

## **MEETING OF HIGHTOWER TRAIL MIDDLE SCHOOL**

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL**

**January 25, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 7:49am. Those in attendance were: Terri Rittenberg, Kirstin Baillie, Chris Hill, Maynard Gardner, Donna Holland, Catherine Hackney, Laura Montgomery, Donna S. Flood, Steve Budow, and Paula S. Hunt.

The minutes from the last meeting were brought forth. Steve moved to accept the minutes as written and it was seconded by Donna Holland. The motion carried.

Kirstin Baillie noted that we have 3 months essentially left for this Council. She felt maybe we should have subcommittees to help spur along the projects that are going on now. That seemed like a prudent idea and was generally accepted by the council.

### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

SPLOST IV is a big vote that is coming up. The budget for Cobb schools is "not pretty". SPLOST is for keeping up the physical properties, not to be used for payroll. Must get that information out to the general public and voters. LM would like for the parents to be informed before going to vote on this matter.

On February 11, 2013 at 6:30 pm, there will be a meeting at Dodgen Middle School to put our information on SPLOST IV AND QBE. Parent leaders: School Council, PTSA, Foundation are all encouraged to attend this meeting. We want parents to be educated and make up their own minds. Ways to spread the word: 2/19 meeting with Jeff Dess, International night at Tritt they gave out information on SPLOST IV. Also include it in the E-blast, front sign at HTMS, and phone call outs. Also 2/26 meeting with rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents would be a good venue to spread the information. LM will address the group and possibly Kim Scofi. LM will decide if Kim will speak on this topic or not.

There is a Facebook page started on this topic: Cobb Supporters for SPLOST 4. This page is to get out factual information on this topic.

On February 19, 2013, there is a meeting at 7:00pm at HTMS with Jeff Dess. The topic is What Parents Need to Know about Kids on the Internet.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **PE UNIFORMS**

Coach Maynard Gardner was introduced to the council and was brought to discuss the possibility of school PE uniforms. Ms. Postell was spoken to about the

possibility of uniforms the day before but was unable to attend the meeting. Gardner says that the first time anything is introduced there is always a battle. Ideas of uniform is good, need a behavior management plan in place for those not complying. Coach Gardner also showed the council a potential logo to be used on the shirts.

Steve Budow suggested prioritizing and putting a subcommittee in place. Subcommittee for finding uniforms is Donna Flood, Paula Hunt, and Terri Rittenberg, LM is in support of PE uniforms. It is important for parents to be aware soon to be prepared for next year and for the uniform policy to be enforced.

Information from the subcommittee needs to be turned in two days prior to the 2/22/13 meeting for distribution.

Chris Hill spoke about T-SPLOST III money, where did it all go? He had spoken with Judson Hill and Mr. Hill was going to find out from Tim Lee what went on. He had not heard yet as of that meeting day.

#### OUTDOOR AREA

Rob Wilson and the Manager of Home Depot at Merchants Walk are coming to HTMS to walk the area and decide what needs to be done. LM had a productive conversation with him about this. Dr. Lombardi said also that the man who provided the front sign can get the bricks for us.

Chris Hill agreed to spearhead this project, particularly from the construction side. Chris will contact Joe Lombardi to get together to discuss same. Would like to have it ready for rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade night.

#### PARKING LOT

Steve Budow looked at carpool in rainy weather. He was met with nasty and abrasive parents. Cars backed up on Post Oak Tritt. Rainy days are really bad, sunny days not so great either. It was discussed that there should be someone to tell the drivers to move forward, have a sign reading "First Car Stop Here". This person/people should perhaps have a vest and/or whistle. LM has suggested possibly having something like a Safety Patrol. There are kids who have approached her that are interested in this. There is a possibility of using the kids from Beta Club to help move the traffic. They would be able to earn service hours by doing this. LM has trouble asking staff to be here at 8am when they don't have to officially be here until 8:40, they won't be paid for this. The topic was left to discuss at another time.

The next School Council meeting will be on Thursday, 2/21/13 at 7:45am at HTMS. Meeting was adjourned at 9:07am.