

Glen Rock Middle School/High School HSA - Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2016 7:30 PM Media Center

Attendees (27): Sandi Stern, Donna Beldner, Anne Marie Podd, Mona Milbrodt, Gretchen Horwitz, Kara Stansel, Holly Goshin, Heidi Ryan, Merri Kapiloff, Michele Sapoff, Janet Romano, Bari Engel, Nancy Bermack, Joe Quvus, Alissa Somers, Ann Boyle, Joyce Silva, Ann Feige, Barbara Gomes, Amelia Santacruz, Jen Scherer, Megan Findley, Ameri Sardi, Stasha Vicinanza, Eileen Besser, Lisa Bryzek, Lisa Saavedra

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by HSA President, Sandi Stern.

Welcome

Sandi Stern welcomed parents and administrators.

Approval of the September 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes: Submitted by Heidi Ryan.

Motion to approve by Anne Maria Podd and seconded by Kara Stansel.

Principals' Reports:

Middle School – Dr. Wirt

- Erin Thibodeaux, the new 6th grade counselor, is in the process of meeting with kids. The 8th grade counselor is will be in the lunch room to meet with kids who may have questions about 9th grade scheduling. Lunch/study lunch order will switch with MP2 and kids will continue to go outside as much as possible when weather permits.
- Kickball event was well attended with 60 kids, the teachers won. Next up is a Turkey Trot held by the PE teachers on 11/23.
- Planning for DC trip for 8th graders is underway. June 12-14.
- Week of 11/20 is first Advisory Meeting on Gratitude, groups of students in all grades will work together.
- Working to get announcements out faster.
- Dr. Wirt answered the following questions: Will there be a class trip for 7th graders? Social Studies teacher are working on something, tbd. What happened to the MS Relay for Life team? Mr. Arlotta answered that this is actually a community event that the school was simply providing a location for and community leaders and the American Cancer Society are working to make it more of a community event again.

High School- Mr. Arlotta

- October had weeks of Respect, Violence, Vandalism and Substance Abuse with related assemblies. Vance Johnson spoke on substance abuse and was well received by the kids.
- Fall play is the *Canterville Ghost*. Auditions for the Addams Family musical beginning 11/20.
- iSchool Tech Grant for kids to work in teams to help solve problems under way.
- The “Coffeehouse” will be held in December for students’ acoustic performances.

Treasurer's Report – (Gretchen Horwitz)

- * Income:
 - We have exceeded the budget for membership dues at \$12,400.
 - Please utilize Boiling Springs CAP accounts, school has received \$350 from this program.
 - Spirit Wear sales topped \$850, thank you Eileen Besser.
- * Expenses: \$600 was spent on: theater supplies, “Worth It” assembly, Officer and Director liability insurance, college fair refreshments, and Homecoming desserts
- * \$30,000 in surplus monies held in CDs, \$15,000 has reached maturity

BOE Report (presented by Donna Beldner)

- BOE meeting had a large turnout due to Dr. Valenti’s letter to parents regarding air quality reports. Parent Erin Leonard who works in the medical field demanded more information and the school is continuing to look into it. While the school continues to search for the source of the chemicals, the school is undertaking measures to increase the air exchange and installed more filters.
- BOE wants to hire another assistant in the Nurse’s Office to keep up with the flow of traffic from kids, specifically a nurse’s aide who can be a substitute nurse in the elementary schools.
- Looking into new vendors for a new school website (to replace Schoolfusion) and a Facebook page.
- Discussion of the status of 1:1 Initiative: no new information at this time.

Upcoming Events sponsored by the HSA:

- * Staff winter holiday brunch, chaired by Bari Engel, will be held on 12/14/16. Volunteer opportunities are available.
- * College Panel Night, chaired by Jen Scherer, will be held on 1/12/17 at 7:00 pm. Volunteer opportunities are available.
- * Bollywood Night in conjunction with the GRICA for the Glen Rock community, organized by Divya Verma, is scheduled for 5/5/17.

Thank You Notes

- * The HSA received thank you notes from the Theater Company and the GRHS Student Council

Wishlist Approvals

- * Principal approval is pending for the HSA’s offer to spend \$1,500 on an 8th grade science “Weather” assembly and \$300 on “Makey Makey” kits for the Maker’s Space.

Vote on Field Trip Fund

Sandi Stern presented the attached “Membership Vote 11/16/16 Proposal” regarding the creation of a \$15,000 Field Trip Fund, funded by the proceeds of one of the HSA’s CDs (as described in the attached proposal). Extensive discussion followed the presentation, with concerns raised about equitable use of the funds for all grades, determining what is a qualifying field trip, whether this is an appropriate use of HSA funds and whether \$15,000 is too much money for funding. After much discussion, the proposal was put to a vote which passed as follows: 21 for, 2 against and 2 abstaining.

Sign-up for Fundraising Social Committee

- * Chairperson Bari Engel is looking for volunteers for this fundraising and social committee to encourage a sense of community and engage in fundraising.

Sign-up for 6th Grade Parent Committee

- * Looking for a chair for this committee which will be primarily a social committee with 1-2 functions per year.

Amazon—Rethink the Link

- * The question was asked: where is CHIPS? There was discussion that the membership would like more information shared with them.

Old Business

- * MS Morning Announcements: no discussion

New Business

- * No new business raised.

Adjournment

- * Motion to adjourn by Donna Beldner and seconded by Merri Kapiloff.

Next meeting:

The next general meeting will be **Friday morning, January 20, 9:00 AM** in the Media Center.

- * FYI, Friday, March 24, is also a morning meeting. The next **evening** HSA meeting will be on Thursday evening, **May 11**, at 7:30 PM.

Minutes respectively submitted by Heidi Ryan.