

Howard PTO Meeting

January 11, 2012 12:00 PM

- I. Call to Order and Welcome--Meg Culp, Pres.
- II. Invocation--Margye Northington
- III. Speakers
 - a. Principal Report by Mr. Dan Bolen
 - i. Question and Answer Format- New offices to be constructed this summer along with A/C being put in the gym. Spanish Immersion meeting dates to be posted soon. Volunteers have been a huge success in the classroom but we can always use more.
 - b. AHS Foundation Grant Recipient- Mrs. Bibb
 - i. Spoke about the great opportunity it is to provide enrichment for our kids and what an exceptional thing our district does to fund new, innovative ideas. Shared her experience of writing grant , being accepted and what it involves.
 - c. AHISD Wellness Coordinator- Michelli Ramon
 - i. Position funded completely by AH School Foundation
 - ii. She is a licensed Social Worker and Psychotherapist
 - iii. Spends most of her time working with 9-12 grade students- counseling and intervening about drugs, alcohol and violence
 - iv. Spoke about this age being self-centered and selfish (survival mode)
 - v. Brain Development- frontal lobe develops last (area of reasoning, logic and words)
 1. At this age, our kids have an 8 second time limit for what they can process in a moral lesson
 2. Friends of parents were more able to make frontal lobe "light up" in tests, not the parents themselves
 3. The "Hannah Effect"- friends and peers have a huge influence
 - vi. What can we do??
 1. Provide inspiration and community- kids who have something to do and a group to be a part of are less likely to involve themselves in destructive habits (Let them know your line in the sand.)
 2. There is no such thing as privacy- you have a right to be in their space.
 - d. Board Reports
 - i. Visiting Author- Julie Peeler
 1. February 1st in the Library
 2. _____ Winner of the Bluebonnet Award
 - ii. Valentines for Teachers- Laura Broderick
 1. Donate in honor of your teacher
 2. Benefits the entire staff

- iii. After-School Enrichment
 - 1. December brought in a total of \$5580 and after expenses...\$2474
 - 2. Next ASE- Jan 30-Feb 2
 - 3. Need Volunteers and help with snacks
 - 4. Discussion over help with donations for snacks
- iv. Book Fair- Heidi Duke and Brooke Peacock
 - 1. Feb. 27-March 2 from 8-2:30 each day
 - 2. Goal is \$10,000
 - 3. Volunteer sheet passed around for help
- v. Project Care- Cayce Harris
 - 1. 50 kids served and the project was a great success
 - 2. Thank you notes from the families were shared
- vi. Poinsettias- Audra Kerr
 - 1. Small profit brought in, have vendor lined up for next year along with a back up
- vii. Hospitality/Teacher Appreciation- Carey Hildebrand and Taryn Sharpe
 - 1. First Fridays are going well- anyone can donate if they have something

New Business and Adjourn