

Henking Hoffman PTA meeting
Tuesday, May 26, 2009
Henking
Called to order at 9:26 AM

Attendees: Maureen Geiger, Ivy Sukenik, Neal Siegellak, Maggie Rogula, Jodi Hiller, Laura Horwitz, Mary Patronik, Andrea Wells, Marcy Sotirchos, Shonne Ehrhardt, Linda Bolotin, Mark Walther and Angela McCune

The April Minutes were incomplete so approval was deferred until the PTA meeting in September.

President's Report-Ande Wells

Welcome to Ivy Sukenik, we are looking forward to working with you in your new role as Principal of Henking School. The Hoffman Book Fair was a wonderful event. It was well organized and the financials look comparable to past book fairs. The Open Houses at both Henking and Hoffman were well attended and huge successes. At the last School Board meeting Ms. Wu, the Art teacher at Henking, created and presented an iMovie describing the Empty Bowls program. Walk-In Day is scheduled for 8/11 at both schools. Thank you for the opportunity to represent Henking and Hoffman for the past year as the PTA President and I look forward to continuing on the Board next year. I want to thank Mary Patronik for stepping up to be President for the 2009-2010 school year. Also, I want to thank Marcy Sotirchos and Marguerite Cole for sharing their talents and time. They are stepping down from the Executive Board but will continue to be involved on a variety of committees. Lastly, I would like to thank Neal Siegellak for all he has done for the children of Henking School and for his leadership over the last three years.

PTA Council-Angela McCune

The last PTA Council Meeting was held earlier this month. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) was the key agenda topic. PLCs are grade/team based collaborative teams that work together to ensure that the essential standards/learning outcomes occur. To do this they create a minimum of four common assessments per year for a particular subject area. They then review the data to locate areas of strength and areas for growth. Goals are then derived and implemented from the data and then the process starts over again. Dr. Rich, the Principal at Pleasant Ridge, stated that they have already seen positive results in the form of higher test scores.

The Environmental Committee, Tammy Burke and Mary Hershey, presented a proposal for the four PTA's to sell high quality stainless steel water bottles that are affordable at a cost of \$5.00 each. The goal is to decrease the use of disposable bottles. Every month our students recycle or toss over 5,000 bottles. Even with recycling, we are still wasting non-renewable resources. The plan at this time is to sell the bottles in the Fall. At that time, the green reusable bags would also be available to purchase. All of the PTA's liked the proposal and will bring it back to their individual PTA's for approval.

The new slate was introduced and a new committee was added. In response to several meetings that were held this year it was decided that one of the members of the

PTA Council should act as an ELL liaison between the schools/social workers/administrators and the PTA's. This person will work to increase the communication about the needs of the program and how the PTA can help.

Treasurer's Repost-Laura Horwitz

As of today, 55 families have signed up and paid dues for membership in the PTA for next year. Registration is ongoing and this number is expected to go up. The final numbers are in on Spa Night, this event earned \$1,715! Shop/Share which includes Shop n Share days, the Back to School promotion from Dominick's and payments from Target earned the PTA \$2,691.40 over the course of the year.

Principals Report

Mark Walther- Hoffman School

- Thank you to Neal Siegellak for his devotion and service to Henking School!
- A special welcome to Ivy Sukenik and a sincere wish for much success in her new role as Principal!
- Thank you PTA for the wonderful Teacher Appreciation Week treats and services! The door decorations were an especially big hit.
- The Book Fair was a huge success! Special thanks to Lara Herbolsheimer and Krista Rachiele for their fine leadership!
- The 5th grade Picnic is just around the corner-special thanks to Tammy Langas, Beth Boland, and Meredith McKinley for their enthusiastic leadership!
- Open House was fantastic-Thanks for your presence and support!
- 3rd Grade Student and Parent Orientation was highly successful-new format-2 days, more personable, strong student and parent response!
- Special thanks to all of our room mothers for their devoted service this year!
- Field Day will be on Wednesday, June 10- 9:00 AM-Noon and the Awards Assembly is at 1:00 PM.
- MAPA is Wednesday May 27 from 7:00-8:30 PM.
- Thanks you PTA for your incredible support of our schools! Special thanks to Ande Wells for stepping up to lead us and for doing such an impressive job! Best wishes to Mary Patronik in her new role as President! We look forward to working with you!

Neal Siegellak-Henking School Principal

Board of Education Highlight: At the May 18 Board of Education meeting four students (Ye Han K., Joey P., Morgan T., and Georgette T.) joined Ms. Wu and Mrs. Patronik to present a Henking highlight from this school year. The group shared information about "Empty Bowls," that included a 10-minute video that Ms. Wu had prepared.

Henking to Hoffman Transition: Second graders visited Hoffman School on May 19 and 20. Students were paired with third graders from Hoffman to learn about their school for next year. The students toured the Hoffman School and there was a Q and A session with Mr. Walther. An information night for parents was held on May 21.

Kindergarten Parent Orientation: . . .took place the evening of May 20. Incoming kindergartners had a chance to visit the classrooms with the kindergarten teachers while parents listened to a presentation in the gym.

Kindergarten Screenings: . . .are taking place this week. The information helps teachers and me to make class placement decisions and begin instruction in the fall.

Spirit Day: . . .is on June 5 this year. Henking School appreciates the work of the committee and Marcy Sotirchos in planning and coordinating all of the volunteers who make the day a success each year.

New School Task Force Recommendation: The task force has completed its work in determining that District 34 can meet the student population requirements using existing building capacity. The task force listed possible programmatic changes that can accommodate the student population without a need to build a new school.

Staff Update: Julie Bentle has been selected to teach art at Henking for the 2009-10 school year. Julie has taught for nine years at both the elementary and high school levels. She earned her undergraduate degree in *Art Education* from the University of Illinois and her graduate degree in *Teacher Leadership* from Roosevelt University.

Padres Alumnos Maestros Avanzando: . . .or *PALMA* is a newly formed group designed to help parents of Spanish-speaking students navigate the American educational system (*NAES*). Lillian Uhler, Madeline Collins, Sabina Beyer, and Melissa Litwin attended the *NAES* training in February and they met with parents on May 5. The teachers will plan four evening meetings with parents during the course of the next year. The meetings will strengthen the partnership between students, parents, and teachers to support learning.

Open House: Open House was an event that many families attended on May 7. This is a tribute to the students feeling proud about their learning and wanting to share it with their parents; it also shows what an involved and dedicated community of parents there are at Henking School.

Teacher Appreciation Week: The teachers felt great with the tokens of appreciation, such as decorations on their doors and snacks to nourish them during the week. Thank you to the room parents for showing appreciation for the work of the Henking Staff.

Class Placement: Teachers and I will meet the week of June 1 to make class placement decisions for the 2009-10 school year. Academic and social factors are considered in making a good match to help each child be successful. Parental input is valuable, as well. Input that parents often provide relates to which students a child should or should not be placed with in the same classroom. Requests for specific teachers are not honored.

Farewell, Henking: This is my last PTA meeting, serving as your principal. The past three years have been an extraordinary experience for me. I am grateful and blessed to

have served the Henking community. I will take many fond memories of the students with me and I thank you.

Election and Confirmation of Board Members

The slate for the PTA Executive Board for 2009-2010 was presented and voted upon by all who were present. The votes were to approve the slated candidates. The Board is as follows:

President	Mary Patronik
1 st VP members/Volunteers	Ande Wells
2 nd VP Cultural Arts/Hoffman	Laura Horwitz
3 rd VP Cultural Arts/Henking	Jodi Hiller
Secretary	Maggie Rogula
Treasurer	Angela McCune
Asst. Treasurer	Cheryl Hoker

Committee Reports

Teacher Appreciation Week-Laura Horwitz

The first week of May was set aside to celebrate and let the teachers of Henking and Hoffman know how much we appreciate them! Some of the activities were a breakfast for the staff, mini massages, decorating teacher’s classroom doors, snacks, and poems. This year the lunch was held in March and then there was a special week in May. The feedback from the teachers was very positive. Bobbie Murokh will chair this week next year.

Motion to close at 11:15 AM.