

HSA Meeting 02-07-2019 MINUTES, Time/Location: 6:00pm at Cook-Wissahickon

HSA Board Members Attending: Dan M, Alyssa B, Kellie R, Elisabeth C, Stef T

Dan M: Officially Started Meeting at 6:12

- Welcome and Motion to Approve Jan Minutes - Approved
- Open Discussion for Attendees:
 - Parent concern: Using example of miscommunication about Evening of the Arts in January and confusion about which homerooms were/were not involved, noted a need for more clear communication from school about school events. The school did eventually resolve the issue and parents are no longer upset, but just ask for better, clearer communication. HSA did note that school addressed this particular issue with a letter to parents about a Spring event for students who weren't involved this time and that there was acknowledgement things will be handed differently moving forward. Also noted a need to ensure teachers send Wednesday folders home with students. HSA is trying to share electronically any communication from school in Wednesday folders when possible, but parents do still want paper copies, too.
 - Jennette Geter introduced herself - running for City Council, District 4. Attending to meet families, hear what's going on in the community.
 - Julie M. shared Wissahickon Sustainability Council updates: WSC received \$5,000.00 Lowe's Grant - will be paving a path to outdoor classroom for improved accessibility (work likely done in summer). Also applied for 3 larger grants in the past month for main schoolyard project: depaving, replacing mats under playground equipment, etc.
 - Parent concern: Asked if any of the WSC's work would be in K yard because mats under equipment there are also coming up and kids trip on them. This is not part of current WSC work plans - current work is focused on main schoolyard.
 - Parent concern: A few parents expressed concern about lack of initial communication and that not enough has been communicated about a teacher who has been out for an extended time. HSA acknowledged this is a school issue and not one HSA can answer any questions about. HSA said it will present parental concerns/questions to school: Is there a policy for alerting parents when a teacher is out for an extended period of time? If not, can there be one? (Not looking for specifics about why teacher is out and know that there may not always be clear answers about how long. But would like to be notified if more than 5 days.) Can school provide appropriate contact info for substitute or appropriate contact who can get back to parents in case of concerns that should be addressed quickly or regarding day-to-day communication?
 - Parent comment: Need for an active School Advisory Council (SAC) - this could help address communication issues, etc. Need to look for interested people to get this started.
- Teacher Comments: none/no teacher present
- [January Treasurer's Report](#): Elisabeth C.
 - Current balance as of 01/31/18: **\$13,131.65**
 - Book fair was successful - will be reported as part of Feb Treasurer's Report (One note, HSA did lose some money due to taxes (i.e., if kids brought 10 and bought book for 9.99, HSA covered cost of taxes.)
 - To date (Dec/Jan), families have donated \$915 for the 50th Anniversary Campaign
 - Total NUT day Donations (Sept-Jan): \$7404.00
- Volunteering Update: Dan (on behalf of Ashley)
 - Book fair went well, but needed more volunteers. Should be easier to recruit moving forward - setting dates earlier, using Scholastic site to manage volunteers, asking sooner.

- **Clearances:** Moving forward, there is a zero tolerance policy in district regarding clearances. Volunteers must have completed all SDP steps for clearances. This will affect field trips. There are 39 full cleared volunteers to date. 81 have started process. Email cookwisshsa@gmail.com if you have questions about your status. Visit <https://www.philasd.org/face/volunteer/> to start the process.
- Musical Donations: Looking for teen Belle dresses - need four - or old wedding dress you can donate to be dyed yellow - adult sizes 0/2 likely to be best fit. Also need white/brown/dark green fabric donations by the several yards for aprons for villagers. In need of a working sewing machine that is beginner friendly. Looking for two middle school students to help with basic sewing skills - great opportunity to learn sewing skills or about costume designing.
- Volunteer Social: Hope to plan something in next few months as a thank you. Jasmine offered Trolley Car Cafe (3269 S. Ferry Rd.) as option for location. Motion to ask HSA to pay appetizers or part of tab. Vote - all in favor. More details to come.
- Fundraising Update: Alyssa
 - 50th Anniversary: Fundraising efforts going well. Need volunteers for committee to help with planning events for 50th Anniversary celebration in the fall with opening Time Capsule and possible coordination with 5K event. Need people to research history, gather archives, pics, spread the word, create display, connect with alumni, plan new time capsule, etc. Interested - email cookwisshsa@gmail.com.
 - Corporate/Business fundraising: Letters will be ready soon for parent volunteers to bring to local businesses to ask for support (looking for financial support, open to in-kind donations we can use as raffle items or give aways for events like the 5k). Have a connection with a local business? Email cookwisshsa@gmail.com
 - Dine to Donate Events coming up:
 - Couch Tomato: Thanks to all who supported this - it was a success. Raised \$120.
 - Spicy Belly: 2/20 - Next Dine to Donate
 - March Dine to Donate will be at Tony Roni's - details to come
 - 5K Update: Kellie
 - Proposed Date is 9/21. Needs to confirm date works with Mr. Lowe. Wants to work with 50th Anniversary committee, once formed, to coordinate 5K with time capsule opening.
 - Proceeds will benefit 50th Anniversary Campaign goals
 - Uniform Sale Fundraiser: Motion to vote to do a uniform sale with all proceeds going to support special needs teachers. All in favor. Uniform sale sheets to be distributed soon.
 - Special NUT Day: HSA received a request this week from a teacher to run special NUT day in February on behalf of PFT to support Susan B Komen. HSA suggested Feb 14 as potential day - it's a free Dress Down Day, but could ask for donations/wear pink. HSA proposed if HSA is running it, have money go to local Friends in Pink. HSA to follow up with school. If school wants to run a special NUT day for Komen, School will run it/collect money and HSA will support by sharing any communication about it with families in our weekly email and on social media.
- Student Government Update: This is up and running with Mr. Hennessy and students (2 fifth graders, 3 6th [including secretary], 3 7th [including vp], and 3 8th [including president]). Working on bios for an SGA corner in upcoming newsletter from school (David, our PhenD Vista rep, is coordinating newsletter)
- Meeting adjourned: 7:25