

New Hope-Solebury Elementary Schools
Home and School Association
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 17, 2014

CALL to ORDER

President, Beth Houlton called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

IN ATTENDANCE

HSA Board Members:

Beth Houlton, President
Jennifer Lehman, Vice President, UES
Stacy Buck, Vice President, LES
Roxanne Apparies, Treasurer
Amy Hoffman, Secretary

Parent Members:

Alina Christy, Rachel Miller, Hannah Imperial Cannon, Valarie Alterman, Deborah Peckman, Trish DiZio, Pam Thompson, Andrea Kearney, Ellen Stiefel, Adrienne Deussing, Ly Do, Kathy Feehan

I. President's Report

A. Administrative Items

President Beth Houlton noted that the Board changed the HSA meeting time to 9:30 am to accommodate pick up/drop off schedules for families with younger children.

The HSA meeting schedule for the remainder of the year is:

10/15	(LES)
12/3	(UES - combined Nov/Dec)
1/21	(LES)
2/18	(UES)
3/18	(LES)
4/15	(UES)
5/20	(LES)
6/?	(TBD)

B. Staples Schoolkidz Supply Drive

The supplies were successfully delivered in time for the beginning of the school year. Results and feedback from this year's efforts will be shared with next year's coordinators.

C. Communication

Secretary Amy Hoffman reported that the online signups for parent volunteers is ongoing. She will forward the contact info for volunteers to the event chairs. She is working with the district's technology department to consolidate the LES & UES websites.

II. First Annual Back-to-School Bonfire

The Board reviewed the Bonfire and feedback from HSA members. It was decided to continue the Bonfire as an annual event and all present discussed possibilities for future enhancements of the event.

President Beth Houlton proposed a \$100 donation to the Eagle Fire Department in appreciation for their participation in the event. The donation will be taken out of the proceeds of the glow sticks. All in attendance agreed to this expenditure.

III. Annual Donation Letter

UES Vice President Jennifer Lehman will draft the letter to parents about the optional donation to HSA in lieu of additional fundraisers. The letter will be sent home in backpack mail.

IV. KidStuff Coupon Book Fundraiser

Chairperson Kathy Feehan reported that this profitable fundraiser will run 10/3 through 10/24. She will organize a work day for parent volunteers at the end of September to label and package the books.

V. Card Art Fundraiser

This fundraiser produces a variety of gift items using a child's original artwork and makes them available for purchase by the family. Chairperson Lori Zaro reported that she will send the blank sheets for the artwork in backpack mail next week. The children's artwork is due back by 10/8. The proofs and order forms will be sent home by 10/23. The final order for items will be due back at school by 11/7. The finished products should be complete by 11/28, in time for holiday gift giving.

Children who submit a picture will receive a free sheet of stickers featuring their art. Lori will pursue several suggestions raised by those present to motivate more children to participate.

VI. UES Report

The UES Trunk-or-Treat event will be held on Friday 10/31. UES Vice President Jennifer Lehman will organize the event.

VII. LES Report

A. LES Playground Drainage Project

LES Vice President Stacy Buck reported that the HSA-funded drainage project on the LES playground is complete.

B. Commemorative Walkway Bricks

Stacy Buck stated that the memorial bricks for the front entrance have yet to be installed. She will send a new order form for brick sales. The proceeds from the sale of the commemorative bricks will be used for future playground improvements and equipment.

C. LES Photo Day

The LES student picture day will be October 17. Stacy Buck will coordinate parent volunteers to assist children with hair and wardrobe throughout the day.

D. Lunch / Recess Volunteers

Stacy Buck reported that LES lunch and recess volunteers are very much needed. Parents who want to volunteer must have all three district-mandated clearances before they can start.

VII. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Roxanne Apparies reported \$182 in sales of glow sticks at the Back-to-School Bonfire. She will send the \$100 donation check to the Eagle Fire Department as discussed earlier in the meeting.

IX. Old Business

It was reported that the UES Outdoor Learning Center is now wheelchair accessible along its walkway. In addition, the NH-S District will maintain both the UES Outdoor Learning Center and the LES playground improvements going forward.

X. New Business

Parents Ellen Stiefel and Andrea Kearney presented an idea for a learning opportunity at the LES. They propose to start an after-school math club using a six-week curriculum. The club will be open to second graders, and students will be enrolled on a first-come, first-served basis. All members present addressed potential logistical issues regarding liability insurance, school site, and district requirements. At the suggestion of those present, Ellen and Andrea will check into potential solutions.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hoffman, Secretary