



Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

## Meeting Minutes

**Call to Order:** 5:50pm

**Attendees:** Mr. Hathaway, Liz Krugliak, Staci Altman, Chantel Koker, Amy-Lynn Pelaez, Carly Geddes, Beth White, Samantha Gagnon, Caring Achberger, Camille Gorden, Kendra McClintic, Kristen Boudreaux, Catrina Prost, Tanesha Arthur, Samantha Pounds, Jasmyn Richardson, Amber Gilstrap, Brandi Ryder, Juliana Alves, Stacy Ann Cornell, Victoria Abolafia, Jamie Veale, Katie Quinten, Julie Gropper

**Approval of last meeting's minutes:** Aysheh motioned, Staci seconded.

**Approval items:** none

### Principal Hathaway's Report:

- Gaining more numbers:** 60 since Christmas, 6 middle school teachers, over 1300 students projected for start of next year.
- Testing season has begun:** Jamie Veale: testing calendar posted on school website. Everyone 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade has been tested in reading except for one person! Younger kids start their testing the week of the 21<sup>st</sup>. Math testing starts in May. Proctors will be needed starting April 21<sup>st</sup>. 58 spots are still available. We need proctors because the teachers cannot test their own kids without another person present to ensure testing legitimacy. Volunteer commitments are 120 minutes for reading, 90 minutes for math. FCA is offering promotions and incentives for parents willing to help, so that's an idea for our school. The only rule is that you can't do your own kids' classes.
- Cafeteria volunteers:** hasn't been very successful. We need to tweak how we do that!
- Sunshades:** The Board must approve the school receiving that much money. It's on the agenda for their next meeting.
- Magnolia Oaks Academy PTO:** We hosted their PTO interest meeting here so they could see our building and get a feel for how our PTO has functioned our first year. They seemed to have things pretty established already. Kuddos to us for including folks from all schools coming together and being inclusive to all. We feel very grateful for our community! Sable Crest is opening in Nocatee and it's come with growing pains also. Happy to help other schools get their feet on the ground with their PTOs.
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade and kindergarten receptions:** We can't have a graduation, but instead a reception of sorts. We will most definitely have an 8<sup>th</sup> graduation next year. We're in talks with parents and teachers about how we can support their receptions this year.

### Executive items:

- President's Report**
  - Many thank-yous have been sent in, which we appreciate!
  - In one year: 161 members, 1085 students supported, 108 staff supported, many volunteers have helped with many different activities, we've done give-backs with a food drive and HUGS clothing donation, we raised \$146,000+ (and we're not finished!! THANK YOU to our sponsors and to Laura Webster!!), we've spent \$115,000+ on many things as well (mostly for school improvements like shades, picnic tables, trash cans, student activities, community events, classroom resources, staff support, and administrative items). More will be spent on final activities and teacher appreciation week. We'll post final numbers in May.
  - Survey went out to all HCA families. Results:
    - 55 responses.
    - Our rating was mostly 5/5, with a few 4/5 and 3/5 responses.
    - A perk of PTO membership is getting PTO emails, so if people feel out of the loop, they should consider becoming a member.
    - Social media is where most people get their info, and people get the least from our room parents (so that's where we can put attention into next year).
    - What we could improve on communication: more social media posts (some things conflict because people also said they get most of their information from social media). **\*\*It was recommended that we do larger posts, especially for sign-ups, on Instagram.** Everything is on the website for those who don't have social media.
    - Muffins with Moms was the favorite event so far with not all the events finished yet.

7. Scheduling conflicts prevented most people from coming to our events. Family events matter most to our community. When there are attendance caps on events, people said we should offer multiple sessions of the same event or have more outdoor events. One idea is having A-M last names go one week, and N-Z the next week. Another idea is calling it "VIP and me" and hosting several throughout the year.
8. Events families would like to see: children entrepreneur activities, acknowledgements for good grades, parent sporting events as fundraisers, movie nights, carnival (maybe with Trunk or Treat), talent show.
9. Time constraints and work schedule prevented most from volunteering. In order to get more volunteers, families need more opportunities from home and shorter volunteer windows.
10. What did we do well this year? The most common comment was: everything! 😊
11. We got some recommendations for there to be improvements in communication, changes with our dances, clear details with our chairpersons, more posts on social media, changes to meeting times to accommodate more families (we're working on options there), maybe offer a Zoom/Teams option or a recording of our meetings. We could also pin posts to the top of the FB page. Another idea is to put a link to our PTO meeting minutes on announcements and posts so people can find the minutes more easily. Amy-Lynn can also put a FAQ tab on our page so it's easy to find.
12. We are a PTO over a PTA because the PTA is a nationally-recognized organization that costs more money and we're beholden to their laws and rules and how money is spent. PTA tends to be more political. With a PTO, we have more control over money and activities.

## 2. Treasurer's Report

1. In our account as of 3/31/26: \$47, 085.49
2. Actual collected since inception: \$153,349
3. Actual expenses since inception: \$104,923
4. March: \$390 events income (Mother/Son dance)
5. Candy grams brought in \$1285! We kept \$875 after expenses came out!

## 3. Membership/Volunteer Report

1. One more membership came through (\$25)

## Review of events:

### 1. Teacher Appreciation Week

1. Kendra: flyers will go out to parents and to teachers. Focus is "RAIN."
2. Monday: Retro Day. Tuesday: Pause for Tacos! Wednesday: All-American Day. Thursday: Inspiration Day (charcuterie available). Friday: Neon Day.
3. PTO and parents will pay for personalized coffees for teachers.

## Upcoming activities and Chairperson reports:

### 1. Donuts with Dudes

1. Happening tomorrow, 4/10
2. \$757 spent (\$375 under budget)
3. 404 total people coming

### 2. Mother/Son Dance

1. Happening 4/24
2. "Denim and Diamonds" theme.
3. Attendance lower than Daddy/Daughter, which we expected. So far we have about 120 RSVPs. We may open it up to more family members or the community.
4. Food will be grab and go (probably pizza). Planning on games and prizes (maybe best dressed duo wins Principal for the Day, or Lunch with the Principal)

### 3. Bingo and Silent Auction/Fundraising

1. Happening May 1<sup>st</sup>
2. Two sessions: 4-6, 6:30-8:30
3. 2 food trucks will be there (Frankie's Franks, Rolling Dough), Rita's for dessert. Chick Fil-A will also be available, but that will need to be pre-ordered.
4. \$5 entrance fee, which will give you 5 Bingo sheets.
5. Need items for Silent Auction that will happen simultaneously. Lots of donations have been made already and we're looking for more! We'd like to cut donations off on 4/20 so we can get our items posted on the website.

6. Silent auction opens a week in advance (4/24), everyone will be able to see the items at the event, and then we'll close the auction that night (5/1 at 11:45pm).
  7. Marco's Pizza Spirit Night: Happening on 5/13. Hank the Hurricane will be there.
  8. The Saint Johns School District chose HCA to benefit from parking costs in their district parking lot June 12-14. More info coming for needed volunteers, etc.
4. **PIE**
1. Laura not here, though we are hosting a sponsor appreciation event on 5/6. We'll show them around and show them how their support has benefited our school.

**Upcoming calendar items:**

1. 4/10: Donuts with Dudes
2. 4/24: Mother/Son Dance
3. 5/1: Bingo and Silent Auction
4. 5/4-5/8: Teacher Appreciation Week
5. 5/13: Marco's Pizza Spirit Night
6. 5/14: Final PTO meeting of the year! 5:45 @ HCA media center

**Meeting adjourned:** 7:35pm

**Signed:**

**Carly Geddes, HCA PTO Secretary**