

New Hope- Solebury Elementary Schools  
Home and School Association  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2017  
LES Conference Room

CALL to ORDER

President, Deborah Peckman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

IN ATTENDANCE

HSA Board Members:

Deborah Peckman, President  
Julia Swankoski, Co-President  
Nancy Aguilar, Vice President, LES  
Karin Last, Secretary  
Shelby Buron, Treasurer  
Jin Joshi, Co-Treasurer

Parent Members:

Jennifer Kennedy- Kranz, Caroline Elias, Lori Zaro, Roxanne Apparies, Pamela Saxton, Brian Basteau, Lisa Baranchuk, Alison Dalewitz, Dawn Rene´ Sandy, Gretchen Reilly.

School Representatives:

Dr. Mike McKenna, Principal of the UES; Jennifer Frantz, Principal of the LES

**1. President's Report- Deborah Peckman and Julia Swankoski**

A. Welcome/ Introduction- The HSA board and attendees introduced themselves.

B. HSA Minutes- The Sept. 2017 HSA Meeting Minutes were approved.

**2. School Administration Reports-  
Ms. Jennifer Frantz (LES)**

The Second Chance Toys program started on Oct. 13. Information was sent out via List Serv and backpack mail. The collection of toys is benefitting underserved kids in the inner city, and will run from 10/13- 12/9. The LES is partnering with the high school Key Club. Helping Hands for Hurricane Relief is also happening, and The American Red Cross will disseminate any money collected between Oct. 23-27. Students can earn money by doing

chores at home. Information on this will be going home in backpack mail today, and all proceeds benefit the American Red Cross.

The Beautification Committee met with Chuck Miles, Director of Operations. Weeds were pulled by the crew, and the shrubbery was leveled. Thank you to Chuck, Nancy, and Staci for voicing concerns about the appearance of the LES. There will be a meeting in January 2018 to prepare for Spring beautification.

Another thing that is being worked on is trying to get some plywood to build some snowmen and turkeys to display in front of the school. The goal is to have teachers and students work together on them. Julian Swankoski suggested that local places often give away free pallets. Staci's husband has volunteered to cut them.

Red Ribbon week is Oct. 23- 27, and the Halloween parade is Oct. 31. Please carpool, as parking can be tight.

### **Dr. Michael McKenna (UES)**

Please check the UES website, as Robin Kilroy makes daily updates to it.

Red Ribbon Week is Oct. 23-27.

Trunk or Treat is Friday Oct. 27. Kids can wear their costumes to school that day. This is a great event, and parking can be very tight, so please carpool if at all possible.

Fifth grade leadership started this week. Choices are Safety Patrol, Student Council, Yearbook, News Crew, Newspaper and T-Team. Safety's are responsible for kids walking safely out of the classrooms when the bell rings and monitoring them as they get on the bus. Mrs. Schade runs the Student Council, and they will be organizing events throughout the year. News Crew make the daily morning announcement, lead the Pledge of Allegiance, read out birthdays, lunch menu, and Pride ticket winners. The Yearbook Committee works with Robin Kilroy, taking pictures at different events throughout the year. Mrs. Jennifer Loving heads up the Newspaper Committee, publishing four issues per year. Mr. Tom runs the T-Team, where kids help him to set up assemblies, and to put up and take down the flag.

The UES Makerspace will be asking the HSA for more Little Bits Coding Kits.

The Book Fair is coming up Nov. 13-17.

American Education Week will be as follows: Grade 3- Nov.14; Grade 4- Nov. 15; Grade 5- Nov. 16.

On Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 20 and 21, there will be early dismissal, and school will be closed Nov. 22, 23, and 24.

### **3. Review Recent Events**

A. Artsonia Art update - Lori Zaro, Julia Swankoski, Alison Dalewitz

Lori stated that the Artsonia Fundraiser was up and running, with getting permission slips out to parents being the hardest part. It should run pretty smoothly, and the app is very helpful and easy to use. Mr. Mannion has agreed to help with the art work, but the first project is a book, which may not work for this. They are also reaching out to the teachers for some help with getting artwork.

Lori also suggested there be a deadline, so that parents can get artwork for holiday gifts. Deborah Peckman mentioned having an "Art Night" sponsored by the HSA next year, where parents can order items immediately. A good possible time might be in early to mid- October.

B. LES Picture Day, Oct. 13- Nancy Aguilar

Nancy stated that Picture Day went very smoothly, with enough parent volunteers to help.

C. Spirit Wear (t-shirt sales)- Shannon Bach

Shannon stated that 120 short sleeve youth t-shirts have been sold, as well as 30 adult shirts. The long sleeve t-shirts will be \$15.00, and the hoodies \$20.00. She suggested that only 10-20 of each be printed to see how they sell. They will be sold at some upcoming events, including UES Trunk or Treat, LES Halloween Parade, and American Education week.

#### 4. **Upcoming Events**

A. UES Trunk or Treat- Trish DiZio- Fri. Oct. 27th

Trish gave an update that there are a total of 23 trunks this year. An email is going out tonite with more details, including a rain plan. There are plenty of back up prizes being ordered. Please make sure all trunk volunteers have their PA State Clearances.

B. Teacher/ Staff Appreciation Lunch at UES- Adrienne Deussing- Nov. 10th

Adrienne sent out a Sign Up Genius for food donations for the lunch. There are still some spots available to donate hot dishes, and for help with setup and cleanup.

C. LES Holiday Shop- Julia Swankoski, Gretchen Reilly- Nov. 28-30.

They are using a different company for products this year, and parents will be able to see the website and preview items. Gretchen suggested not wrapping gifts this year at the LES, and instead having a table full of gift bags the kids can choose from.

D. UES Holiday Shop- Gretchen Reilly, Monica Steuer- Dec. 6-7.

Caroline Elias offered to chair the Holiday Shop at the UES this year. They still need volunteers to help set up, staff, and cleanup. Set up day is Tues. Dec. 5, and cleanup is Fri. Dec. 8.

E. LES VP Report- Nancy Aguilar

Box Top collection is underway, and they need to be sent out by the end of October. There is a meeting tomorrow in the UES Teacher's Lounge from 11am- 1pm, and volunteers are still needed.

Lunch volunteers are needed on Wednesday's for K students. Some parents are not showing up, so please send an email if you can't make it.

F. UES VP Report- Sarah Levinson

Sarah had nothing to report.

G. Secretary Report- Volunteer Survey Results- Karin Last

Karin stated that there were approximately 65 parent responses, down a bit from last year.

H. Treasurer Budget- Donation Letters- Shelby Buron, Jin Joshi

Jin said donations are down this year, compared to last year. So far they are at \$4,579.00, compared to \$6,000.00 last year. \$1,785.00 were made by check, \$2,714.00 by PayPal, and \$80.00 in cash. Shelby said that the LES an UES Weekly Wrap is still including the link to donate and they will be sending another letter home in backpack mail during the last week of October as a reminder. It was mentioned that next year the donation letter should go home earlier. Caroline Elias mentioned there were a lot of fundraisers at the beginning of the school year, so it may get lost in the crowd.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.  
Submitted by Karin Last, Secretary