice President | Chuck Hamman - Treasurer
John Brannon - Vice Treasurer | Jackie Potts - Secretary | Caroline Gregoire - Fundraising Chair
Jacquie Purcell - Volunteer Coordinator | Jessica Leimbach - Athletic Director | Rachel Harrison, Ed Paff- LSDMC |
Lavonda Kirkland - DEI Representative, LSDMC | Kate Loveland & Jessica Sattler - ILT Representatives | Mark Messerly-
Teacher Representatives

Principal's Report – Jill Sunderman

Current Initiatives - Jen Eisenstein

- **Important Dates**

- Teacher appreciation week is this week
- Field Day May 16 - volunteer now if you haven't already!
- May 17 - Beauty & The Beast Performance at 2:30 at Knox
- May 21- 6th Grade Moving on Ceremony
- May 22 - last day of school



- **Garden Update - Mike Murrison**

- the 6th graders have worked really hard to plan out the garden
- The website has soft launched. Instagram handle is out - please follow and share!
- May 20 - The 6th graders will be planting the first tree in the garden as their class gift with a plaque.
- Very close to launching full sponsorship/fundraising efforts
- Hoping to go in waves....can unlock the next wave once we have raised x amount of money for it.
- Cool opportunities to sponsor and leave a legacy at the school and in the garden
- We want anyone who wants to participate to be able to, so lots of tiered levels of giving time & money

Committee Reports

- **Fundraising – Caroline Gregoire**

- Spring celebration was a huge success...thank you to everyone that volunteered, donated and attended. Thank you for your help.
- if you know someone who won something, most things are in the office with Anne.... if you know someone who is missing their prize, please let us know.
- Final restaurant night of the year is Tuesday, May 13 all day (lunch or dinner) - if you do a carryout order, do it via phone not online. Mention hyde park school when ordering.
- She is moving on and Rachel Harrison will be taking over for her. Snaps for Caroline for a great year!

- **Financial Update – Chuck/John**

- o We are doing well with finances.
- o Spring celebration - raised over \$56k! - awesome work!
- o Read-a-thon was up
- o Pumpkin chuck was up
- o Social fundraisers were up
- o Expenses, we got lucky this year because we were able to get CPS buses to cover all the buses to the field trips....that helped us save money on our field trips. Saved about 10k by being able to use those buses.
- o Might be able to use those excess funds to create a library in the multi-purpose room
- Volunteering – Jacquie Purcell
- Athletics – Jessica Leimbach
 - o As Spring 2025 sports wrap up, please remember to return your uniform at the end of your season. Your coach will communicate the details for collection.
 - o Registration for Fall 2025 sports starts on Sunday, May 11.
 - o Our **SOCCER PROGRAM** is open to kindergartners through 6th graders. Kindergartners are encouraged to play in our Lollipop Division which includes one practice per week and no official games. All other soccer divisions should expect 2 practices per week and 1 or 2 games per weekend.
 - o Our **Rec League VOLLEYBALL PROGRAM** is open to 3rd – 6th graders both Boys and Girls (Note, the teams are NOT co-ed). There is a chance teams will be combined and grouped by grade. Expect 2 practices per week and 1 or 2 games on the weekend.
- o **RUNNING CLUB** is offered as an evening activity and is available for K-6th grades. We break run club into two groups which focus on teaching the kids proper running techniques as well as help them with proper pacing.
 - Kindergartner - 2nd Grades: practices one night per week focusing on getting the kids out running and active. At the end of the season they will participate in a "FUN RUN" with the older grades.
 - 3rd - 6th Grades: Practices are twice per week and the kids will do a progressive build to a 5K race at the end of the season (with teachers and parents).
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - Lavonda Kirkland
 - o Wrapping up our second year of having a DEI committee of the LSDMC.
 - o Very grateful that our school and district leadership is forging ahead with DEI
 - o What they're working on: continue to be a solid partner for PTO and help think through how we can engage more families in volunteering or supporting the school in different ways.
 - o Would like to roll out affinity groups in the school.

- o Strengthen black history month in the school - if you have any ideas or suggestions, please feel free to share them.
- o Working to bring back the sponsored purple badge clinic, etc.
- o Working to make sure all of the students feel included and part of the school community
- LSDMC – Ed Paff, Rachel Harrison, Ashley Hammond
 - o Discussed the badge clinic
 - o Just started a new buy nothing facebook page so that we can share what we have with others in our school community.
- VISIT THE LOST AND FOUND!!! - You probably have stuff in there!

Elections for 2025/2026 School year.

- Bios below
- Still Seeking a Vice President

Adjournment

Beth Russel - Running for Secretary

Beth Russell has 3 kids that will be at HPS next year - Rosie will be in 3rd grade, James in 1st grade, and Frances will be in Kindergarten. Beth works in Supply Chain & Digital Technology at GE Aerospace. When she is not working, Beth loves watching her kids Irish dance, doing puzzles and Lego sets as a family, and reading.

Beth has volunteered as a room parent for two years and is excited for the possibility of serving on the PTO as secretary.

Hilary VanderMolen - Running for LSDMC

She's a mom of two girls in 2nd and 4th grade and currently teaches at Knox Preschool. With a background in Spanish and ESL education, she brings years of experience and a passion for helping young learners. She's also served as Vice President and President of the PTO and has been involved in supporting positive school culture through the PBIS team.

Emily Ricciardi - Running for Vice Treasurer

Hello, my name is Emily Ricciardi. I am a math specialist at the Academy of World Languages and have three children attending Hyde Park School. I am excited to be serving on the Hyde Park PTO for the second time.