

**Hillsborough Elementary School
Home and School Association
November 2021 Meeting
11/10/2021**

Meghann Valeo, HSA President, opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

Welcome

There were 19 people present at the meeting via zoom.

Minutes

October 2021 meeting minutes were approved and are posted on the website. (<https://www.heshsa.org>). Ms. Eckstein made a motion, Melanie Simone seconded.

Treasurer's Report (Fundraising Ideas/updates)

Andrew P. discussed according to community pass we raised just under \$900 for the Halloween event. Logowear about \$2700 and we still need to subtract cost. Budgeted \$700 for logowear revenue so we have passed that mark. Donation on community pass about \$523 for October, currently \$396 for November for the water filling station. Community pass totals are about 1 month behind. Pies fundraiser \$484 and \$280 Lenny's, \$376 for kids supply. Gaming account has about \$2700. Also discussed Amazon smile given the holiday season is coming up. Shoe fundraiser with Mrs. Wright for first few weeks was just \$18 and then 3 additional shipments that we haven't heard back regarding the fundraising amounts. Bella Pizza is interested in donation for the water stations and possibly a restaurant night. Ms. Eckstein asked for an email for a blast regarding Amazon smile for the holiday season.

Water Filling Stations

Meghan discussed the flyer posted to raise funds for water filling stations. We have enough funds to fund 1 station now with our gaming account from PICTO and previous events. Ms. Eckstein discussed the initiative. Due to the pandemic water fountains have been turned off and even if turned on most are less enthusiastic to use them again. Many schools have raised funds for water bottle filling station so students and staff can refill their water bottles throughout the day. They currently have no option to refill their water bottles while at school. This is a sustainable use of funds that all students and staff will benefit from. HEF put in a request for water filling station, an anonymous source put in for a grant for HES to get a water filling station. We may purchase 3, but now we have another option to provide at least 2 stations in the building. With HEF HES has gone to the top of the list since we currently have no filling stations. Mrs. Goodwin asked about the filling station and sanitary precautions. Meghan explained they are hands free. Mrs. Goodwin is very excited about this initiative and wants to ensure the students have some education on usage to keep as clean as possible. The question was posed if they will replace the fountains. Mrs. Mascola also asked about if the lead concerns were addressed. Ms. Eckstein reported that all lead issues have been addressed. Meghan asked for a vote to approve the water filling station to be funded by the gaming account money and gift to the BOE. Meghan Valeo made a motion, Shannon Woerner seconded. Vote was unanimous to use gaming account funds to donate filling station.

Book Fair

Meghan reported it was a great success. Mrs. Fox has received funds to purchase books and scholastic news. Significantly increased from our last virtual fairs that brought in around \$1000. Orders are still coming in. Delays due to global shipping issues. Over \$450 for teachers e-wallets to purchase books for their classrooms.

Class Parents/Winter Parties

Shannon updated that all rooms have at least one class parent and are working with each teacher for support. Ms. Eckstein advised to keep food to a minimum for the winter class parties. Given the parents are not able to attend in person, encouraged to keep the party events (crafts/games) simple. The Halloween parties went very well. Mrs. Moore also mentioned it was helpful to have the boxes dropped off a couple days early, so she knew everything that was in the box. We agreed to set the dropoff date of 12/21. Ms. Eckstein also encouraged no goody bags given the pandemic and people are still concerned about accepting things from another household. All foods need to be approved for allergies by the school nurse. Any perishables given the boxes will be sent early, need to be discussed with the teacher.

HES HSA Trunk or Treat

Lorrie reported that this year was different and pivoted due to the inclement weather. The teachers made it very fun despite the weather. No complaints logged. 297 kids signed up. Costs were minimal about \$100. Andrew volunteered and DJ'd the event. Mrs. Hopson praised Lorrie in her organization and dedication to the event. Only 58 bags weren't handed out likely due to the weather. There was a strong crew of volunteers, everyone came together to make the best of the inclement weather. Extra candy will be sent to operation shoebox.

Yearbook Photos

Claritza is taking over for Nicole. Nicole will continue to guide and support. Pictures from the Halloween event were taken. Asking parents to send pictures to the yearbook email. They will gather and send over to Milan for the yearbook. They will communicate to parents to send pictures of events and spirit days to the yearbook email address. Meghan asked Ms. Eckstein to remind the teachers as well to send any pictures they may have taken. Ms. Eckstein agreed.

4th Grade Day/Fundraising

Melanie is on the call for the committee. Meghan is asking to start the conversation so we can be prepared, have a target and start fundraising. Ms. Eckstein feels it's still too early to have many details on the type of things we will be able to do. Optimistic we will be able to have a much more normal 4th grade day due vaccines etc. Mrs. Mascola asking since we may not have buses for a field trip, can we attempt to have parents drive with a proper consent/release form? Ms. Eckstein will look into it if needed.

Red Ribbon Week

Vinita thanked Ms. Eckstein and Marylynn for their assistance and accommodation to allow her to come and decorate the school for Red Ribbon Week. Overall a success. All parents received shirts except 2 which are resolved. Ms. Eckstein thanked Vinita for her support and enthusiasm with this event.

PICTO

Meghan mentioned it is technically scheduled in January like usual. It is an annual picture BINGO event, about 500-600 people attend. The largest event the HSA does. It is unlikely that we can pull this together in usual fashion for January in the current climate. We can likely do a basket raffle. Looking for any out of the box thinking. Mrs. Goodwin asked especially for the 4th graders can we think about a similar event in the Spring outdoor, with the "One More Time" energy. Meghan brought up our STEM fair/carnival that we may consider doing this with the PICTO energy in the Spring. Mrs. Hopson mentioned doing a short version in school for the experience. Ms. Eckstein could call it over the intercom. Maybe do on a Friday afternoon. All agreed we can make this happen.

Pie Fundraiser

Meghan reported about 29 pies ordered. Orders will be accepted until tomorrow 11/11 night. Nicole ran with it, she found Terhune Orchards and made it happen. Pick up will be on 11/23 from maybe 4-7. Will confirm that time closer to, want to avoid teachers or parents that pick up have to stay or come back.

LogoWear Sale

Meghan mentioned hugely successful. First one in a long time. Hoping shipping will be for early December, order is being processed. A few extras in larger sizes.

Teacher Forum

Nothing to add. Nicole asked about monthly newsletter looking for ways to make in more enticing for parents to read. We are going to do a faculty highlight. Mr. Marks agreed to do December. We are looking for someone for February. All teachers (Mrs. Hopson, Moore and Goodwin) happily agreed!

Principal Forum

Ms. Eckstein reported that there are emails for the beautification that is moving things forward. Liz has been facilitating the process. Buildings and grounds are also on board. Will add more in the Spring too. Some decoration around the sign will be dropped off tomorrow. Meghan mentioned to create a small pathway so the sign can be changed easily. Ms. Eckstein mentioned some mulch has been ordered for the new playground. We got our permits and will be able to open it!!!

Closing Comments

No comments. The question was posed if vaccination in the future will be required for schools. Ms. Eckstein reported it is unknown at this point and she doesn't have any further knowledge to answer the question. Next month will be virtual unless otherwise mentioned depending on conditions in the community.

Meghann Valeo, President of the HSA, closed the meeting at 8:24pm.

Minutes Submitted by: Shannon Woerner, HSA Recording Secretary