

**Hillsborough Elementary School  
Home and School Association  
May 2022 Meeting  
5/18/2022**

**Meghann Valeo, HSA President, opened the meeting at 6:33pm.**

**Welcome**

There were 14 people present on google meet.

**Minutes**

April 2022 meeting minutes were approved and are posted on the website and on Konstella. (<https://www.heshsa.org>). Meghan Valeo made a motion and Andrew Piccirillo seconded; minutes were approved.

**GSHNJ SU72 Junior Troop 61184 Presentation**

Chloe Delacruz and Julianne Valeo to discuss project for Bronze award. Take old crayons, mail to organization that will recycle and make them new again. They are then given to children in the hospitals. They are collecting new art supplies to create art kits for children at area hospitals. They have flyers to be distributed. They are asking if they can set up collection boxes around the school, have an announcement to the school and flyer distribution. Mrs. Hopson suggested emailing the teachers to remind them of collecting old crayons. Ms. Eckstein gave an enthusiastic approval for this initiative. This would go until the end of the school year. Ms. Eckstein offered the red fun run bags to serve as receptacles.

**Treasurer's Report (Fundraising Ideas/updates)**

Andrew P. presented updates. We paid the yearbook balance which was a large expense. We provided the first check for the first filling station. We have been receiving donations and have about \$1000 for Claire Westphal's memorial. We have about \$1600 for 4<sup>th</sup> grade day. We have spent about \$3000 on school beautification which came from the assembly fund. Budget is done through the end of April. The formal report will come out in June. We have just under \$12000 in cash on hand.

**School Beautification**

Meghan turned things over to Liz Kozack head of the committee to discuss the projects. Weed blocker is almost completed. Home Depot donated rolls. 4<sup>th</sup> grade has been helping. River rocks are in place and the fence posts are almost completed as well. Multiple monetary donations. We are still in need of mulch. A workorder was placed for the mulch. The fence around the custodian's garden is still pending.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Day**

Melanie is here for the committee. They are planning on a Super Sundaes fundraiser on the day of the concert once it is rescheduled. If the concert doesn't get rescheduled they will still do Super Sundae fundraiser. Super Sundaes is making ice cream for the kids. They are looking for volunteers for the STEM fair. Shirts are in and signs are on the way. The trip has been approved for Branchburg Sports Complex this year on 6/3.

**Yearbook**

Meghan reported on the committee's behalf. We paid invoice for about 275 books, includes about 10 in excess.

## **Teacher Appreciation Week**

Many volunteers for food items and time. Went well. Café Piazza catered the lunch with individual lunches which was a favorite. Ms. Eckstein thanked the committee for the theme, it really raised the moral and created a positive atmosphere.

## **STEM Fair**

Andrew discussed our first in person event since 2019. This Friday 5/20 6p-8p outside behind the school. Open to all HES students and families. We are going to have 2 main events, popsicle bridge breaking event. Parameters are given to kids to work on at home with their parents. They will bring to the fair and we will measure the pressure it takes to break the bridge. The second event is the sled challenge. Parameters are given for a sled to go down an inclined ramp. The Robotics team from the high school will be demonstrating and volunteering. Still looking for volunteers. We will have some basket raffles and a 50/50 too. Email [stemfair@heshsa.org](mailto:stemfair@heshsa.org) if interested in volunteering. This is not a dropoff event, parents must stay with their children.

## **Field Day**

The shirts have gone home. Volunteer list is finalized for 5/24 with rain date of 5/27. Pizza will be served for lunch. Parent volunteers will have to park offsite. Staff will likely park in the bus lot and the buses will park in staff lots due to safety. Waiting for approval regarding safety and parking from BA.

## **Flag Day**

Mrs. Hopson mentioned a meeting was held yesterday. A small assembly will be held. It has evolved over the last 28y. We are going back to our roots and having a small ceremony around the flag ceremony. Attendance will be limited to Mr. Marini, Dr. Feltre, the Mayor & Mrs. Valeo. There will be a K,1, & 4 session followed by a 2&3 session. Each session will be about 20min. Red, White and Blue for entire and scout uniforms for those that have. Looking to provide a small American Flag for each student to wave during the ceremony and to bring home. Hoping to use the budget for it. The driveways are also usually lining the driveways. Asking for \$150 for 520 flags. Mrs. Moore will look into the cost of the larger flags estimated around an additional \$100, for a total of \$250.

## **End of Year parties**

Ms. Eckstein mentioned we would likely be able to have volunteers in the building for end of the year parties depending on COVID spikes. Ms. Eckstein will discuss with staff comfort level for having a traditional party and let us know. Hopeful to have a decision around Memorial Day Weekend so class parents can prepare.

## **School Supplies**

Emily Riccioli is finalizing list with teachers now. Past 2 years we did direct ship to home considering going back to bulk school delivery. We get 10% profit, will run last 2 weeks of schools. Direct ship is slightly more money, no complaints over past couple of years with pricing. Decided to continue with the direct ship.

## **Elections for Next Year**

We are looking for 1 recording secretary. Please email Melanie [vicepresident@heshsa.org](mailto:vicepresident@heshsa.org). We will vote on the board next month 6/8/22.

## **Budget**

We will finalize next month and present at June meeting. Any questions please reach out to Andrew at [receipts@heshsa.org](mailto:receipts@heshsa.org).

### Teacher's Forum

Mrs. Hopson again thanked everyone for teacher appreciation week. We are scheduled for August 24<sup>th</sup> for Patriots Game. It is a fireworks night. Looking to advertise in June, blast twice over the summer. Teacher, students and families come out for the night. We have a section reserved and people wear their HES gear. Always a great fundraiser. Mrs. Goodwin mentioned fundraiser at Flounder Brewery for one of our 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who has been painting to fundraise for Ukraine also accepting item donations.

### Principal Forum

Ms. Eckstein again thanked everyone for teacher appreciation week. We have a date of 6/1 and rain date 6/9 for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade concert. The cancellation was unforeseen, but it has now been rescheduled. Meghan mentioned that we will also have the super sundae fundraiser the date of the concert in keeping with tradition. Mrs. Simone raised concern of a dance rehearsal and the ARIS field trip. Mrs. Moore corroborated that many leave early for the dance concert rehearsal. Ms. Eckstein will speak with Mrs. Scheer about using 6/9 instead of 6/1. Thinking of doing the teacher memorials, Ms. Eckstein will speak with the committee regarding actionable ideas. Looking to keep it simple so it can be completed timely. Maybe benches and trees for the new playground and a reading nook in the library. We also put a memorial page in this year's yearbook and we are providing both families a copy of this year's yearbook.

### Closing Comments

Meghan mentioned some business next month followed by volunteer appreciation, hopefully in person. Multiple 4<sup>th</sup> grade families leaving for ARIS and we want to recognize their dedication to HES throughout their time here.

**Meghan Valeo, President of the HSA, closed the meeting at 7:55pm.**

Minutes Submitted by: Shannon Woerner, HSA Recording Secretary