

Home and School Minutes
May 24, 2023

Attendance

In person - Melissa Hoffman, Kelly Arfin-Gurevitch, Julia Stein, Jessica Rogers, Erika Horn, Erica Grand, Chantal Latour, Lucy Glave, Mark Kashetsky, Lucy Glave. Online – Matteo Romanelli, Sabrina Bercovitch

Approval of Agenda

Changes to the agenda – new business – to add carnival, pens, grad trip treats/snacks
With these changes to the agenda, a motion was raised by Melissa to accept the May meeting agenda.
The motion was seconded by Erica G; all in favor - approved.

Approval of Minutes

Mark motions to accept the February minutes, seconded by Erica G; all in favor – approved.

Treasurer's Report

Expenses still to be payed – TCBY \$1 983, \$8 300 in invoices
\$6 600 that was held for grad committee and will be spent for the grad class
Like to carry over \$5 000 for next year for early expenses, so we have ~ \$23 000 left to spend this year.

Administration Report

Vice principal present to give report. Nothing to report.

Teacher's Report

1. Last December the committee talked about helping to buy blinds. Priority given, to blinds in classrooms that are broken or missing, second priority to the gym, then last priority given to classroom requests. Still waiting for some quotes to come in.

Question was asked as why the blinds are not paid for by the board. Answer, there is no budget that could cover the expense, therefore asking home and school to help pay for it. The expense is brought to the board first and then if they are unable to pay for it. If anyone has a contact, they can get a quote and submit it. Will be an ongoing project to change all the blinds in the school.

2. Kindergarten is doing a home reading program; a lot of books have ben damaged or lost. Asking for home and school to pay for more books through Scholastics - 4 boxes of books x \$139 = \$587.96
3. Listening center that is used for kindergarten students needs to be upgraded. On Amazon boom box that can play all forms (cassette, cd, etc.) \$100 x 4 = \$459.84 total. They are now using a lot of cassette tapes. Is there a way to upgrade the system at a later date? There are a lot of tapes that go with the books that are being read in class. Might be worth it to wait for a more updated version, even if it is more expensive. As a short-term fix, may be able to find a professional to convert the cassette tapes to digital.
4. Chair Mute Glides – a lot of chairs on the second floor do not have the sliders. There is a lot of noise that comes from the classrooms on the second floor. This noise may distract a lot of students.

\$2-3 for a set of 4 for a chair. Mrs. Martire will look into her budget, but may not have any money. About \$1 000 to purchase for all classroom chairs on second floor.

5. Tech team – met twice and surveyed all the teachers. There is a lot of broken and technology that needs to be replaced. Major needs are 50 iPads for cycle 1 plus cases, Grade 4 - 50 Chromebooks. Mrs. Martire did purchase 10 iPads already.

All quotes are from the NTIC account (School Board Account)

Ipad – \$449 plus tax – set of 10 - \$4 900 all inclusive

Cases – \$109.58 per case – set of 10 - \$1 259.90 on Amazon

Chromebooks – 11 inch – \$367.75 each – set of 10 - \$4 228.21

License for iPads - \$27.31 each

6. Ms. Scarlett – wishes to teach the grade 6 students about fountain pens, and then give them each a pen as a grad gift. Cost \$286.50 plus import fees. About \$100 for ink – total \$420.

Membership One new member

Updates

Fundscrip – \$2 542.52 will be cashed out at the end of the year. A lot of the funds were pizza gift cards that were purchased to buy the school pizza.

Pizza Lunch – 2 more pizza lunches left – status quo, it went very smoothly this year. Needs to vote if we will be using the same supplier next year.

School Kits – has been approved from governing board for the next school year. Kelly needs the lists ASAP to get it to the company.

Book Fairs – will look at it in the fall

Candy Jar Guessing Game – Mme. Chantal was the closest class to the actual number of candies in the jar. There was one winner per cycle. All kids got boxes of candy and were very happy with the prize.

Raffle Baskets – there have been a lot of little things that have come up this year, so we decided to table this for the moment.

Shark Shirts Colors – no update. Idea that we can do different colors for different school activities. Will talk about it again in the fall.

Admin Appreciation Day – Ratification – vote was made online with the executive committee. Every year home and school purchase's \$50 gift cards for Mary and Janet in the office. Already bought and given. The gestures are very much appreciated.

Photo wall – Ratification – there is a new photo wall in the main entrance with all the staff members in the building. \$3400 was allocated for helping to pay for it.

Approved Fundraisers

Please see the agenda for the approved fundraisers

New Business

QFHSA – annual conference will be taking place this Friday. Any member is welcome to attend. If any one wants to go, home and school will pay for your ticket.

Fundraisers for 2023-24 - need governing board approval for our usual fundraisers – Chocolate Bars, Sharks shirts, Loveable labels, Fundsrip, TCBY (grad) fundraisers.

Next year will be the last year for the Laura Secord chocolates. Since our current success, we were given first order with the company for the final run in 2023/24

New fundraiser ideas – Can be discussed next year. please think of ideas. Next year we will need a lot of money for Technology

Carnival – last year there was an amazing end of year carnival. This was put together from the gym teacher. Kelly already looked into renting the inflatables for this June. Dynamix was here last week testing some new games and equipment. Some of the classes were able to try it out, possibility of them to come and do some games for our carnival day.

Looking to allocate a total of - \$5 500

Dynamix is not able to give us a rain date but they are able to do something in the gym.

Mrs. Martire has money in the budget to get carnival food for the students

Grad trip Snack/Treats – Every year home and school contributes to the grad activities. This year they are asking to pay for a snack for the grad trip. Needs to be a healthy snack, and needs to accommodate allergies. Waiting to see what is in the lunch box and then will be able to find a good snack.

Varia

Asking if someone is able to clean up the lost and found. Home and school have cleaned up the lost and found 4 times this year, and the lost and found becomes a mess again quickly. Parents are not interested into coming to look through the tables that have been set up.

Vote

1. A motion was raised by Mark to allocate \$6 000 to purchase blinds for the classes in need. The motion was seconded by Kelly; all in favor - approved.
2. A motion was raised by Mark to allocate up to \$600 for the home reading program books. We will first use the scholastics money and then the rest will be from the home and school budget. The motion was seconded by Kelly; all in favor - approved.
3. Listening systems – table it until next year – will try and find a better way to get digital versions.

4. A motion was raised by Kelly to allocate up to \$1 000 for chair mute glides. The motion was seconded by Erica G; all in favor - approved.
5. Mark motions to allocate up to \$11 000 to purchase 10 new Ipads, including cases and licensing and 10 new Chromebooks. The motion was seconded by Julia; all in favor - approved.
6. Pens for Grad – can try and spend grad budget instead of H&S. There is money available
7. A motion was raised by Mark to approve all usual fundraisers for the 2023-2024 school year. The motion was seconded by Erica H; all in favor - approved.
8. A motion was raised by Kelly to allocate up to \$600 for the back-to-school breakfast; the motion was seconded by Mark; all in favor - approved.
9. A motion was raised by Kelly to allocate up to \$250 for snacks for the graduating students during their grad trip. The motion was seconded by Melissa; all in favor - approved.
10. A motion was raised by Melissa to allocate up to \$6 000 for the end of year carnival. The motion was seconded by Erica H; all in favor - approved.
11. A motion was raised by Kelly to ratify the 2 previously executive votes that allocation \$100 for the admin appreciation day and \$3400 for the photo wall. The motion was seconded by Erica G; all in favor - approved.

Executive Elections

Thank you to Melissa for giving her time to home and school. She has been the secretary for the past 10 years. Email sent out that explains the positions available and the details with a call for nominations

Chair

Kelly nominates herself. There are no other nominations – Kelly is acclaimed as Chair

Treasurer

Erika Horn nominates herself. Mark nominates himself. Each nominee gave a small speech to sell themselves. Secret ballot voting. Erica Horn wins election and is named Treasurer.

Thank you to Mark our outgoing treasurer for all the hard work done for home and school.

Secretary

Julia has nominated herself for the position of secretary. There are no other nominations – Julia is acclaimed as Secretary.

Next Meeting TBA

Thank you everyone for coming, and to the Westpark Community for helping make H&S 2022/23 a success! Have a great summer!