

New Hope- Solebury Elementary Schools
Home and School Association
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2017
UES Teachers Lounge

CALL to ORDER

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

IN ATTENDANCE

HSA Board Members:

Deborah Peckman, President
Gretchen Reilly, Co-President
Trish DiZio, Vice President, UES
Nancy Aguilar, Vice President, LES
Karin Last, Secretary
Roxanne Apparies, Treasurer
Jin Joshi, Asst. Treasurer

Parent Members:

Jennifer Kennedy-Kranz, Dana Schwartz, Caroline Elias, Tania Hedlund, Kathy Feehan

School Representatives:

Dr. Mike McKenna, Principal of the UES

1. President's Report- Deborah Peckman

- A. Welcome/ Introduction- The HSA board and attendees introduced themselves.
- B. Approval of January meeting minutes- Unanimously approved.

**2. School Administration Reports-
Dr. Mike McKenna (UES)**

Pizza Bingo was well attended. Professional Development days are this Thursday and Friday for all staff, and teachers can sign up for sessions in the mornings and afternoons. Dr. McKenna said that the UES received two Education Fund Grants for Ozobots and Little Bits. These will be used in the Makerspace for all classes to use. They are also purchasing a 400 piece Little Bits kits for the Maker Space kits. On Fridays every class gets to visit the space. Other grade levels will eventually be able to use the space during recess.

The fourth graders had a NOVA program last Wednesday. They focused on using technology safely and appropriately. The fifth graders will have an assembly on Wednesday about cyber bullying. NOVA will be training two fifth grade students from every class and will facilitate an assembly for third graders. NOVA also runs a parent program, and the school may look at trying to run a parent night regarding the use of technology. Trish DiZio suggested having a

presentation during a basketball game, where there is already a captive audience. It's hard for some parents to get there at night after work.

English PSSA Testing is April 3-6 for all grades, where Math PSSA testing is April 24-26. Grade four Science testing is May 1 and 2. April 27 is "Take your child to Work" day.

3. Review Recent Events/ Feedback

A. Pizza Bingo- Karin Last, Caroline Elias, Fri. Feb. 10

Pizza Bingo was a resounding success. Attendance was over 300, and went very smoothly. Everyone seemed to have a great time, and Mr. Marrone and Mr. O'Leary were great as emcees. The idea of having a raffle for the scooter was a great idea, and the bake sale went well. There were a few families that were no-shows, but we were able to accommodate a few last minute families. Looking forward to it next year.

4. Upcoming Events/ Board Updates

A. UES Glow Dance- Tracy Keyes, Dominique Pino-Santiago, Fri. March 3

Tracy and Dominique sent an update via email. All the information has gone out to parents, including a Sign Up Genius for those who want to help. Mr. DiTulio will be the DJ again, and they expect over 300 attendees. Parents must stay for the dance, and security will be present at the door.

B. Cultural Heritage Night- Kim Madarasz, Mita Heble, Grace Bonanno, Fri. March 24

Kim will send out a "Save the Date" next week. There will be a hard copy flyer sent home for those interested in hosting the event. Families will have four weeks to prepare. They will also get the word out on Facebook. This event is not meant to make money, but to share their heritage with others.

C. UES Art Show- Wed. March 29

Mr. Mannion runs this event, and will be sending out an email with more info. on how parents can volunteer. We will make our PayPal available for parents to purchase their child's framed art.

D. LES VP Report- Nancy Aguilar

They are busy planning the LES Spring Dance which has a Safari Theme. It will take place April 21 at the LES cafeteria from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. There will be two photo booths, and the kids will make a safari mask as a craft. Mr. DiTulio will be the DJ, and there is one parent per child allowed to attend. The cost is \$25 per pair, and every additional child is \$5. Water, juice, and baked goods and snacks will be available. Roxanne asked if there will be adult

supervision, as sometimes the kids run around the parking lot and are often unsupervised outside.

E. UES VP Report- Trish DiZio

Everything at the UES is great. Dr. McKenna pretty much covered what has been happening. Lunch rotation with the 5th graders has been working out well.

F. Co-President Report (Mini-Grants)- Gretchen Reilly

Gretchen stated that the NOVA lesson grants need to be paid out, and a grant for costumes and props for Mrs. Van Praag will be paid out for her end of year performance for grades K-5.

G. Treasurer Budget- Roxanne Apparies

Roxanne stated that they will be paying mini grants to Kate McGinnis for NOVA. Pizza Bingo final numbers aren't in yet. Please get all receipts to her as soon as possible.

5. Questions/ Comments/ Other Business

5th Grade Promotion Party Planning- Deborah Peckman

The party will be held on June 6. Promotion is at 11 AM at the High School Auditorium. The kids will come back and have the party from 12-3 PM in the cafeteria. Many parents are needed for planning and help. The \$30 price includes a t-shirt. This year's theme is "Carnival".

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.
Submitted by Karin Last, Secretary