

Harry S. Truman PTO  
1400 Gaskill Ave  
Allentown, PA 18103  
610-791-2800

**PTO MEETING – Monday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**

Call to Order by Board Jennifer Kelley, President: 7:00 PM

Roll Call of Officers: All officers present

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

**Treasurer's Report:** Ending balance is \$9,652. Dan Shantz, Kid Stuff and PTO membership haven't been accounted for at this point. Once fundraisers are wrapped we will have a more accurate account of the income from the fundraisers.

**Principal's Report:** We had excellent attendance at our Open House. Thank you to the PTO for having a table and volunteers present in our lobby. Most parents seemed appreciative that we took into consideration their busy schedules when shifting to one evening for the event.

Thank you to the PTO for hosting our Back to School Dinner and Dance. I enjoyed seeing the great attendance at the event and had a blast grilling burgers and hot dogs for those in attendance.

Blessings in a Backpack is back at HST. We are privileged to have such a wonderful and rewarding program here at Truman!

School will be closed on Monday October 8th in observance of Columbus Day. HST will have an early dismissal on Friday November 2nd, students will be dismissed at 1:00pm.

T-Shirt day is Thursday October 11th, and Thursday October 25th. Please have your students wear their HST gear!

On Tuesday October 23, Kindergarten will take a field trip to Seiples Farms to enjoy all the festivities fall has to offer. This is always exciting for our students.  
Thank you, PTO, for sponsoring this event!

**Teacher's Report:** Kindergarten: So happy to have our headphones! Also getting excited about our Field trip to the Pumpkin Patch. Thanks for the wonderful things you do for HST!!!

First Grade: Nothing to report

2nd Grade: We have received some information about our annual dinosaur dig. The cost is the same as last year, we will let you know when we finalize a date with you. Thanks for all you do!

3rd Grade: Thank you for our school shirts! We love them!! We are scheduling our Quiet Valley field trip. There has been an increase in cost this year. Thank you for your continued support. We will send more information once date is finalized.

4th Grade: Once again, thank you for the school shirts, it is great to see a sea of green on t-shirt days. We are looking forward to going to Harrisburg in November. Thank you for funding the trip. Thank you for all of you do for the students and staff at HST. We appreciate it.

5th Grade: A big thank you for the school T-shirts that add to our HST spirit!

Specialists: Nothing to report

Other: The Treasure Room should be up and running soon! The kids are looking forward to it. Heavenly Hat day is Oct. 5th. All donations will be given to the Heavenly Hat foundation.

<https://heavenlyhats.org>

We are in the process of setting up a "prep rally" on Oct. 12. The kids love seeing the falcon at HST.

### **Committee Reports/Fundraisers/Events-**

Phantoms Game: Will take place on 12/21, tickets will be \$20 for the lower level. The chorus will sing the Star Spangle Banner

Back to School Cook Out- Back to school dinner was well attended, some WSE were also able to join us. We used a new DJ this year, parents and the board really enjoyed this DJ and found him to be very engaging. We plan to use this DJ for future events.

Open House- Open house went very well, thank you for coming. PTO sold old shirts, old yearbooks and Dan Shantz Cards.

Restaurant Night Fundraisers: Joanmarie Blunt will coordinate this fundraiser event. We are looking in to having a restaurant night once a month at local restaurants. Restaurants proposed are Texas Roadhouse, Applebee's, Woody's, Red Robin, Lorenzos, Ariels,

Dan Schantz: Ongoing. Sale ends on 10/12.

Kid Stuff: Closing out shortly, next meeting we will have a solid number on the profit from this fundraiser. Proposed idea to use the app next instead of the physical books. Concerns were raised that stores don't know how to use the app and the app not loading. Parents would like to stick with the books and not convert to the app.

T-Shirts- We still have some available for sale \$10.00 a piece

Gift Card Sales- Devon Dredge will be the coordinator again this year. Gift card sales will be a little earlier this year, so families can use the cards for Black Friday/Holiday shopping.

School Directory: A paper copy of the directory will no longer be sent home, it will be emailed out. Suggestion to see if it can be linked to the students sapphire account, Beth Neitz will check with Mr. Brem to see if this is an option and get back to us. Goal is to have it sent to Mr. Brem for distribution next week.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Headphones: Different headphones have been found for 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade, as the original ones selected are too small for these grade levels. Mr. Brem asked if PTO would split the cost of these headphones. Cost would be \$690.00, board approved splitting the cost.

My School Bucks: Some children were missing money from their accounts when they were not buying lunch and/or breakfast last year. There is a new food services director and she has figured out what was causing this issue. Students had the choice of pulling an id card from the café. This process will be switched back and students will be required to input their student id's.

School Budget: If anyone is interested in having a side meeting to further discuss the school budget with Dr. Ziegenfuss please let us know.

**NEW BUSINESS:** CONCERNS RE: The amount of candy being given to students as a reward, especially from subs. Suggestion to use Truman Treasures instead. Beth Neitz will email Mr. Brem with this concern.

CONCERNS RE: Good News club parent wondering what this club was about, how it came to be, wondering if could it be present differently to students being that its religious and not all families practice religion

Field Trip: Asked Beth Neitz to let the teachers know if they would like to switch up field trips this would be ok.

Party Invitations: Questions about party invitations, how we handle sending out invites. Solution was to look in the school directory for addresses/ phone numbers of kids to send invites. Or you can send the invites in to the teacher if you invite the whole class.

Drama Club: Parent would like to run a drama club, she will contact Mr. Brem about setting this up.

Holiday Gift Cards Teachers/Staff: In the past we purchased gift cards for every teacher and staff member in the school. Thoughts on giving staff members a smaller dollar amount than the teachers. Matter was brought to vote. Vote was unanimous to give the teachers a larger denomination, than the staff.

Holiday Shop: Holiday shop will take place from 11/27- 11/30. We will be using Little Shoppers Shop again this year. Our order has been placed for delivery on 11/12. We will need helpers for this event. In order to volunteer you need your clearances. Keep an eye out for sign up genius. Mr. Gnall is willing to be Santa again, if Mr. Lapp no longer wishes to do it.

Open Coordinator Positions: We have a few open coordinator positions

**Review Activity Calendar-** 10/5- Heavenly Hat Fundraiser. 10/8- No School, Professional Development Day, 10/10- School Board meeting 7PM, 10/11- T-Shirt Day and Fire Prevention Assemblies, 10/12- Salisbury Spirit Day, 10/19- Early Dismissal 1PM, 10/23- Coffee and Conversation @ SHS 8:15-9:00AM, 10/26 & 10-29-10/31- Book Fair, 10/26- Halloween Celebrations, 10/26- Halloween Parade 2-2:30PM, 10/29- Curriculum and Technology Meeting @ LCTI 7PM, 10/30- Evening Book Fair 6-8PM

Meeting Adjourned at 8:05PM, Next meeting Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7PM

**Respectively Submitted: Nicoll Spinner, Secretary**