

PTA '26-'27 Highland Meeting — Meeting Notes

Date: 9/24 | **Meeting called to order:** 6:10PM | **Meeting adjourned:** 7:12PM

Attendees: PTA Board (President- Alexa Robison, Vice Presidents - Maddie Benson, Brenna Fosset, Treasurer- Megan Jones, Secretary- Rachel Voelke-Kuhlmann)

In attendance: Joy Studer, Jenni Caudill, Sarah Danielson, Haileigh Button, Tyler Button, Dana Altenhofen, Ixia Thompson, Dianne Almand, Lauren Gist, Ryan Gillenwater, Katelyn Reilly, Anna Davis, Ruth Cielo, Wes Davis, Amy Kulp, Jen Schmidt

Welcome and meeting guidelines

- a. Board introduced
- b. [Committee](#) chairs:
 - i. Yearbook - Lacy Higgins
 - ii. Art Docent- Jen Schmidt
 - iii. Highlight Halts Hunger- Amy Kulp
 - iv. Staff Appreciation- Joy Studer
 - v. Events and Fundraising- Melinda Wong Hope and Alexa
 - vi. Watchdogs- Boris Fayerberg
 - vii. Spirit Wear- Maddie Benson
 - viii. 5th Grade Celebration- Brenna Fosset

Review of May '26 Meeting Minutes- Rachel Voelke-Kuhlmann, Secretary

Motion to approve by: Joy Struder

Seconded by: Jenni Caudill

Financial Report - Megan Jones, Treasurer

- Prior fiscal year recap and ending financial position
- Reporting period: Reconciled through 08/31/2026
- Bank balance: Available balance \$16,019.36 as of today, 9/24/26
- Expenses since reconciliation: Welcome Back Breakfasts, Back 2 School BBQ, Spirit Wear (income to net against expenses)
- Budget updates:
 - Move Spirit Wear to the fundraising income line in current year budget from "other income" line item
 - Projected to make \$650
 - As long as we don't have a physical store, we don't need a resellers permit

Motion to approve financial report and new fundraising line item: Jen Schmidt

Seconded by: Haileigh Button

Principal/Admin Report - Sarah Danielson, Highland Principal

- Welcomed everyone
- It has been a good start to the year :)

- Just sat down with Apex and Alexa to start planning the year
- Excited to partner with the PTA- welcome Sarah!

Board/Committee Reports

- **Yearbook**
 - No updates
- **5th Grade Celebration, Brenna Fosset**
 - In prep mode, will start to meet every other week in the new year
- **Art Docent, Jen Schmidt**
 - Every single classroom is covered with volunteers through October!
 - Partnerships with other volunteers encouraged
 - If you are interested in volunteering, even in the middle of the year to help, please reach out to Jen!
- **Spirit Wear, Maddie Benson**
 - We have a store, they are building a website- BSN out of Everett (they do a lot of sports teams)
 - They can warehouse anywhere, provide options like name brands or budget lines
 - Will offer everything offered at the BBQ and try to match the prices we have offered in house
 - Will offer sweats, socks, croc charms, etc
 - Will offer a donation back to the PTA
 - Can ship direct to home or to the school for distribution
 - Ideas for future merch
 - Make adult sizes
 - Have less options in “limited runs” that would encourage “collecting them all”
 - Do a “buy two” spiritware push, even just online/on instagram where parents can buy one for their kid, donate one
 - Any leftover merch will be donated to the school to give out to those who may not have the means to purchase
- **Staff Appreciation, Joy Struder**
 - Did staff breakfast with goodie bags for beginning of the year
 - Will do meal in November for teachers during conference week
 - In December, will do one big meal and another round of goodie bags
 - If staff is in need of anything, please contact Joy and she will add it to the wishlist
- **Events, Alexa Robison**
 - New [PTA Website](#)- events calendar, events with links to sign up genius
 - Currently on Highland Elementary website and will get added to the Highland Buzz News
 - Had great help at the back to school BBQ and new volunteers- thanks to all who helped
 - APEX
 - Coming up from 10/12 - 10/23
 - Fun Run will take place on Wednesday, 10/21

- Helps us to raise about \$50K a year
 - Kids can get prizes for parents even just messaging others about the fundraiser
 - Do not need to be present for Fun Run in order to donate
- Run Club - first one is tomorrow (9/25)
 - We are full on volunteers :)
- Hot Dogs with Watch Dogs
 - Highland Cafeteria 10/1 at 6pm
 - Free food and chance for dads of Highland to learn more
- Picture Day
 - October 7th (6 volunteers needed in two shifts)
- Harvest Festival
 - Friday, October 30th
 - Event with Halloween costumes since kids can't have costumes during the day at school
 - Provides safe space for candy and friends can see costumes
 - Features music, food games, etc
 - Volunteers needed- event info and signup will be on PTA website
- General Volunteers Needed: Terese at the front desk needs volunteers throughout the year to help with things like workbook pages ripped out, page cutters
- **Highland Halts Hunger, Amy Kulp**
 - Teachers ask students to bring in snacks, but some kids don't have a snack
 - PTA fills the gap by sending in snacks for the teacher, - teacher can decide whether to send snack home or just give it out in class
 - Get snacks from Costco/Grocery Outlet- if anyone is a teacher who could benefit please let us know!
 - If anyone has donation or wants to help pack snacks, let us know
 - Snacks must not contain nuts

Future Fundraising Opportunities

- Just Between Friends- coming up next month, offering up postcards that get them free admission to sale. If they bring postcard, we get money back
- No longer working with Sahara pizza as a fundraiser - look into alternative fundraising opportunities
- Looking to put Highland artwork up at Dwellers or other local breweries

Future PTA Meeting Ideas

- [PTA meetings](#) will be held around the first Thursday of every month, alternating between 6pm and 4pm in the Library or Cafeteria
- **Next meeting:** Thursday, October 8th at 4pm in Highland Cafeteria
- Meeting minutes will be posted to the website

- Working on getting event fliers out 2 weeks ahead of time; members will get agenda, budget, anything we will discuss, any grants, fliers and bylaws and newsletters in advance of meeting
- Ideas for future meetings:
 - Have SLC accommodations at the PTA meeting (or even events like One Book, One School) with staff person there as a resource (could have activities for sensory friendly room that reflect the larger event)
 - High school seniors who have taken baby sitting courses- looking for volunteer hours to watch kiddos to help cover PTA meeting

Unfinished Business

- Got the new EZscan cards which are so much nicer for Run Club ;)
- Bike rack - new and approved from last year- consider getting more if needed
- Full fridge and microwave in the staff lounge

New Business

- One book, One school
 - Request has been submitted for funding, but will put in order
 - Looking to hold event on Wednesday, February 24th
 - We will need volunteers - stay tuned for sign up!
- Bylaws
 - Will add in spirit wear committee as there are a lot of hands handling it
 - Small edits like changes from Fresh News to Highland Buzz
 - Added our new Motto "Together we help the Hive thrive" and Mission Statement: "Together, we inspire a Highland community where every Hornet feels supported, every family feels connected, and every staff member has the resources needed to help students thrive."
 - Reflections need to be added (by PTA requirements) - may need to be a committee/budget
 - We will send out the bylaws (and add to the website) and will hold off approving until the next meeting
- PTA Membership Reminders
 - Need to join the PTA committee to become a member
 - Need to renew PTA membership every year

Coffee Card Raffle Winners: Dana, Ixia, Anna

Motion to approve ending the meeting at 7:12pm: Jenni Caudill

Second: Haleigh Button

Reference Links:

[Highland PTA Facebook link](#)

[Highland PTA Instagram Link](#)

