

New Hope- Solebury Elementary Schools
Home and School Association
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 19 2017
UES Teacher's Lounge

CALL to ORDER

President, Deborah Peckman, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

IN ATTENDANCE

HSA Board Members:

Deborah Peckman, President
Gretchen Reilly, Co-President
Nancy Aguilar, Vice President, LES
Karin Last, Secretary
Roxanne Apparies, Treasurer
Jin Joshi, Co-Treasurer

Parent Members:

Julia Swankoski, Alison Dalewitz, Dana Schwartz, Sarah Levinson

School Representatives:

Dr. Mike McKenna, Principal of the UES; Ken Silver, Principal of the LES

1. President's Report- Deborah Peckman

- A. Welcome/ Introduction- The HSA board and attendees introduced themselves.
- B. Approval of March meeting minutes- Unanimously approved.

**2. School Administration Reports-
Dr. Mike McKenna (UES)**

Cultural Heritage night was great! It was a well attended event that ran smoothly, with a bigger crowd than last year. Our Spring Book Fair was great, and Mrs. Loving did an awesome job with it. The UES Art Show was amazing, with great self-portraits and other art projects.

Thanks to Mr. Mannion.

Our STEM design challenge allowed us to take eight students with us. Both of our teams placed out of 58 total teams. Congratulations to all of them.

The Reading Olympics teams did an amazing job at Warwick Elementary School this year. There were three full teams, and two of our teams received the highest scores of the night.

The Makerspace now has another Little Bits set, funded by the HSA and the Ed. Fund. Some of the Middle School students are coming down to train the fifth graders on Tinker Cads.

Makerspace will get incorporated into Mrs. Loving's library class in the afternoons, and there will be more STEM related integration as well.

NOVA has been training two fifth graders from every class so they can give presentations on school related topics such as social media, safe and appropriate internet usage, cyberbullying, etc.

Mr. DiTulio's biking class will continue for a few more weeks. The Bike to School day is coming up in May, with information forthcoming.

PSSAs went smoothly last week for English. Math will resume next Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

Thursday May 4 is take your child to work day. Third marking period report cards will be available this Friday April 21 on the Home Access Center.

Friday May 5 is Science Fair Day, Career day is May 19, and June 9 is the last day of school.

Mr. Kenneth Silver (LES)

Spring Dance is this Friday night April 21. Please keep an eye on your kids and supervise them at all times. The K showcase is April 25, first grade on April 26, and second grade on April 27. The LES Art Show is May 3, Science Day April 28, and Field Day is May 25.

Mark Kopp, Stacy Freer, and Nancy Aguilar have been working on the beautification of the LES, and they've been doing a great job.

The Artist in Residence program has been in each class, and thank you to the HSA for the support.

3. Review Recent Events

A. Cultural Heritage Night - Kim Madarasz/ Mita Heble, Friday March 24

It was another great and successful night, with delicious food and fun. Mita was busy giving henna tattoos all night. There were a lot of new families this year. Kim will be handing this event off to Mita Heble, who will be heading it up next year. Next year the HSA should plan to include Cultural Heritage night expenses in their budget.

4. Upcoming Events

A. LES Spring Dance- Fri. April 21, Alison Dalewitz/ Liz Augenblick/ Nancy Aguilar

The Spring Dance is coming along nicely. A Sign up Genius is out there for more volunteers. There is only one custodian for cleanup, so they can use a lot of parent help with this. They still need volunteers for the photo booth, and arts and crafts area. Girl Scouts will be doing face painting and arts and crafts.

B. LES Science Day- Fri. April 28, Sarah Levinson

First and second grade will be attending from 9 AM to 12 noon, and K is in the afternoon. There are four presenters this year. John Singer is doing something on Gravity; Sarah

Levinson is doing Brain Science; Christopher Rider is doing Physics/ Propulsion; and Mita Heble is doing Acids and Bases.

C. UES Science Day- Friday May 5, Amishi Castelli

They are still in need of some more volunteers for the UES Science Day. If you can help out, please contact Ellen Stiefel, who is coordinating volunteers.

D. Teacher Appreciation Week/ Send A Hug- 5/1- 5/5, Adrienne Deussing/ Shelby Burons

A Sign Up Genius went out yesterday for food donations, and all slots are already filled. They still need help to replenish supplies throughout the week, and for clean up. There may be another sign up genius going out to have people come in daily to straighten up the kitchen and replenish food. Deborah will touch base with Adrienne to see if there is a need for this.

As part of Teacher Appreciation week, Hershey's Send A Hug can be purchased for one dollar to send Hershey Hugs to a teacher or staff member. Forms will be emailed out today, and are due back by April 28. Volunteers will meet up at Roxanne Apparies' house on Thursday May 4 at 10:00 AM, and deliver them afterwards.

E. Trenton Thunder- Fri. May 19, Roxanne Apparies. Gretchen Reilly

So far there are 130 tickets sold. A form is going home today in backpack mail, and another email will get out next week. The deadline for orders is next Wed. April 26. The Naturals will be performing before the game.

F. 5th Grade Promotion- Wed. June 6, Deborah Peckman/ Adrienne Deussing

The next planning meeting is April 20. All fifth graders can submit up to three photos to Kathy Feehan by May 1 for the slide show. This year's theme is Carnival. The kids will choose the music, and each will receive a t-shirt. The graduation ceremony is at 11:00 AM at the high school, and parents are welcome to attend. Afterwards the kids will attend the party in the cafeteria until 3:00 PM.

5. Board Updates

A. LES VP Report- Nancy Aguilar

The LES Dance is coming up on Friday. Nancy also spoke about wanting to print t-shirts for the LES students. They can be sold at Back to School nights and other events. It was suggested that the t-shirts be printed with the wording and logo "New Hope-Solebury Elementary School" so that both LES and UES students can buy one.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.
Submitted by Karin Last, Secretary

