

Alexander Hamilton HSA Meeting Minutes

April 14th, 2010

Attendance:

Kathy Heher	Josephine Noone	Joann Van Sciver	Debra Broseker
Diane Barilla-Kay	Nancy Caputo	Jennifer Smith	Sue Lawlor
Beth Vataker	Patricia Cristadoro	Lynne Boucher	Kristen Sauter
John Rickershauser	Kelly Woods	Nadine Genrich	Katie Skilton
Zuri Lopez	Marilyn Chu	Tricia Rosenkilde	Jill Duff
Tehzeeb Grossman			

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:30am.

Special Presentation:

Dr. Ficarra made his last budget presentation. Talking points and highlights can be found on the AH website. If the budget does not pass there will be drastic cuts which will directly affect all our children. Please vote on Tuesday, April 20th.

Welcome / Thank You's:

Parents were welcomed and thanked for attending the meeting. The following chairs and volunteers were also thanked:

*Kristen Sauter, refreshments for the meeting

*Debra Broseker, Cultural Arts Assemblies

*Jennifer Smith, Treasurer, for all her work in getting our taxes filed and the reports done.

*Clarice Bourland and Nicole Schulte for organizing a book drive for AH.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes for the March 24th, HSA meeting were approved.

President's Council:

Sue Lawlor reported on the April 5th President's Council Meeting.

- The MHS co-presidents handed out "MHS sticks together" gum to everyone. It was a nice ice-breaker as the kids went through security upon entering the school during the period of the threat to the high school.

- Regarding Get out the Vote, items of interest were sent out via e-blast. The HSA's continue to meet to discuss various methods of spreading the word on the importance of voting this year.

"Vote April 20th" pins were made available.

- The HSA president of Lafayette Learning Center held a successful event with guest, Mr. Ray. Lynn Livingston commended her for sending bright and cheerful letterhead thank you letters to all the businesses who contributed to their fundraiser.

- Dr Ficarra reiterated how appreciative he was of the handling of the MHS threats on 3/15. There were 60 officers present during that week, and there continue to be undercover officers present.

Principal's Report:

- Thank you to Dr. Ficarra for budget presentation. Please remember to vote on April 20, 2010.
- Congratulations to Brian Kay (Grade 3), Ben Chu (Grade 4), and Mark Broseker (Grade 5), who won lunch with Mrs. Noone at Suvio's because their parents attended the budget presentation.

- Thank you to Clarice Bourland and Nicole Schulte for organizing a Book Drive for Alexander Hamilton School to supplement the teacher's classroom libraries. Every classroom received 17 books. The teachers and students really appreciate their hard work!
- The fifth graders showed that they are VERY TALENTED at our Talent Show on March 25th. We had a huge turnout and our audience was fantastic! Thank you to the fifth grade teachers for all your hard work and to parents for your support.
- Parents: Please do not allow children to play on the black top at pick up time as cars and buses are driving around the back of the school. Students may play on the field and in the playground as long as they are supervised.
- **Past Events in March/April:**
 - March 26th—The student/staff volleyball game was a lot fun. Our cheerleaders motivated the crowd and the school community really came together for this special event.
 - April 13th—3rd and 4th grade students enjoyed hands-on, interactive science lessons taught by 30 volunteers from Bayer Corporation.
- **TODAY!**
 - April 14th—End of the 3rd marking period
 - April 14th—Naglieri testing for Grades 3-5, make up testing on April 16th
 - April 14th—Lean Green Clean up Machine Assembly 2:00 p.m. (Thank you to Morristown Clean Communities for funding this assembly!)
- **Testing coming up in May:**
 - **Week of May 3rd-Grade 5 NJ ASK testing with make up testing the following week**
 - **Week of May 10th—Grades 3 & 4 NJ ASK testing with make up testing the following week**
 - **Please do not plan family vacations during testing weeks!**
- **Upcoming Events in April/May:**
 - April 15th—Jackie Robinson Assembly 1:40 p.m., families invited (funded by HSA)
 - **The School Budget Vote will take place on April 20th. Please vote!**
 - **Coins for a Cause: Students will vote for the organization of their choice on April 20th. There will be an Election Night Ice Cream/Dance Party from 6:30-7:00 p.m. in the Alexander Hamilton Gym.**
 - Spring Conferences will take place on April 21st and 22nd.
 - April 23rd-Patriot's Path Trip (Pietersen/Wiehe)
 - April 28th-Last day for Academic After School and ELL After School Programs (Homework Club continues through May 27th.)
 - April 30th-Arbor Day/Earth Day Celebration at 1:40, families invited.
 - During the months of April/May Third Grade classes will visit the Thomas Edison Lab which has recently reopened. Each class will go on a separate date (see school calendar)
 - May 5th-Third Grade will begin the Swim Program at the MHS Pool (Third Grade Parents: Look for permission slips that will be sent home on April 19th.)
 - May 7th-Walking tour of Morristown (Carey)
 - May 14th-All Children Exercising Simultaneously (ACES) at 2:30
 - May 19th-Art and Science Fair, 6:00-8:00
 - May 20th and 21st-Grade 4 Career Days
 - May 25th-Grade 4 Great Swamp Trip
 - May 26th-Instrumental Music and Chorus Concert at 6:30
 - May 27th-Grade 4 Field Day 9:15-11:15, Grade 3 Field Day 1:15-3:15
 - May 28th-Students off, Staff In-service

- May 31st-Memorial Day

Treasurer's Report:

Jennifer Smith reported on the budget. The year to date balance (1/6/10) is \$18,505.13. Please contact Jen Smith with any questions regarding the Budget.

Committee Reports:

Mini Grants: Abby Mehlin is the chair of the Mini Grants committee.

There were two requests submitted, one from Mrs. Camelotto for soccer balls and mileage club supplies, and the other from Mrs. Brown for DVDs to catalogue the students' artwork. The vote for both these requests will be coming up.

Ecology: Debra Broseker presented for Heather Dobbs, the chair, who could not be here today.

The CFL bulb sale was a huge success. We raised \$1,900.00 from the sale of the light bulbs.

Heather is requesting \$500 to build an outdoor classroom in the Ecology Center. This would include a general clean up of the Ecology Center, adding native plants, sealant, mulch, signs to identify the plants and weather resistant artwork. A motion for general improvements to the ECC was passed.

Each class is going to be planting flower seeds in newspaper cups. These cups can be put directly into the ground when the kids bring them home. Volunteers are needed to help make paper cups to plant seeds. Please call Heather Dobbs to volunteer or for more information. Thank you Heather and Debra.

Old Business:

The AH Cookbook is almost ready. It will contain recipes from AH staff and families. All proceeds from the sale of the cookbook will benefit Relay for Life. The book will be available at the concert, the Science and Art Fair and other upcoming school events. A big thank -you to Miss Monetti and Mrs. Bonkowski for putting the cookbook together.

New Business:

- Family Fitness Night will be held on June 3rd at 6:30 pm. This is an event for the entire family so please come out and have a great family evening out. There will be six different fitness stations, which will include a cardio station, a nutrition station etc. Everyone who attends will receive a door prize plus there will be lots of prizes.
- The high school will be offering swim lessons after school. The lessons will be taught by members of the high school swim team and all proceeds will benefit Relay for Life. It is a great way to get private swim lessons and support a good cause.
- The last day of school will be Monday, June 21st. It will be an early dismissal day.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35am. The next meeting will be on May 12th at 7:00 pm. We encourage everyone to attend.

Tehzeeb Grossman
Evening Secretary