

New Hope-Solebury Elementary Schools
Home and School Association
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 21, 2015
LES Art Room

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
Amy Hoffman, Secretary
Roxanne Apparies, Treasurer
Gretchen Reilly, Assistant Treasurer

Parent Members:

Ellen Stiefel, Trisha DiZio, Deborah Peckman, Lori Zaro, Kathy Feehan, Valarie Alterman, Lori Staples

I. Approval of December Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the December 3, 2014 General Meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. Status of Teacher Grants

President Beth Houlton reported that the HSA received five grant applications by the December 2014 deadline. Of the five submissions, the following four were approved:

- A. Emily Van Praag: \$440 for costumes and props for all K-5 choral music performances (\$220 per school).
- B. Bill Snyder and Sharon Rader: \$600 for a living history project and field trip for all 1st graders to visit a one-room school house.
- C. Carole Gerenser and Tammi McGlynn: \$180 to purchase educational and engaging video alternatives for LES indoor recess during inclement weather
- D. Nicole Brown and Leanne Iannacone: \$575 to establish a library within a 4th grade classroom to provide immediate access for students to reading level-appropriate materials.

A fifth application (to pay the partial speaking fee for a visiting author) was denied by the HSA Board because the \$2,000 requested in the application was the full amount allocated for all LES grants combined for this year.

III. Principal Ken Silver's Report

LES Principal Silver welcomed the parent members of the HSA to the LES and informed them about several events at the school. He reported on the successful Cradles to Crayons initiative. This year, the collection campaign was expanded across all four schools in the district. As the collection comes to a close, some LES students will be able to help load the

trucks when they pick up our donations. Principal Silver noted that it will provide the children another opportunity to help and to learn where their donations go.

Principal Silver stated that many LES students are enthusiastically participating in the community read-a-thon sponsored by the local library, that the after-school programs (such as the Crazy 8's Math Club) have been well-received by the LES community, and that he would like to see the LES host more events for the wider community.

IV. Family Movie Night

Event organizer Deborah Peckman reported that plans are well under way for the Family Movie Night scheduled for Friday, January 23, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the UES LGI. As of this meeting, there were over 100 people registered to attend. There will be light snacks (popcorn, water, etc.) for sale and Deborah will arrange with Treasurer Roxanne Apparies to have a cashbox for the event. She has received instruction from Mr. Sasala on how to use the UES A/V system and will feature the movie, Despicable Me 2.

V. Pizza Bingo Night

Event co-chair Amy Hoffman provided an update on this event, which is scheduled for Friday, February 6, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The listserv with registration forms were sent out yesterday. LES teacher, Mr. Tom Marrone will serve as the emcee / bingo caller for the event. Giuseppe's will provide the pizza at a discounted price.

Next week, a listserv will be sent that will solicit parent volunteers for the night of the event and donations of baked goods for the dessert sale.

Amy requested ideas for possible "7th inning stretch" entertainment, and several parents shared ideas. The co-chairs will follow up on the suggestions. All present also discussed logistics such as set-up for the event and requirements for dessert donations.

VI. Upcoming Events

Organizers for the next set of upcoming events are:

Cultural Heritage Night (February 27, 2015)	Nan Nagg & Kim Madarasz
UES Glow Dance (March 13, 2015)	Tracy Keyes
LES Snowball Dance (March 20, 2015)	Stacy Buck

VII. UES Report

UES VP Jenn Lehman announced that "Starbooks Café" was the winning entry to name the reading café located in the UES lobby. HSA has committed to helping to fund the furniture for the space. There was discussion about how much is available and it was decided to allocate \$500 of unspent mini-grant funds to the furniture. In addition, the HSA provides each school principal with \$500 discretionary funds each year. It is understood that Principal Amy Mangano will allocate her \$500 toward furniture purchases, for a total of \$1,000 of HSA funds to furnish the Starbooks Café.

Jenn Lehman has met with the UES Student Council to learn what kind of furniture the students would like to see in this space. This information will inform her purchase of the chairs, tables, and book cart for the area.

VIII. LES Report

President Beth Houlton provided the following information on behalf of LES VP Stacy Buck:

A. LES Snowball Dance

Stacy Buck will need a co-chair to help organize the Snowball Dance.

B. LES Yearbook

The Yearbook sales will end this week. No extra books will be ordered by the editors, so anyone interested in purchasing a yearbook should order online.

C. Walkway Pavers

Paver sales are ongoing. A parent member asked if commemorative pavers are available for purchase at the UES. The HSA will check to see if they are.

D. Holiday Shop

Assistant Treasurer Gretchen Reilly, who chaired the Holiday Shop this year, reported that it was a huge success and that the children had a wonderful experience.

IX. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Roxanne Apparies introduced a new format for the HSA budget and solicited input from the members. The new format is more easily readable and user friendly. The layout allows a budget category to be tracked from a budget estimate to the actual expense or income to a comparison against a goal.

X. New Business

No new business was introduced.

XI. Old Business

Lori Zaro, who chaired the Square 1 Card Art fundraiser in the fall, announced that she has learned from the company that parents can continue to order products featuring their children's art. The orders must be placed online but are no longer limited to a designated fundraising period. Lori asked for suggestions for the best way to share this information with the UES & LES communities. It was decided that Secretary Amy Hoffman will include this item in the upcoming HSA newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Hoffman, Secretary