**HKIMS PTO MEETING via ZOOM call November 4, 2020**

Meeting was called to order by Jen Savoy @ 7:04pm

**Members in attendance**: PTO Board Jen O’Neal (Co-Vice President), Jen Savoy (Treasurer), Alisha McNamara (Secretary), Principals Eric Larson (I.S.) & Dolores Bates (M.S.), BJ Noonan

**Secretary’s Report (Alisha McNamara):**

October minutes reviewed and approved

**Treasurer’s Report (Jen Savoy):**

Reviewed by Jen Savoy with no pressing questions

**Old Business:**

Button machine: The Board wondered the status of the button machine. Dolores reported that Michele was making progress with the buttons but was unsure if the students were completed.

Bus Driver Appreciation- We will honor our drivers in November and will see if the other PTOs want to combine efforts with us. We can create a Sign-Up Genius with a list of gift cards for them to choose from, like we did for Teacher Appreciation in the spring. Or, we will create a paper list for them to fill out at the office. There are about 25-30 buses and drivers. Karen Castelli will follow up with the Transportation office and the other PTO boards.

**Principal’s Update**:

(Dolores Bates-Middle School)

This past week Ms. Bates met with each POD regarding the students’ emotional states, health, and any added stressors that this year may have brought on. We know that full remote learning means more isolation, and this discussion was meant to draw attention to the strong body of support that the children have. The discussion led into the topic of coping skills and self-care, and the importance of students taking time for themselves. Following the meeting, the students took a wellness survey. The support staff will review their responses and will follow up with children that have expressed concern over their own well-being. The staff has discussed having a ‘Wellness Wednesday’ as time to check in and continue the conversation between students and teachers regarding their wellness and physical and mental health.

Veteran’s Day- Though we cannot host an assembly this year, the students will still honor our heroes by watching videos of interviews with local veterans in their Social Studies classes.

Turkey Trot- The P.E. department is putting together a Turkey Trot for the day before Thanksgiving. Each POD will participate together in the one-mile run. The PTO and/or Food Services will provide a small snack at the conclusion of the run. BJ will coordinate this with Michele.

(Eric Larson- Intermediate School)

If a bus is running late, the STA will now send out an email to the families of children riding that specific bus. The app that STA was trying out over the last two years was discontinued this year.

Mr. Larson is part of a committee of people which includes the Selectmen of each town, the Superintendent, and various teachers and parents, whom are looking for community input. They’re interested in learning about the skills and dispositions we want our HKHS graduates to possess. Parents will receive a survey and are asked to complete it by the beginning of December.

**Committee Reports**:

Book Fair (BJ Noonan)- The fall book fair began on Monday, November 2, and will run for two weeks. BJ will send reminders via Facebook and email.

Meeting adjourned 7:43pm by Jen Savoy

Next meeting: December 2, 2020

Respectfully submitted by Alisha McNamara