

**New Hope-Solebury Elementary School
Home and School Association
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 19, 2010**

Call to order

President Beth Keating called to order the regular meeting of the New Hope-Solebury Elementary School Home and School Association on Tuesday, January 19th at 9:34 a.m.

Roll Call

Present at the meeting were the following attendees: Erika Peterson, Mary Dupont, Joanne Reszka, Beth Keating, Chris Antell, Ann Leveille, Francine Verwiel, Michelle Summerson, Donna Zalewski.

Approval of December Minutes

Approval of the December minutes was tabled until the February meeting.

LES Principal's Report

Principal Ken Silver wasn't in attendance at the meeting.

UES Principal's Report

Principal Amy Mangano wasn't in attendance at the meeting.

HSA President's Report

President Keating had nothing to report.

LES Vice-President's Report

LES VP Mary Dupont reported that the food drive and Cradle of Crayons were very successful. She discussed the suggested United Way/PennDel Food Drive. It would be an LES-only event, and HSA would only be responsible for sending out a ListServ. She further reported that LES Counselor Pam Lang is still looking for a citizenship committee participant.

UES Vice-President's Report

UES VP Michelle Summerson reported that she'd had no new news from UES Principal Mangano. She noted that there is still a need for a chairperson for the 5th grade graduation party. President Keating noted that a ListServ had been drafted but it hadn't yet been approved. There was a brief discussion about the AIR events, and President Keating said that she intended to discuss the AIR projects in the HSA Newsletter. The program was briefly introduced for meeting attendees who were unfamiliar with it. VP Summerson noted that there will be assemblies in April during PSSA week. She reported that Pizza Bingo is on track, though she may check with the person who did the entertainment during the LES event to see if he would be available for the UES event. VP Summerson noted that Teacher Grants had been approved in December. The Teacher Grant program was briefly explained for attendees who were unfamiliar with the program. It was noted that the ELMO purchase for the LES would be proceeding soon. LES VP Mary Dupont said that she'd check with LES Principal Ken Silver about the teacher grant procedure.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Joanne Reszka reported that the current balance as per the bank statement is \$30,358.98, but that the actual balance is \$22,922.79. That total includes the Band Booster fund. She noted that checks have gone out for Teacher Grants and Spirit Wear. She passed around copies of the current budget to attendees.

It was noted that there is no more money for the LES. There was some discussion of a \$95 reimbursement. The amount will be taken from discretionary funding.

Committee Reports

Pizza Bingo: Jennifer Spadavecchia is the chairperson for this event. The search for possible entertainment continues. Possible ideas are still being brainstormed, including getting the entertainment from the LES to return for the UES event. The bingo machine is being borrowed from St. Martin's. It was announced that UES Principal Amy Mangano had agreed to do the calling.

K-5 Boys: The current plan is to have an event at the HighPoint facility in Chalfont, run by the Philadelphia Sports Clubs. Some dates are on hold, there are possibilities in May, and in March. The drawback is that this is going to be an expensive event, costing \$20 per participant/\$40 a child/parent couple.

K-5 Girls: Emails have gone out to Juli Vogelsang and Chris Antell. Currently leaning toward a Someone Special Tea or fashion show. Juli is willing to help organize, Chris will be helping. The committee is forming. No dates have been established yet.

K-5 Family: An email has gone out to Donna Pfiesser-Both to see if she'd be interested in chairing this committee. The current plan is a cinco de mayo event. It will be held at the school, possibly with the cafeteria's help to coordinate the food. There may be salsa dancing, etc.

Science Fair: Amishi Castelli is chairing this event. She recently sent out a ListServ. The event will be held in March or April. There is a meeting on the 20th of January for those who want to volunteer. K-5 parents can participate. It was noted that Amishi had hoped for more hands-on aspects of the events, but that that idea had been turned down.

OLD BUSINESS

Art Fair/Mr. Mannion: It was announced that the HSA had approved a Teacher Grant for Mr. Mannion, and had also approved a proposal to help him bring the frame sales for the annual Art Show into the school. The idea was explained to attendees, including the idea that a lower price had been proposed but that the price point would be up to Mr. Mannion. Treasurer Joanne Reszka mentioned that it might be wise to speak with UES Principal Amy Mangano and to make sure she was aware of the proposal. Treasurer Reszka noted that it might take a few years to break even with the funding, and that it may be wise to have some contingency plans in place to ensure that the frame program would continue. She suggested that the program may have to be re-discussed in Principal Mangano refused to back the funding and Art Show. It was noted that Mr. Mannion projects a \$2,700 profit, if the numbers from last year's Art Show hold. It was further noted that Mr. Mannion did get a Teacher Grant approved to put a mural up outside the art room at the UES. Some

feedback was given, mostly opining that all the art students, or at least several of them, should have some involvement with the mural.

NEW BUSINESS

5th Grade Graduation Chairperson: Previously discussed

Card Art: Sue Siano will be running this event. President Keating said she'd check with Ms. Siano and verify that the event is coming along.

Superintendent Forums: Parents were encouraged to attend the Superintendent Forums, as they're very informative and important information is conveyed. Current concerns are budget and teacher contracts. It was noted that this year's projected budget increase threshold is 2.99%. Only 20% of residents have kids in schools, and that 80% are the people who attend the meetings, the people who Dr. Boccutti and the board listen to.

Communications: It was noted that several people are wanting to audiotape school board meetings. Several people encouraged more detailed minutes.

NHS Cares: A brief description of the committee was given for those unfamiliar with the committee. It was announced that they would be sponsoring a Rec Night. They want more elementary parents to get involved, and want to find ways to get info to elementary parents. A suggestion was a monthly tip for NHS Cares being included in the HSA Newsletter.

Fit Fest/Jump Rope for Heart: The volunteer sheets from the beginning of the year were given to Michelle Summerson to give to Mr. DiTulio.

Roller Skating: President Keating said that she'd been contacting Staci Northrup about how that event is coming along.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ann Leveille, Secretary