



November 5, 2018 Minutes
High Mountain School All Purpose Room

Call to Order: 7:10pm

Flag Salute

PTO President Welcome: Heather LaCognata: Welcome! Happy November! Heather announced that their usual babysitter was sick but another was on the way.

Administration:

Ms. Mazzola – High Mountain School

- School Security Drills & Fire Drills – All were completed successfully with the assistance of the North Haledon Police Department.
- We had a lot of fun celebrating Halloween at HMS. The students looked great in their costumes and enjoyed watching the Memorial parade. Thank you to the student council for arranging the snacks upon our return!
- On October 2nd our grade 8 students came together with the Grade 8 students from Prospect Park and Haledon to participate in the Tri-Town Field Day at Manchester High School. They competed in multiple events and participated in team building activities. Our grade 8 students were also welcomed to Eastern Christian High School on the 30th to enjoy their Drama Club's rendition of "Number the Stars". We are grateful to be afforded these opportunities within our community.
- Red Ribbon Week was celebrated from October 23-29 as our strong reminders to say no to drugs. The students participated in Spirit Days and daily challenges to recognize this Nationally Celebrated Week. Thank you to Mrs. Romeo for coordinating.
- The whole school took part in an Anti-Bully Assembly on Friday, November 2nd. Lizzie Sider performed for the students and shared her important message about how "No one has the power to ruin your day." Thank you to Mrs. Jacobson for bringing this to HMS!
- The student council hosted its first dance on November 2nd with a Thanksgiving Theme. The council members did a great job decorating, setting up and selling snacks, and all students had a great time dancing the night away!
- Pictures and retakes have taken place. Thank you to Mrs. Padula for your assistance. Grade 8 students were also measured for their graduation gowns.
- Upcoming dates:
 - Both Schools will be closed on Thursday November 8 and Friday November 9 for Teacher's Convention.
 - The first marking period comes to a close on Monday, November 12th. Report cards go live on the Parent Portal on November 19th. We encourage you to check the portal often for ongoing updates on your child's academic progress.
 - Grade 8 Thanksgiving Feast is planned for November 16.
 - Wednesday, November 21, 2018 is a half day for students. Yearbook Committee will host a bagel sale.
 - Parent conferences are right around the corner. Slips indicating your preferences on meeting with the teachers will be sent home next week. Conferences will take place from 6-8pm on Wednesday, November 28th and from 1:00 to 8:00 on Thursday, November 29th. Wednesday, the 28th is a single session day, and the Yearbook Committee will host a bagel sale.
- From all of us at HMS to all of you in the PTO - we are very thankful for all you continue to do to support our students and our school! Have a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Mrs. Tait – Memorial School

- Thank you to Mrs. Percelli, Mrs. Dockray and all the volunteers for making this year's Fall Book Fair a successful one. We had a wonderful turnout and students loved all of the special elements that make our fairs so special. From guessing games, to student creations, to décor surrounding the entire fair – it was wonderful. Thank you to the teacher's who came out to take pictures with the students in our photo booth.
- A wonderful Halloween parade was had by all. Perfect weather allowed us to have a fun-filled day, showcasing our students creative costumes. Thank you all for coming out to see us parade through North Haledon.
- The character trait of the month of November is Gratitude. We will be implementing various activities, as well as daily positives, to reinforce what it means to be grateful. We are also incorporating this trait into Art through a Gratitude Art Project for all grades.
- November 13th is World Kindness Day – we will be paying it forward with gratitude. Students will give a star to someone they are grateful to have in your life at home.
- We celebrated Red Ribbon Week during the week of October 23rd. Students did a great bringing in healthy snacks to reinforce a healthy lifestyle. Students and staff enjoyed celebrating this week though spirit days. Students also took part in various activities in their classrooms.
- November birthday lunches scheduled for November 15th
- 1st Grade Thanksgiving Show is scheduled for November 21st. More information will be coming home.
- Today was the last day for students to enter suggestions for the Student Created Spirit Day. The day is scheduled for November 16th. The selected theme will be announced shortly.
- School security Drills & Fire Drills– complete and ongoing - All were completed successfully with the assistance of the North Haledon Police Department.
- Reminder no school November 8th & 9th, Single session on 21st and no school on the 22nd and 23rd. Single session on 28th and no school on the 29th. Parent Teacher Conferences on November 28th & 29th.

Minutes of October 1, 2018 Meeting: Please review for approval.

Approved: Elisabeth House

Second: Dinorah Raineri

PTO Treasurer's Report: Heather LaCognata for Angela Bua. We received a check for \$190.88 from Shoparoo. Thank you for all who took the time to snap their receipts.

Approved: Jessica Matos

Second: Nadia Esposito

8th Grade Treasurer's Report: Jessica Tomasi: A meeting was held on Thursday, November 1, 2018. The PBA came and presented a check for \$5000 to the Class of 2019. 10/1 – 10/31: Operating Balance \$2,594.94. Deposits \$9,137.00. Disbursements \$45.00. Ending Balance \$11,686.94

Correspondence Report: Tonilyn Peragallo: 4 thank you notes total - 3 Book Fair: Mrs. Peschel, 2nd Grade Teachers, 1st Grade Teachers & 1 Sunshine: thank you for gift card from 4th grader.

Web Coordinator: Heather Davidson

- Shop a Roo is working, please go to the website and there is a link to the app.
- Directory: 20 more directory entries to do – Executive Board will review and it should be out before Thanksgiving.

NHEF Report: Heather Davidson: Casino Night – 64 people have already purchased the Early Bird special. It will be extended until Wednesday, November 7, 2018. This year they will be changing Casino companies, lots of great prizes & a lot of fun is going to be had. Breakfast with Santa will be held on December 15th. This event will sell out due to occupancy regulations, purchase your tickets as soon as the invitations come up. Planning Pocketbook Bingo for February it will be held at the Boys & Girls Club in Clifton. It will be BYOB and can hold 300 people. It will be posted on a tricky tray site as well. Looking into Goat Yoga for 2019 – Totes Yoga – can raise up to \$1700.

Board of Education: Heather LaCognata: Workshop meeting this Wednesday, November 7, 2018. Elections are tomorrow 11/6.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Wrap Ups

- **Fall Fundraiser Wrap Up:** Jessica Tomasi: Pick up will be on 11/15 from 3pm – 6pm at Memorial School – back entrance. Total Money made in online and paper order sales was \$11,781, waiting on invoice but anticipate over \$5,000 profit.
- **Halloween Trunk or Treat Wrap Up:** Tonilyn Peragallo: We had approximately 241 students attend. The children had fun trick or treating through the hall and watching the Magician. The weather wasn't going to stop the fun. Heather mentioned that we had a rain date but security and usage of the building was not an option for Sunday that is why we went with indoor on Saturday. Next year, we are looking to change it up.
- **Book Fair Wrap Up:** Jennifer Percelli: Gross sales - \$9700 – Every fall it is getting less and less. Teachers were given \$2700 in books for the fair. Thank you to the volunteers. A new book fair company, Follett was contacted. A meeting with Mrs. Tait was held this afternoon and she will look into Follett further. Currently, the Scholastic awards are taken in Scholastic dollars however taking cash might be an option to pay for author visits.
- **School Pictures:** Elisabeth House & Maree Padula: Everything went well. Today were retakes.

Current

- **Membership:** Currently, our membership is at 274.
- **School Coordinators:** Nothing to report
- **TREPS:** Jessica Tomasi: Marketplace will take place in the gym @ HMS on December 7th – 44 students have signed up
- **8th Grade Activities:** Jessica Tomasi: Meeting was held on 11/1. Doing pretty well with Kid Stuff Books – very close to \$10,000 – 14 outstanding books. Randy Venema: Citrus sale – week of 12/10, Poinsettia sale – pick up 12/6 at the American Legion. 50/50 and concession stand at Soccer All Star Game was a success. 50/50 sale at Foodtown this Saturday.
- **Sunshine:** Janessa DeJesus: 1 at Memorial School
- **Holiday Shop:** Elisabeth House & Jennifer Percelli: week of December 3rd. Checking inventory tomorrow in attic at Memorial School. Already placed an order for \$1800. Once Mrs. Tait makes the schedule, they will ask for volunteers. Last year, they did not have enough volunteers. A question was asked about a Family Night by Kristina Stipelkovich. The family night was done away with due to supply and demand. They will need more volunteers for set up & breakdown - Set up planned for 11/30.
- **Dining Out:** Jessica Tomasi: Belmont Grill on 11/19 or 11/20 – waiting for the manager to get back for confirmation.
- **Tricky Tray:** Jessica Tomasi: It will take place on 4/2. Still looking for a chairperson. Donation letters will be available at the next meeting. Looking for donations and empty baskets. Storage is currently at the Tomasi household. Themes are floating around.
- **Spirit Wear:** Heather LaCognata: “Class of “ shirt sale is done at Memorial. HMS is next, colors need to be picked with Mrs. Mazzaola. Next up after that is regular spirit wear. Teachers have been inquiring.
- **Family Fun Day:** Wendy Bruffy: Planning a movie night for the spring.

NEW BUSINESS

- Tonilyn Peragallo was sworn in by Mrs. Mazzola as Corresponding Secretary.
- **Ski Club:** Nicole Perna: Prices will stay the same. They will be offering a combo deal. It will take place on the following Friday nights: 1/11, 1/18, 1/25, and 2/1. All forms will be collected by the end of November and they are going out this week.
- **Letters to Santa:** Heather LaCognata: this year a physical paper will be sent home – Year 1 – 70 children participated, year 2 – 90 children participated and this is year 3. Manchester Make a Difference Club and National Honors Society write the letters. Before Thanksgiving, the mailbox will be put outside Borough Hall. Please make sure children include age, address, and name.

VOTE

COMMENTS, QUESTIONS & ANSWER PERIOD

- Kim Checinski asked a question regarding Fall Fundraiser pickup. Will reach out to Jessica Tomasi to coordinate.

NEXT PTO MEETING

Thank you for attending this PTO meeting.

Monday, December 3, 2018 at HMS in the All Purpose Room

Meeting adjourned: 7:54pm

Respectfully submitted,

Giselle Micchio

Recording Secretary