

New Hope-Solebury Elementary Schools  
Home and School Association  
General Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 3, 2014  
UES Teachers' Lounge

CALL to ORDER

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

IN ATTENDANCE

HSA Board Members:

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

Parent Members:

Collette Martino, Lori Zaro, Kathy Feehan, Ellen Stiefel, Trisha DiZio, Deborah Peckman

**I. Approval of September Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the October 15, 2014 General Meeting were reviewed and approved.

**II. Square 1 Card Art Fundraiser**

Chairperson Lori Zaro reported that the items featuring children's art were delivered yesterday to the LES and to the UES today. The \$855+ profit exceeds our projected goal of \$500. Of the 109 children who submitted art, there was almost a 50% rate of orders submitted for production. There is a 33% profit margin for this fundraiser.

Lori expects a greater rate of participation next year as she has already begun coordination with the Art Teacher to enable all children to participate.

**III. Kidstuff Coupon Books**

Chairperson Kathy Feehan reported that this fundraiser yielded \$3,125 in net profit to date. 192 original books were purchased, with an additional 58 orders. The 250 books grossed \$6,250, and the 50% profit margin raised \$3,125 for the HSA.

**IV. Teacher Appreciation Lunch**

President Beth Houlton announced that the Teacher Appreciation Lunch in November was well-received and well-attended by both LES and UES staff. She read aloud a thank you note from both principals on behalf of the staff to all the parent volunteers who helped make the day so enjoyable.

**V. Box Tops Update**

LES Vice President Stacy Buck reported that the Box Tops fundraiser is progressing well at the LES. In the cafeteria, the children can see their class' progress on the pizzas that show toppings that represent the number of box tops they have collected. Stacy will confirm with Principal Silver that he approves the food rewards (pizza for the winter drive and ice cream for the spring collection) for the children.

## **VI. Upcoming Events**

President Beth Houlton shared the dates that have been set for the following events in the new calendar year:

Pizza Bingo Night – February 6, 2015  
Cultural Heritage Night – February 27, 2015  
UES Glow Dance – March 13, 2015  
LES Snowball Dance – March 20, 2015

All present discussed ideas for the events, and suggestions will be shared with the event chairpersons.

## **VII. UES Report**

President Beth Houlton announced that the HSA will partially fund the Reading Café that the administration is placing in the front lobby of the UES. UES Vice President Jenn Lehman is working to price out furniture for the area.

## **VIII. LES Report**

### **A. Holiday Shop**

Treasurer Roxanne Apparies reported that the Holiday Shop is set to run from December 15-19. Gretchen Reilly, who is organizing the event, has sent out a sign-up genius to obtain parent volunteers to help the children shop, and to wrap their purchases. There is a bin in the LES office for parents to drop off gift wrap and tissue paper donations.

### **B. Pizza Bingo Night**

LES Vice President Stacy Buck stated that she will need help organizing the Pizza Bingo Night (2/6/15), which will be held at the UES but open to all UES and LES families. Several parents at the meeting volunteered to help Stacy. It was also suggested that she secure one of the teachers as the emcee/bingo caller for the event soon.

### **C. Possible Donation from the Community**

Stacy reported that she received an email from a community business member who would like to donate bottled water for a school event. The bottled water will feature the name of the business. Discussion ensued about the propriety of receiving such donations and the perception of preference or endorsement by the HSA. President Beth Houlton will check the school district policy on advertising and community donations to a school event before HSA can decide how to proceed.

### **D. LES Yearbook**

Stacy Buck reported that 55 yearbooks have been ordered to date and that sales continue online.

E. Walkway Pavers

Stacy Buck will inform the LES room parents of the option to purchase a commemorative paver as a class gift for their teachers. This is only an option and will be left to the discretion of the room parents.

**IX. Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Roxanne Apparies reported that she is in the process of reconciling outstanding items and tracking the proceeds from the fall fundraisers. She intends to bring the reconciled budget to the next HSA meeting. There was discussion about changing the format of the budget to make it easier to read, understand, and track actuals against projected budgets.

**X. New Business**

Parent Member Deborah Peckman suggested a Movie Night where the school community could view a movie, preferably outdoors, and the HSA could provide popcorn and water for sale. There was discussion about the Middle School and High School holding similar events during their half days. Parents also pointed out that:

- If the event is held at a time when there are no teachers present, chaperones must be provided, or make it a family event so that children are accompanied by a parent.
- A possible venue for the event is the new exterior wall screen that has recently been purchased and installed at the Middle School.
- Proper licensing would have to be obtained to show the selected movie(s).

Deborah will discuss the possibilities as well as potential dates with the administration and report back to the HSA.

**XI. Old Business**

Ellen Stiefel reported that she received School Board approval to run the Crazy 8's after-school math club at the LES. Out of 88 second-graders, 50 registered for the 6-week session, so Ellen and her parent volunteers will run 2 consecutive sessions of 25 students each. They are currently in the third week of their first session. She will seek additional volunteers to help with the second session.

Based on the registrations and feedback she has received, Ellen advised HSA that she has observed a large interest in having after-school activities for all of the LES students.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hoffman, Secretary