

Home & School Association

Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2022

6:30 PM



- I. **Opening Prayer at 6:38 PM.** In attendance were the HSA Board members Jeanne Lukac (President), Lisa Guzzo (Vice President), Heather DeJarlais (Treasurer and Music teacher) and Matt Fisher (Secretary), Kathy Hartman, Ashlyn Knesek, Jamie McGarry, Nicole Watkins, Becky Grimmer, Jen Dorn, Dana Batz, Christine Milton, Denise Zygmuntowski, Ethel Meneges, MaryGrace Fagen, Candace Kil, Angelo Dogo-Munizzi, Stephanie Degenais, Julie Wolfe, Ann Oster, Frank Mikosic, Krista Yock and Elizabeth Sheeran.

II. **Approval of minutes for January 19, 2022 meeting**

Motion to approve minutes passed.

III. **Past Events**

a. **Book Fair**

Becky Grimmer: \$500 worth of books raised for library

Ms. DeJarlais: We were also able to get new Spanish books

Question from Ms. Degenais raised about taking books donations directly (either to the library or to teachers). Ms. Grimmer reported that donations are needed for certain types of books to the library; Donors should coordinate directly with her to verify the donations meet parameters for appropriate content as well as the condition of the books.

b. **Open House (Sunday, January 30th 11AM-2PM)**

Ms DeJarlais reported that turn-out was good, even at upper grade levels and credited the school choice program.

IV. **Upcoming Events**

a. **Lenten Lunch (TBD with 'Round The Clock)**

A day where just soup and bread are served for lunch to symbolize sacrifice. Ms. Guzzo reported that Thursday April 7th was tentative date.

b. **Spring Fling (Friday, April 22, 2022)**

- i. Raffle baskets (student and parent participation)
- ii. Sponsorships and auction donations being accepted (vacation home stays, sporting event tickets, etc.)
- iii. Volunteer opportunities: <https://www.sjeschool.org/hsa>

One of two events where proceeds are not split with the church (RACE being the other). Tickets to the event include dinner, live auctions, raffle, paddle raise, games, dancing. Every class creates a "raffle basket" typically with a value of \$200-\$500. Baskets ideas and coordination are done by room parents via the teacher, including requests to parents for contributions depending on the basket

idea. Spring Fling will be held at Villa Cesare in Schererville. Several opportunities for volunteering and donations on the website or contact Dawn Czarnik. Tables are up to 10. Reservations for tables can be done for groups paying an additional \$10 for tickets.

c. Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2022)

Full week beginning of May that includes lunches, coffee, breakfast, massages, etc each day. Ms. Lukac is in search of a chair-person for the week to earn hours and coordinate activities. Contact Jeanne or anyone on the board to chair a committee.

d. Field Day (2nd to last day of school)

K-2 stays around school

1-5 goes to Prairie West

6-8 goes to Civic Park

Games, sports and activities need to be coordinated by chair-persons.

Day typically ends with tug-of-war competitions. New rope and gloves have been purchased by HSA.

Ms. Lukac expressed the need for a volunteer to chair the event and opportunities to complete service hours.

e. 8th Grade Graduation (May 18, 2022)

There is a mass, awards and reception event held at the big church. A change from tradition (pre-pandemic time) is that there is no longer a separate banquet which saves funds, keeps the schedule simpler and so far parents and students are supportive of the current format.

Kindergarten graduation on the last day of school.

Daddy-daughter dance is cancelled this year due to Spring's busy schedule. Hopefully Feb 2023 will not have the same level of restrictions and can be resumed during this time of year.

V. Financial Update

Ms. Lukac: Jamie McGarry is chairing the P.A.S.S. effort for raising teacher supplemental income funds. Jamie reported that she has endeavored to coordinate communication of the program, educating parents on the purpose of the program and increasing overall participation of school families. Ms. Lukac described the program as in previous HAS meetings.

a. Classroom remodel

Ms DeJarlais reported that bids for classroom remodels are locked in and expected to occur in Summer 2022

b. Gym AV projector

HSA is funding the purchase of a new projector for the gym that will be augmented with other audio-visual equipment upgrades that are being funded by grants.

c. Other considerations

HSA will send 5th Grade to Challenger field trip this year

Spirit Wear and gym uniform inventory purchases will be funded by HSA to be available at the school and able to be sold at sporting events and

beginning of school year events (5-k/picnic).

Also, if there are any Valentine's Day party receipts or other past activities they should be submitted to Ms. DeJarlais for reimbursement.

Ms. Lukac explained they are collecting bids for rubber mulch for the playground. A rubber solid surface was looked into however the bid came back fairly expensive and greater than \$25K.

Ms. Lukac encouraged ideas for additional projects or equipment that will enhance the overall school experience for the students. HSA will balance any suggestions with those recommended by the Principal Fredericksen.

VI. Open Discussion

Ms. Lukac discussed various uniform purchases made for basketball uniforms and potential future purchases for other sports.

Ms. Batz raised a question about re-establishing hot lunch (discontinued during COVID). Ms. Lukac reported that we are meeting with Jimmy Johns to potentially do lunches for a reasonable amount every Friday. Ms. Guzzo reported that Lake Central is not expected to be bringing it back and other options are being explored. Leads for any providers are welcome from any parents with ideas.

Ms. Sheeran suggested a 5-year plan for budgeting and spending of HAS funds for larger items.

Ms. DeJarlais reported that the pre-school teacher requested flower boxes to built for outside the pre-school which would involve donations of cedar wood and a construction project for the NJHS (National Junior Honor Society). The teacher will be requesting flower and plant seeds from parents.

Ms. DeJarlais reported that the 8th grade field trip is being looked into (cancelled last 2 years due to COVID). Shakespear play in Chicago is not under consideration this year due to restrictive policies in Chicago. Six Flags and other ideas being considered by Ms. Mamelson.

Ms Batz: It was brought to my attention by another parent with a female student that new gym shorts did not have a pocket for toiletries. Ms. Guzzo is going to pass along to Ms. Fredericksen suggestion to allow middle school girls to bring purses to gym or change to shorts with pockets for future purchases.

VII. Closing Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:04