

Humble Area Retired Teachers Association
(HARTA)
August 18, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. at the Instructional Support Center by president Linda Spiro.

The pledges to the flags were led by past president Marian Mannix.

Linda introduced superintendent Dr. Roger Brown, School Board member Robert Scarfo and former School Board member Bill Bivin. Dr. Brown gave an overview of district events and took questions from the audience.

Linda asked new retirees to come forward. Each retiree introduced herself and talked briefly about her school experience.

Linda passed around the clipboards for members to sign up to bring refreshments, door prizes etc.

Linda reminded members to turn in their order for a red shirt. A group picture will be taken at the September meeting. She announced that HARTA members attended the Child Nutrition Inservice in August. Members passed out bags of candy with a HARTA business card in each bag. HARTA also provided door prizes at their meeting.

Patty Murphy reported that the Nominations Committee will be preparing a slate of officers for 2026-27. She gave a brief description of the responsibilities of each officer. Suggestions for nominees can be given to the committee (Jan Resell, Angie Shepard, Dottie Willner and Patty Murphy). The slate will be announced in December.

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary Margaret Fahrenthold explained that the minutes had been reviewed by a committee and placed on the website. The minutes were also placed on the white board in the meeting room.

Treasurer John Widmier reviewed the proposed budget for 2025-26. A motion to accept the proposed budget was made by Carolyn Mashburn and seconded by Susan Burroughs. The motion passed. John reported a balance of \$21,289.84 in the Business Checking-PNC Bank. The balance in the Certificate of Deposit-PNC Bank is \$10,058.24. The HARTA Endowed Fund-Humble ISD Education Foundation has a balance of \$36,702. John explained the Audit Report of the Treasurer's Records for 2024-2025. The audit committee (Carol Atwood, Pat Buttermore, Louis Mascolo) met on July 16, 2025 and found the records to be accurate and met or exceeded the requirements of the Texas Retired Teachers Association.

1st Vice President-Membership, Bobby McAndrews demonstrated how to get information about HARTA from the website. He then conducted a drawing of those members who had renewed their membership by June 30 . Mary Ann Dos Santos was the winner of \$50. Bobby explained that Lunch and Learn would be held when there are 10 people who would like to attend. Six people have signed up thus far. He asked the August birthdays to come forward and introduce themselves and tell their birthdate. He reminded everyone that HARTA directories and business cards are available.

2nd Vice President-Book Project, Chris Pieknik announced that 1093 books have been given away. She said HARTA had been invited to do a BookGiveaway at HEB's event for First Responders. She asked for donations of K-2 books. Chris described a project for incarcerated women to help maintain the mother/child connection. Women would be given a book. They would then record themselves reading that book. The book and recording would be given to their children. Chris asked for donations to purchase new books for this project. If members prefer to purchase a book themselves, there is a list of acceptable books available on the HARTA website.

Readers Love Teachers chair, Jan Resell announced that HARTA is the only chapter that has this program. Teachers who are nominated by their students receive a certificate and \$25 cash.

3rd Vice President-Programs, Janie Branham reported that the September meeting program would be “ U.S. and Texas Legislators’ Updates.”

Healthy Living chair, Dawn Meador led the group in some stretching exercises.

Amba representative, Eric Hunt invited members to visit him at his table to learn about benefits and changes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Linda Spiro asked each committee chair to stand and explain what the committee does.

Trips

September 28 (sponsor, Carolyn Monroe)- Bernhart Winery

October 10 (sponsor, Michelle Wolf) -Porky’s Backyard Food Truck Park, Atascocita

November 19 (sponsor, Jeanne Barton) - Madisonville Christmas Store and Kim’s Garden Center, Huntsville.

December 10 (sponsor, Carolyn Monroe) - play “Its A Wonderful Life “

February 17 (sponsor, Linda Spiro) - “Million Dollar Quartet”- precinct bus will be provided.

Tours

April 27-May 1, 2026 (sponsor, Carolyn Mashburn)

“Monumental Washington”

September 18-23, 2026 (sponsor, Carolyn Mashburn)

“Exploring the Panama Canal”

NEW BUSINESS

Linda announced that the next meeting would be held on September 15th; the program will be “ U.S. and Texas Legislators’ Updates”

The District 4 Fall Conference will be held on October 3 at the Merrell Center in Katy.

Dawn Meador brought out the Brag Boot. Brags are \$1 per brag.

James Ellis said the blessing before the Pot Luck Luncheon.

Linda thanked everyone for their donations of refreshments, door prizes, books and pot luck dishes. There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

Margaret Fahrenthold
Secretary

Linda Spiro

President