

Glen Rock Middle School/High School HSA - Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2016 9:00 AM Media Center

Attendees (31): Sandi Stern, Donna Beldner, Anne Marie Podd, Mona Milbrodt, Gretchen Horwitz, Kara Stansel, Holly Goshin, Heidi Ryan, Merri Kapiloff, Margaret Walsh, Eileen Murphy, Michele Sapoff, Maura McCarthy, Janet Romaro, Angela Catanzaro, Louise D'Amato, Bari Engel, Nancy Bermack, Joe Quvus, Sharon Israel Childs, Liz Cox, Julianna Moore, Michelle Torpey, Jill Orlich, Alissa Somers, Ann Boyle, Joyce Silva, Ann Feige, Maureen Jeffries, Linda Schultz, Barbara Gomes

Administrators (2): John Arlotta, HS Principal and Jennifer Wirt, MS Principal

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by HSA President, Sandi Stern.

Welcome

Sandi Stern welcomed parents, introduced Heidi Ryan, Janet Romano and Holly Goshin as 6th Grade representatives if anyone has questions and discussed the HSA's mission to be a bridge between the school, the families and the students. Everyone was reminded to get their Membership Dues in so that the HSA can continue fulfilling its mission.

Approval of the June 10, 2016 Meeting Minutes: Submitted by Anne Marie Podd.

Motion to approve by Kara Stansel and seconded by Heidi Ryan.

Introduction of 2016-2107 Executive Board:

President: Sandi Stern

Executive V.P.: Kara Stansel

1st VP: Mona Milbrodt

2nd VP: Anne Marie Podd

3rd VP: Holly Goshin

Treasurer: Gretchen Horwitz

President Emeritus: Donna Beldner

Principals' Reports:

Middle School – Dr. Wirt

- The year is off to a good start with a successful ice cream social, Back to School Night and meetings with teachers.
- Some new initiatives in the works: installing a Maker's Space and creating an Advisory Council for social and emotional growth
- There is a new guidance counselor and a new system assigning a counselor for each grade to stay with that grade during their tenure at the Middle School
- The students are outside for lunch, please remind them its ok to bring balls and not ok to tackle
- Week of Respect and assembly planned for October

High School- Mr. Arlotta

- Welcome to Dr. Wirt with whom Mr. Arlotta shares a similar educational background and is enjoying working with.
- The year is off to a good start.
- Senior Girls self-defense assembly was a success.
- Club Walk Around to encourage club involvement and let students learn about options. (*Question raised whether the Club Walk Around can be held at a time when kids who have lab can also attend, Mr. Arlotta will look into it.*)
- Has had or will have class meetings with each class.
- Students are really nice, well behaved kids who rise to expectations set for them.
- Please encourage participation and good effort on PARCC so our scores will continue to climb.
- Upcoming events: High School Back to School night 9/29, Blood Drive 9/28. Looking at date of Junior Prom due to conflicts, but no decision has been made.

Treasurer's Report – (Gretchen Horwitz)

- We have a surplus and we feel money raised should be spent. The HSA is pushing principals to spend it wisely.
- Balance Sheet Recap: most income comes from Membership Dues and our biggest expense is the Wishlist (still budget for it even though it's not being spent).
- Emphasis is on Membership Dues because we have no planned fundraiser at this time.

Follow Up From Last Meeting

- Dr. Wirt is considering the suggestion of having "Class Parents" to assist with things such as field trips.
- HSA will have Special Guests at future HSA meetings to discuss things of interest to parents, such as having someone from the Math Dept. discuss the debate surrounding Algebra in 8th versus 9th grade.

Volunteer Opportunities

- HSA Appreciation Breakfast (*Bari Engel volunteered, thank you*).
- Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts—Holiday and End of Year—needs volunteers still.
- MS Dances: volunteers to help with the food and chaperone are still need for 10/30.
- The Homecoming Dance is Sat., Oct. 15th. Parent volunteers are needed on the coat check. Shifts are only 1 hour. Middle school as well as high school parents are encouraged to participate. sContact Anne Marie Podd to volunteer.

Board of Education Report (Donna Beldner)

- There was a problem with the 5 Year Plan survey, please look for the revised survey.
- Attendance is encouraged at the Board of Education meetings, they are very informative and it's a good opportunity to learn about issues and share your opinion.

Passive Fundraisers

- Use Amazon via the Chips website or by creating an Amazon Smile account and designating Glen Rock Junior Senior High School Home and School Association as your charity so we get a percentage of every order that you make.

- Boiling Springs accounts: as long as we have 20 accounts that are affiliated with GRMS or GRHS, we get a percentage donated. Open accounts for your kids or designate your own accounts to affiliate with the school.

Other Business and New Business

- Upcoming meeting date: 11/15 at 7:30 pm
- PSAT is October 15 (same day as Homecoming)
- 10/6 GRHS is hosting the “Admissions Game” (aka “Winning the College Admissions Game) presented by Peter Van Buskirk for parents and students
- Suggestion made to update Discovery Day so that it is more meaningful and helpful to kids, not just a time for kids to hang out with friends and take a tour that’s not helpful in locating their classes or getting questions about Middle School answered

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn by Mona Milbrodt and seconded by Heidi Ryan

Vote on MS/HS HSA Slate for 2016-2017 School Year

The slate was voted on and approved. Motion to approve by Grace Cosgriff, seconded by Kara Stansel and all in favor.

Emeritus – Donna Beldner

President – Sandi Stern

Executive VP – Kara Stansel

1st VP – Mona Milbrodt

2nd VP – Anne Marie Small Podd

3rd VP – Holly Goshin

Treasurer – Gretchen Horwitz

Secretary – Heidi Ryan

Volunteer Opportunities Needed/Filled

- Holly Goshin and Heidi Ryan will be the liaisons for incoming 6th graders. A Welcome Letter needs to be sent out.
- Anne Marie Podd will secure parent volunteers (coat check) for the Homecoming Dance
- Kathy Duggan will be the Senior parent who plans the Yearbook signing. (Nominating will ask Joan Fisher if she would like to co-chair.)
- **Needed: A Junior parent** to handle Academic Awards: 9-11:30 AM/cookies, tables, water. Be there 10:45 AM. Set up and take down.
- HANDBOOK – 3 Parts:
 - 1) **Need 1 or 2 Proofreaders** (can do at home)
 - 2) Collect checks – Merri Kapiloff
 - 3) Handbook Distribution – Janet Romano and Angela Catanzaro

New Business

Assigning Class Parents to each class was suggested - 3 per class (classes are about 275 students). Each class has a specific event to manage. The Executive Board would choose the class parents.

Adjournment The motion to adjourn was made at 10:16 AM by Grace Cosgriff and seconded by Donna Beldner.

This was the last meeting of the 2015-2016 School Year.

Next meeting:

The next general meeting will be **Friday, September 16, 9:00 AM** in the Media Center.

Happy Summer!

Minutes respectively submitted by Anne Marie Podd.