

New Hope-Solebury Elementary Schools
Home and School Association
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 18, 2015
UES Faculty Room

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, UES
Roxanne Apparies, Treasurer
Gretchen Reilly, Assistant Treasurer

Parent Members:

Deborah Peckman, Trish DiZio, Lori Zaro

I. President's Report (Beth Houlton)

A. **Approval of December Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the January 21, 2015 General Meeting were reviewed and approved.

B. **PTG** - President Beth Houlton reported that there will be a PTG (Parent Teacher Group, Middle school version of HSA) meeting held tomorrow (2/19) at 9am at the District Conference Room. Dr. Boccuti, Superintendent, will talk about the Campus Revitalization Plan, and Beth encouraged everyone to attend. Budget issues were discussed and approved last year. Major changes (starting with the new part of the school) will begin this summer at the High School (with some changes at the Middle School) and will take place over the next 3 years.

C. **Follow-up on recent events - Pizza Bingo** (Feb. 6) - (Stacy Buck/Amy Hoffman) - Stacy reported that the room capacity was 306 (others said 350). They ended up with 285 attendees which was a good size. She is considering staying with a smaller number next year. Roxanne mentioned wanting an entertainment break in the middle—maybe a 7th inning stretch in place would work. Giuseppe's apologized for not double-cutting the pizzas. Prizes were great. They were looking to make \$1000. Made \$858.10. Next year, Stacy said it would be easier to know a starting budget so that they can avoid overbuying prizes.

Hug-a-Teacher (Deborah Peckman) - Deborah reported that this initiative went well for the first year and we sold approx. 40 hugs. The consensus is that this event works well

for Valentine's Day, but next year, we could also sell at Movie Night or send a listserv and have kids bring in \$1.00 and a note at lunch or bring it into the office and explain it better.

Movie Night (Jan. 23) (Deborah Peckman) - Deborah reported that there were approx. 150 people in attendance and that she received positive feedback on the event. Deborah overspent on supplies and suggested that next year, we have just popcorn and water and then ask for donated baked goods if we can choose an earlier date in January so that it's not so close to the Pizza Bingo date. We can shoot for an earlier date in January right after break. Roxanne reported that expenses were \$242.18 and we made \$179 so we lost \$63.18, but we also re-used water/snacks at Pizza Bingo and still have some snacks left over to use at the upcoming dances. Anyvite was a successful tool for registrations (and can accept payment), but there is confusion as to how the # of registrations is totaled.

D. **Cultural Heritage Night** (Feb. 27) (Nan Nagg/Kim Madarasz) - The deadline for participants had to be moved to Feb. 17th. They have 9 or 10 tables (mostly new participants). It's a great event that gets a good turnout.

E. **UES Glow Dance** - (Mar. 13) (Tracy Keyes) - Beth mentioned that Tracy would like help and encouraged people to let her know if you would like to volunteer. This is an easier event to plan than the Snowball Dance and Beth will plan to bring leftover glow sticks.

F. **LES Snowball Dance** - (Mar. 20) (Stacy Buck) - Stacy reported that she could use volunteers. She needs a DJ and will ask Mr. DiTulio or Chris Shank (Middle school gym teacher). For decorations, Stacy will work with Dominique. Gretchen reported that there might be decorations in the LES shed. Colleen Miele ran this event last year—Roxanne or Gretchen can ask her for ideas. Last time, there was a photography area with a printer and frames set up in the LGI. This year, there will be finger foods that are included with ticket price. Kids dress up. Flowers are not included in the ticket price. There will possibly be a craft area. Will need to send a listserv. It is only open to LES students who can each bring one special person.

G. **Future Dates:**

Trenton Thunder Baseball Game 5/1/2015

Teacher Appreciation Week 5/4-5/8 - snack foods

II. **VP Report - UES** (Jenn Lehman) - Lobby "Starbooks Cafe" Area Progress - Beth reported that Jenn has ordered tables and chairs.

III. **VP Report - LES** (Stacy Bucks) - Stacy reported that yearbook sales are completed, and she sold 151 yearbooks, a lower number from last year though they did make approx. \$400. The yearbook price was set at \$24 each (they cost approx. \$19.50 to make and the company makes a bit of money on service fees for online orders). There was discussion on whether to keep the \$400 at the yearbook company as a deposit for next year or whether to have the money sent back and repay it next year. Stacy thought it might be easier to keep the money there. Roxanne said it was easier for accounting purposes to have the money sent back to us.

IV. **Treasurer Report** (Roxanne Apparies) - Beth reported that a 501(c)3 form needs to be filed every 1 or 2 years in order to be reinstated as a non-profit organization. This year, Beth will fill out the form and Adrienne Deussing will file the form electronically. Going forward, the Treasurer will be responsible for filing this form. In the future, we can buy items as tax-exempt when using a card that shows our up-to-date non-profit status.

Roxanne mentioned that for the upcoming Science Fairs, the projected expense is \$750, but that amount is split among the LES and UES.

V. **Principals' Report** - Mrs. Mangano was not present.

VI. **New Business**

A. **UES Playground Equipment Requests** (in progress). Beth reported that Amy Hoffman is working with Ligia Pratdesaba and Melanie Mertz, the UES Recess Aides, to buy playground equipment at the UES (balls, jump-ropes, etc.). The HSA gave them approx. \$400 last year. We are trying to figure out how much to give them this year, although we don't have a specific budget item allotted. We can possibly use a mini-grant. Stacy mentioned that teachers/parents should remind kids to return the balls/chalk each day.

B. **Field Day** - Beth reported that Jim DiTulio and Gina Ortiz have asked for \$1,000 for each school's upcoming Field Days. However, the HSA has budgeted \$650 for each school this year. Mr. DiTulio and Mrs. Ortiz are currently working on a submission to explain their need for the additional funds. The HSA will review their proposal and modify the amount if/as necessary.

C. **Possible HSA Storage Area** - Beth mentioned that Amy Mangano said the far wall of the Faculty Lounge might be able to be converted into storage for the HSA. Beth encouraged everyone to start thinking about how that space can best be utilized.

VII. **Old Business** - HSA Website (in progress - Amy Hoffman/Beth Houlton) - Stacy mentioned that we don't currently have a Facebook page. Beth mentioned that the issue was discussed in the past and that we were not allowed to have a page or site that wasn't part of the district. Trish mentioned that if using Facebook, we could create a Friends of the NHSSD HSA page, but that Stacy would ultimately still be responsible/liable. The solution for now is that the HSA can send newsletters more regularly until we have a more dedicated Web person to make updates.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Deborah Peckman, filling in for Amy Hoffman, Secretary