



**HVPTO/HBEF Joint Board Meeting Minutes**  
**May 12, 2020**  
**Quarantine Edition**  
**Zoom Conference Call**  
**7:30pm**

*This meeting was held via Zoom conference call. On March 13th, 2020, Hermosa Beach School District announced it would close both campuses to avoid possible spread of COVID-19 effective March 16th, 2020. The school would move to a distance learning platform. In keeping the new social distancing protocol, the Joint Board meetings are now being held via conference call. Lisa Vargas Gardner and Carol Kluthe led the meeting on behalf of HVPTO and HBEF.*

**Call to Order: 7:30 pm**

Carol Kluthe started with getting approval of their 3/17 minutes. Camie McDowell made a motion to approve and Belinda Oaks seconded the motion.

Carol gave an update on Hearts of Hermosa. She said they had to pull 12 auction items which included teacher experiences, parties and events. But thankfully, significant funding came at the beginning of the year with Sketchers Walk etc.

Carol discussed their Spring Campaign called **Hearts In Hermosa**. It will have involvement from the City. The campaign was rolled out on May 6th. For people who make a donation, they will receive a Heart window cling. The City of Hermosa and HBEF will also be highlighting a teacher each week via social media on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#). They will be featuring Ms. Murphy, Mrs. Lange and Ms. Smith among others.

Also, thanks to the Hermosa Brewing Company, all of the money raised from their virtual music shows on Thursday nights will benefit HBEF.

Carol was also pleased to announce that there is a new auction item. An autographed Lady Gaga Guitar which will be on HBEF.org.

Carol also encouraged kids to make chalk art and submit photos.

Regarding recruiting, HBEF is still looking to fill positions. Kimbery Murgatroyd said she was a new family who moved to HB in Hermosa. She suggested we target new families who move in mid-year to welcome them into the school community. Carol agreed that it was a good idea to circle back with new families mid-year.

Kate Bruning reported that HBEF has raised \$6,000 so far for Hearts In Hermosa.

Megan Gerst and Sarah Matzen are working on sponsorship. They are developing more Thrive newsletters and planning to display Banners with sponsors on campus.

Belinda Oaks reported that as of the last 10 days, HBEF is \$270,000 away from their annual goal. HBYB donated an additional \$5,000 on top of their \$10,000. Plus HBEF is expecting the Windsong Grant and the Spring Campaign. Once the Windsong Grant comes in, HBEF will have hit their number from two years ago. That is actually a great milestone under the circumstances.

Ryan McDowell discussed the Endowment. There was not too much to report. The Stock Market has recovered quite a bit. Our portfolio is down 6%. They are currently at 2.5 million. Ryan said to expect more volatility ahead.

### Executive Board Reports

#### **HVPTO President - Lisa Vargas Gardner**

Lisa asked the board to approve the minutes from the March meeting. Gail Kiely made a motion to approve and Wendy Nussbaum seconded the motion.

Lisa discussed the proposed budget for next year. She and Wendy said it was difficult to anticipate how the school would move forward next year. Therefore, the PTO had to make certain assumptions on how they should budget for programs etc. They did cut out the Field Trip budget. This year's budget was \$190,000 and next year's budget is \$155,000. To date, the PTO has reached \$70,000 in fundraising. The PTO also has some reserve funds. Lisa and Wendy referred to their Proposed Traditional Allocations spreadsheet and noted the items in yellow were student activities that could change. The items that were not highlighted can hopefully remain intact.

Lisa said spending is considerably down. The Teacher grant budget was cut. Applications for next year's teacher grants will open next month. The budget can be found on the HVPTO website.

#### **Past Events**

Lisa reported that Staff Appreciation week went well. She ordered Amazon cards for Middle School Staff and key View Staff Members. The gift cards were delivered via e-mail. She described some of the week's highlights including: Raffle drawings everyday, Zoom experiences (Sound Bath, Yoga etc.), fun classroom events, goodies delivered to Valley and District offices. It was a great boost to our staff.

### **Executive Board Reports**

Wendy Nussbaum - Nothing to report other than proposed budget

Courtney Shott - Nothing to report

Becky Scholten and Gail Kiely - They are planning to host a Zoom for parents who are interested in volunteering for open positions. It will be held on May 21st at 4pm.

Julie Schmiler - Julie will be sending out Surf Report Extras when important announcements need to be made.

Christine Shultz and Dana Miller - They said room parent emails will be going out on Tuesdays.

There are two more events that PTO is planning this year.

1. Dolphin Dash/Field Day (official name is TBD) which will be the week of June 8th.
2. Graduation Events: PTO is working with Asst. Principal Ted Scott.

## **District and School Board Reports**

### **School Board Member - Jen Cole**

Jen wanted to extend her Thanks for Staff Appreciation Week. She also reminded everyone that it is Mental Health Awareness Month. Please check in with friends and family to make sure they are doing alright. She also wanted to address plans for next year. Planning with student safety is on the forefront of importance. She is having weekly meetings with other School Board Presidents and is welcoming ideas from people who hear how other school districts are handling distance learning and school reopenings. Tomorrow night, the School Board will discuss Pat's retirement. The new Superintendent search is moving forward. Also, the Board will discuss keeping grade levels at their current locations for the start of the 2020-21 school year, rather than relocate grade levels in advance of moving to occupy North School midyear and begin construction at View.

### **Superintendent - Pat Escalante**

Pat wanted to emphasize how much she appreciated Staff Appreciation Week. She is also impressed with how everyone can pull together to accomplish a task at a moment's notice. She is very proud of our district compared to other districts in the area. Our district doesn't get the funding but we are creative. The County has been incredible in guiding the Superintendents. There are 80 total. Technology has been a game changer for people who don't have access. Pat said that next year will not be a traditional school but she believes this could also offer new learning opportunities. A survey will be coming out in the next week about how parents feel about the safety of their environment. Cases are not yet going down. Pat reported the following stats from LA county:

3/16 there were 93 cases and no deaths

5/10 there were approx 30,000 confirmed cases and 1,500 deaths

### **Director of Administrative Services - Kim Taylor**

Kim stated that she is preparing to send out a survey next week. They want to capture data to see how everyone is connecting. Parents and Students will be asked to fill it out. It will be completely anonymous. She also wanted to echo Pat's remarks about Staff Appreciation Week.

### **Valley Principal - Amy Rockwell**

Amy stated that the principals are meeting with their grade levels. Teachers and Staff have been incredible, flexible and available. She said their dedication has been inspiring. Amy wanted to say thank you for Staff Appreciation Week.

### **View Principal - Sylvia Gluck**

Sylvia is extremely proud of her team. Sylvia has taken over communication to staff and parents. She was happy to announce the return of lunch clubs. There will be Legos, Arts and crafts, photography. She loved seeing all the familiar faces of students on the Staff Appreciation Video.

### **Valley Assistant Principal - Ted Scott**

Ted said that Staff Appreciation Week was wonderful. He is working on a Commencement Ceremony and taking all ideas. No idea is too small. He said it will be very special and will be excited to announce when everything is finalized.

### **Middle School Teacher Representative - Tammy Heath**

She did not have a lot to report. She will look forward to getting info on the upcoming Spirit Week. She is also willing to field any questions regarding the teachers' perspective during this distance learning time. Tammy said that Ms. Cole set up a page on the Valley Website under Middle School/Counseling that links a lot of helpful resources and videos for families.

### **Beach Cities Health District Representative - Ali Steward**

Ali wanted to reiterate that May is Mental Health Awareness Month. The theme is "It's Okay to Not Feel Ok!" There are some great speakers in the Speaker Series. The next one is Dr. Bianca Edison from Children's Hospital.

Carol Kluthe had a question about School Budget Revisions in Mid May. Will our school have an idea what Gov. Newsom will be doing? Pat Escalante said that Gov. Newsom will have a revision by Thursday, May 14th. And signs the budget by June 30th. Pat said that our district has cash in our reserve. The district can borrow against itself. By August, we will have a better idea of where the state is. Unfortunately, there will be layoffs. The district has to assess urgent needs over wants. Everything will depend upon when our school will reopen and what it will look like.

According to the California Board of Education: *Given the uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact California's response has had on a local educational agency's (LEA's) ability to meaningfully engage with stakeholders, Executive Order N-56-20 was established. This Executive Order extended the deadline for adoption of the 2020-21 LCAP from July 1, 2020, to December 15, 2020.*

Meeting Adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Schauwecker, HVPTO Secretary