

Hamilton HSA General Meeting
January 12, 2023
7pm – Zoom Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Dr. Charleston, Mrs. Pierides, Jyoti Belani, Melissa Kelly, Sarah Stevenson, Valerie Merlin, Liz O’Loughlin, Samantha Hiskey, Jami Hahn, Melissa Bengal, Tara Kagel, Heather Olenick, Rinku Sinha, Jenelle Wise, Charu Agarwal, Andrea Ceres, Laurie Sosson, Ranjan Khan, Alexander Saunders, Kristen Unger

Welcome

- Sign In & Approval of Minutes from November 17, 2022 meeting.

Superintendent’s Update

- Dr. Charleston provided an update regarding construction and occupancy plans for the new wing – anticipating one additional 2nd, 3rd, 4th and either a K or 1st grade classroom. District budget increases due to rising healthcare costs. In addition, 4 new Hamilton teacher positions were added to the budget due to the expanded construction. Proposed 2024/25 school calendar is still TBD and will be released for further district community discussion and feedback soon. ESS is also looking to fill spots for paraprofessionals at Hamilton & Central schools. There is also a shortage on custodians in the district and have budget increases for both positions.

Principal’s Report - Mrs. Pierides

- The 4th and 5th grade concert was a success, with a full house. New security sign in procedures went well. School year calendar for all of the other grades’ concerts is now out. Discussed 2 new openings for staff on maternity leave (4T TA and Spanish). Climate & Culture Survey results are out, with generally happy respondents. Some teachers requested more help with classroom instruction, craft of writing, and post-COVID support. There will be a workshop for in February with Gina Restivo. Multicultural Festival (MCF) will be a weeklong celebration with arts and crafts workshops. Parents will be back in the classrooms facilitating these events. Construction is moving along quicker now, with furniture ordered. Utilizing updated technology and teachers are helping with the design from scratch. Holiday grams were successful, will use the same method for Valentine’s Day grams. Discussed Science Fair and supporting assemblies. Yoga Mondays also going well.

President’s Updates – Jyoti

- Schedule finalized for the 10th annual MCF. Robotics/STEM Club approved for another session. Sign up will be released soon. Future planning for the next year’s HSA Board is under way, will vote at the April 20th meeting. Winter events were successful including, Holiday Shop, Shop to Dine, and DIY pizza. Snow Tubing is this month’s event. February DIY pizza will be cancelled.

Committee Updates

1. Federated (Jenelle) – Next Federated meeting will be on 3/21 at Coleman (evening meeting). Snow tubing event waivers will go out on 1/13.
2. Fundraising (Heather) – Holiday Shop went well, new chairs will start next year with a possible change in the vendor. Upcoming events include Bingo Night (2/10) and a Family Bowling Night in March (TBD). Save the Date: Spring Social (5/13/23).

3. Social/Community & Volunteers (Sarah & Liz) – Launching another six week STEM/Robotics Program for Grades 1-2 and another for Grades 3-5. Registration will be shared soon. Upcoming events include Science Fair (2/22), Bookfest (3/6), Breakfast in School (3/10), and All School Playdate (4/14).
4. Treasurers' Report (Andrea & Kristen) – Reviewed current budget, with ~\$70K available.
5. Communications/Website (Samantha) – Effective January 2023, Husky Headlines will go paperless. A copy/link will be distributed via the website & Sunday e-blasts.
6. Class Parents (Melissa) –Effective January 2023, Husky Headlines calendar will be distributed via Class Parents in their monthly emails to classes. The new allergen information timeline created by Mrs. Pierides, Nurse Castelli and Melissa Kelly to distribute to class parents for classroom parties this year went smoothly for the December holiday parties. Melissa and Nurse Castelli have made some edits in early January to streamline information regarding specific classroom allergies with Class Parents.
7. Basketball Court Refresh Project (Valerie) – Approximately \$5400 cost for the basketball refresh project to date. Still need quotes for painting the courts and have obtained a person to remove the old hoops. Anticipate this to be a weeklong project.

New Business –

- No new business.

Adjournment