

# Hillside PTSA Parent Meeting

## MINUTES

Monday, October 7, 2019 6:30pm  
Hillside Library

### 1. PTSA Announcements (15 min.)

a. The New Book Fair begins on October 30 and the PTSA is looking for volunteers! Please contact Pattie Fernandez at [prfnyc@gmail.com](mailto:prfnyc@gmail.com) , or any of your Hillside PTSA board members

#### b. Fundraising

**i. Oliver's Labels:** Hillside will receive 20% off the purchase price of any clothing labels purchased through [www.oliverslabels.com/hohptsa](http://www.oliverslabels.com/hohptsa)

**ii. DeCicco's grocery:** Hillside earns about \$5-7,000 each year from DeCicco's shoppers. Register your frequent shopper card as 'Hastings PTSA'

**iii. Logo wear:** Will be available again at the New Book Fair. The PTSA needs volunteers to sell at that event (10/30-11/2) and to join the committee. To help, contact Kefira Wilderman at [kefiraw@gmail.com](mailto:kefiraw@gmail.com) .

**iv. Box Tops:** Are going Digital: download the app and scan your receipt to automatically submit earnings to Hillside. Paper Box Tops will still be collected as long as they are not expired. Any Box Top questions can be directed to Dorothy Neagle, [dneagle@hastingsptsa.org](mailto:dneagle@hastingsptsa.org)

**v. New Fundraiser:** starting in the fall of 2020, Back To School Supplies will be ordered in bulk through our local Hastings Stationery store, and families can purchase in advance through the PTSA. More details to come.

**vi. Sibling photos:** We are unable to hold sibling photos this year unless we have volunteers who are available to manage the project. Please contact Hillside VPs if you would like more information on this.

#### c. Committee updates

i. Green Team is through the District Wellness committee and is still getting set up.

ii. They are trying to encourage compostable items for Halloween events.

### 2. SEPTA Announcements (5 min.)

a. 8AM 10/8 Community Conversation, can talk to SEPTA about any needs, including: PBIS updates, inclusion outside the classrooms, writers workshop, Parent/Teach communication help.

b. Other meetings will be held on: Oct 24 at FMS and Oct 30 at the High School

- c. SEPTA is restarting parent support group which will be led by a licensed social worker, starting Mondays at 9AM on 10/21. Reach out to a SEPTA liaison for any help.
  - d. BoE is starting a Special Ed committee. Administrator from each building is working on developing. Open meetings if anyone wants to attend.
3. NYS Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) (Mr. DeKams, 10 min.)
- a. DASA Information presented: <https://www.hohschools.org/domain/1050>
4. School Updates (Ms. Cazes, 15 min.)
- a. Curriculum update;
    - i. Literacy work, we are in year 3 of a 5 year program. Writers Workshop is the focus of this year.
    - ii. All grade levels have 5 units - fiction and non-fiction; narrative, information and opinion pieces. Curriculum maps for ELA will be posted online shortly.
    - iii. There will be a Parent Writing Night in early 2020
  - b. Positive Behavior In School - Creative environment for students to know what TO DO and not focus on what NOT TO DO.
    - i. Demonstrate expected behavior within building, e.g., stairwell and hallway. Cafeteria signage - teaching into the behaviors there.
    - ii. Recognition program - whole classes that are modeling behavior through certificates.
    - iii. Recognize students and teachers during faculty meetings, etc.
    - iv. Older students starting to model and use the common language
  - c. New grants - [Sweethearts and Heroes](#) will begin in two weeks.
  - d. Colored in Character - Each assembly has a different color to bring school together. Encouraging kids and teachers to have them have an item of that color, **doesn't** have to be an item of clothing.
    - i. A list of colors will be provided in advance in the summer mailer
    - ii. This is a borrowed concept from other districts that have had success with. The language was lifted from mental health world.
  - e. Outdoor Classrooms - Create outdoor learning space in bird garden this year. Joe and his team are working on completing. We will have stadium seating in stone, read alouds, lessons, another opportunity to get outside.
  - f. New BLT topic for this year -
    - i. Brainstorm how to integrate "Construction" into lessons with construction starting in September
    - ii. Need one more member, a call to apply will be sent out within the next month. The committee meets 3:15PM-4:15PM, 3 times a year.

iii. Previous topics were: Homework guidelines, how to recognize core values in school.

5. Q&A - Ms. Cazes & Mr. DeKams (5 min.)

6. Q&A - PTSA & community (5 min.)