

HSA Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 2, 2020

Attendees: Fr. Romans, Amy Franco, Annmarie Sullivan, Mary Beth Chamberlain, Judy Rowinski, Margie Palmeri, Joanne Slot, Aimee Uluski, Michelle Geoffrey

On phone conference: Dr. Nancy Testa, Julia Atwood, Brian Meehan, Molly Johnson, Barbara Simmons, Siohban Yale, Tara Mosca, Helen Tine

Meeting began at 6:03pm

Communication

- Opening Prayer by Dr. Testa
- Pastor's Report
 - Thank you x3 to phenomenal support of faculty, parents and students for the success of 2 fundraisers (golf tourney & APEX) and a superb community event on Saturday (Pumpkin Patch)
 - Golf Tourney raised more \$ than in years past
 - APEX a success - a little more than last year (preliminary numbers)
 - Pumpkin patch - great and a good time
 - Welcome to our new gym teacher, Mrs. Cloud & welcome back to Mrs. Nott!!
 - We just received word that state is going back to phase 2 effective Thursday, 11/5
 - The constant changes present a challenge - forces us to get out of the usual way of thinking things should be done
 - Sometimes immediate answers are not possible during these challenging times - asking for continued patience & understanding
 - Continue to receive donations to school annual fund
 - Covid response
 - Extra expenses due to Covid have been greater than \$50,000
 - New camera installed and an upgrade to PA system
 - Thank you to Dr. Testa & Mrs. Connolly especially the nurses' expertise and guidance
- Principal's Report
 - Thank you to Fathers, teachers, staff, parents, and students for all of their ongoing support, positivity, and thinking outside the box to get thru this pandemic
 - Grateful for the new teachers - Mrs. Cloud & Mrs. Nott
 - Dr. Testa attended an OEEC meeting to report state of school last week
 - they were happy with current enrollment - 300 students - 3 remote learners

- happy to hear about successful HSA activities (fundraisers) - thanks to HSA for their support and creativity
 - Scholastic book fair will begin in November - chaired by Rachel Herbst
 - Thank you to Linda Latimer for subbing for Mr. Guerrero
 - TOPs update - by Mrs. Geoffrey
 - Due to low numbers of students getting lunches (about 10%), Mrs. Geoffrey & Dr. Testa will be meeting with TOPs to continue the relationship but change things up. Will still have lunches but might look a little different.
 - About 20-30 students per day are getting lunch; used to be about 100 students. Working with TOPs to figure why so low & what to do about it.
- Teacher's Report by Mrs. Slot
 - Teachers thank HSA for everything
 - Not many activities (ie field trips) but Mrs. Mayers 6th grade class is participating in an Irish essay contest (which is a national competition)
 - Teachers are doing a marvelous job especially those with remote learners.
 - Remote learning is both synchronous (with class) & asynchronous (alone). Learners are with their class a good part of the day. Teacher is watching them on Zoom. When classes go for mask break, remotes get a break too. Enrichment teachers, except PE, are also zooming with them, but students are given gym assignments
- Treasurer's Report - Brian Meehan
 - Income
 - Golf Tournament - \$17,347
 - Greater Giving - \$2,853
 - Scrip - \$294
 - Dress-Down Day - \$1,225
 - Lyman Pies - \$10,024
 - Expense
 - Barhorst Memorial Fund - \$1,450
 - Thank You Roses (birthdays) - \$63
 - Misc - \$720
 - The books have balanced against the bank statement.
- School Board Report - Margie Palmeri
 - The School Board has totally gotten the message of all hands on deck and is here to support the school
 - Amy Franco has been coming to the meeting
 - A survey will be given in April
 - Going ahead with planning the 5-year strategic plan
 - Alumni of the board have created an alumni subcommittee and will be supporting the pursuits this year
 - Call with OEEC - most schools are finding that donors are being extra generous this year due the hardship of covid

- remember to thank the donors - personal calls and notes from the principals are encouraged
- *Note: Thank yous for the golf tourney will be going out to the donors this week and will include personal notes from the students*

General Business

- Congratulations to our teachers
 - Michelle Geoffrey received the OEEC Light of Christ Award
 - April Brilvitch received the Catholic Biblical School Award
 - Sister Jean d'Arc's scarecrow won 2nd place for Best Youth Effort in Cheshire's First Annual Scarecrow Contest
- Welcome back to Mrs. Nott and Welcome to Mrs. Cloud
- Mrs. Nott needs room parents; anyone interested should let Mrs. Nott & Annmarie Sullivan know
- Annmarie Sullivan is the HSA liaison for the Room Parents
- Thanks to all room parents - let Annmarie know if you need anything
- Pumpkin Patch - Jaime Szyszka - 28 pumpkins - 5 top voted pumpkins \$10 gift card from Mr. D's
 - Cost to HSA - \$74
 - Thanks Jaime for doing it!
- A potential event for the spring are Virtual Games hosted by DJ Keith Allen
 - He can provide virtual games such as, jeopardy, music bingo, etc.
 - He will do a demo game for 5-6 parents to check it out
 - Tara Mosca has offered to chair it
- HSA will sponsor a parent-supplied Thanksgiving teacher gratitude lunch on Monday, November 23rd
 - Will need food, such as soups, salads, sandwiches supplied by parents
 - Food should be store- or restaurant-bought (not homemade) to prevent any potential Covid contamination.
 - Or parents can make a donation to HSA for the lunch.
- Holiday themed class fun activity - need ideas that can be done with social distancing in mind
- At the last meeting a concern was brought up about families who might not be able to pay for certain things, like field trips. Not sure how this would be administered or who/what would qualify, but anyone who has a need should e-mail their child's teacher with "Sunshine Fund request" and then Dr. Testa & Fr. Romans would review and make a decision.
- For anything that is HSA related - please go to the HSA board, not the office.
- Thanks to Fr. Romans, students, faculty, and administration - thank you!
- Idea from Siohban Yale - Lake Chamberlain allows fishing - could set up social distance fishing event; they have the tackle available to use; free if only the kids are fishing- parents don't need a license if they're not fishing - She will get the info together for a spring event; Brian Meehan offered to help

Fundraising

- Golf Tourney - Carolina Ramirez-Blier - huge success, record year - thanks yous
- APEX - 2nd year, not all calculated but over last year's donations
- Spirit Wear - Lillia Bunick & Barbara Simmons - 2nd order of the 2020 year about \$500 last month; have to have 25 pieces ordered before placing order.
 - After some discussion it was decided to open the orders for Christmas. If we don't get at least 25 pieces, however, we won't be able to place the order in time for Christmas
 - Spirit Wear masks - there is a minimum 50 adult and 50 youth we would have to buy up front (\$5.75 each).
 - Have room parents check with their class to see if there is any interest in buying masks and also what other kinds of spirit wear they would like to see
- Tristan Barhorst - t-shirt sales to support scholarship - not too late to order
- ProShred Event - November 14th - Don Janezic 9am -12pm rain or shine & Covid compliant
- Tiny Saints - Julia Atwood - could not do an October fundraiser but we have a place in February if they decide to have one
 - In preparation for that, we ask teachers to help kids do some research and choose a saint.
- Boon Supply - Annmarie Sullivan - ongoing online fundraiser; earned about \$220 so far and it costs nothing
- Lyman Pie Sales - Elizabeth Salgado - also some were donated to master's manna
- Book Fair - Rachel Herbst (chair); report by Mrs. Geoffrey - fair will be online 11/9 thru 11/22. Books can be bought online and the link can be shared with family & friends. Orders will be shipped directly to home. An e-mail will be sent to explain everything.
- Wreath sales - Amy Franco - For the first time the HSA is offering wreaths for sale which will be supplied by Gozzi Farm in Guilford. An email went out today with the order info.
- Poinsettia sales - Mary Beth Chamberlain - in conjunction with the St. Bridget of Sweden Men's Club, the HSA will be offering poinsettias for sale in November for delivery in December
- Holiday Gift Wrap Sale - Aimee Uluski - Charleston Wrap Fundraiser begins 11/9. Products include wrapping paper and home gift items. The fundraiser is totally online and orders are mailed directly to home; can send shopping link to friends & family; shopping ends on 12/1.
- Santa Shop - Lauren Biller, Jaime Szyszka, Tara Mosca - due to Covid, this has been tabled.
- Calendar Raffle - Molly Johnson - Raffle tickets are sold for a chance to win a prize each day for a month. Winner's name gets put back every day so you can win every day. To be successful, will need donations of gift cards & prizes from local businesses and parents - the more we can get donated (rather than purchase) the better. Will plan for February or March.

- Eat Out Nights - Aimee Uluski - on 11/11 at Rossini's 5-9pm and on 12/7 wayback 5-7pm dine-in or take-out; a portion of proceeds will go to SBS
- Bingo with a Kick - Amy Franco - This fundraiser is also a fun family event. It's Bingo on Zoom. There are 6 games of bingo. Each winner can choose either a \$100 gift card or a designer handbag. After the prize is chosen the other prize is raffled off so there are 12 chances to win a prize. Amy Franco, Helen Tine, & Mary Beth Chamberlain got a chance to try it out in October. Although it may be a little slow for "regular" bingo-goers, it will be a fun night for families. We are scheduled to have our virtual bingo on 2/4/2021.
- The following items were tabled until the next meeting:
 - Auction
 - Cow chip fundraiser
 - Bail-out fundraiser

Other Business/Questions

- Will there be a candy collection? To send to the troops

Closing prayer by Dr. Testa

Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm