

St. Elizabeth H.S.A.

2017- 2018

Antoinette Gillespie – President Krista Barabas – Vice President Stephany Gubler – Vice President
Danielle Piscioti – Treasurer Denise LaGalia– Secretary

HSA Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2018

Maria B.	Jane I.	Carolyn U.
Claire N.	Lindsay D.	Laura C.
Maura S.	Diane k.	Amy N.
Colleen M.	Kara V.	Teresa P.
Antoinette G.	Stephany G.	Krista B.
Danielle P.	Denise L.	Mrs. Lewis

President's Report- Antoinette started the meeting thanking everyone for coming and wished everyone a Happy February. We then said a prayer. She asked for approval of the January meeting minutes that were on the tables. A parent motioned for approval and another seconded it so the minutes were approved as presented.

Antoinette thanked the Class Parents for the Pancake Breakfast last week. It is a favorite for the kids. She also thanked Giovanna who helped the HSA board organize and plan for the food as part of the Hospitality Committee. A few changes based on last year's feedback, such as discontinuing the orange juice and other notes, were made and overall the event went well.

Antoinette then thanked Mrs. Lewis and all the teachers and faculty for a great Catholic Schools Week. She said the teachers were very appreciative for the Faculty Luncheon at Rocca on Friday and they all had a wonderful time.

Antoinette reminded everyone that there are a few HSA board positions available for next year. If you are interested please speak with Mrs. Lewis or one of the current board members to have a no pressure conversation.

Antoinette stated that the Gala is 7 weeks away. The committee is working hard and many hands make light work so please chip in as you can. This is the most important fundraising night for the school. It allows us to do all that we do for the school by raising these funds. Whether it is asking a business to

donate an item, donating something yourself, inviting alumni to the event, or helping with something else, every bit counts.

Treasurer's Report- Danielle stated that the bank has raised a situation where the check encoder has trouble reading fancy gel pens and in one case it charged a different amount against a person's bank account. So please use a regular blue or black inked pen to write out checks.

Danielle announced that the final profit amount raised by the 5K was \$15,435. This is a great number and job well done!

Tons or Toys and Tons of Treasures profited \$180.

Box Tops brought in \$600

Principal's Report- Mrs. Lewis wanted to thank the HSA for the faculty luncheon last Friday. It was nice to sit peacefully with everyone and enjoy lunch.

Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Kozar, the testing coordinator, met to review the Iowa Testing, which replaces the Terra Nova Tests. They reviewed the schedule and are waiting for the practice tests to come in. Mrs. Lewis feels it is important for the children to take a practice test especially since the format is a little different. Grades 2-8 will be taking the Iowa Tests. Grades K-1 will not be taking the test as Mrs. Lewis feels it is a little excessive and not appropriate so she opted out of testing those grades. She may have the 1st graders take a practice test as prep for grade 2's test next year.

Open House and Foot Traffic- Mrs. Lewis said that a lot of prospective students/ families have been coming through the school, including a few for grades 2nd, 3rd, and 5th for next year. She said there are some prospective students scheduled to come back for buddy days. Mrs. Lewis tells the families how wonderful and embracing the SES parents are. So she is happy and is hoping to get many registrations back. There are already 15 pre K 3 registrations, which is good for this time of year.

SES has been advertising on Facebook, 201 Magazine, Family Magazine (in the doctor's office) and the Bergen Record. After Easter, there will be a little bit more advertising. She thanked us families for passing on the word to others.

Fat Tuesday (Mardi Gras)- There will be a Mardi Gras parade and the children will be making masks. Then there will be Valentine celebrations for the classes. More details to follow in Mrs. Lewis's letter.

Catholic Schools' Week- Mrs. Lewis was happy with CSW. There was a variety of wonderful activities and the week ended with an anti-bullying presentation.

Weather- Mrs. Lewis stated that we are not bound by what Wyckoff does but she does pay attention to Franklin Lakes and Wyckoff's school closings. She has phone conversations with the various towns and schools in the evening and usually texts with them in the morning to make a final decision. She prefers to not have children be dismissed early from school as that is harder on parents. Safety is her main concern.

A parent asked about busing for Mahwah. Mrs. Lewis stated that every family needs to return their bus forms (attached to the re-registration forms) so they can be turned in to see if a bus company will bid on our contract. So please turn in the forms.

Children are off from school on Ascension Thursday (May 10th) but the teachers have an in service.

Committee Reports

Movie Night- It was presented that Movie Night made a profit of \$960. There were 105 people who attended. Over half of those people just showed up that night and did not turn in the form or payment prior as was requested. If there will be movie night again, it is the recommendation to just have people show up and not sign up in advance. In this case there will be no pizza since that needs to be pre ordered. A parent stated that every event does not need to be a fundraiser and that the pricing may need to be adjusted downward. The HSA will pass along this comment/ recommendation to next year's chair (if there is an event).

Sports Photos- Maura reported that 170 Athletes had their pictures taken in the 2 hour timeframe on Sunday. They had an individual photo (optional) and a team photo. There were many teams that did not have a complete team and those photos need to be taken for the yearbook. It is the responsibility of the coaches to make sure that a team photo is taken and sent to Mrs. DeWitte in time for the yearbook.

Maura spoke with the photographer and he stated that many schools take the photos during the school day. While coaches may not be available, the kids are. Perhaps the coaches can be photographed in a group shot and then placed in the yearbook.

Sal Laretta's Shopping Event- Antoinette spoke for Pat M. about the Sal Laretta Shopping event. It was really well received last year and hopefully it will be again this year. The dates are Thursday 3/1 from 4-8. Light food, wine and whiskey will be served during this private shopping time. Then, more shopping will be available on Friday 3/2 during 10-6. Please mention you are with SES for us to get the credit (and share with family and friends). You can shop for items for the Gala. Anything that needs tailoring will be ready in time for the Gala on 3/24. New this year- Boys' Communion outfits which will also be tailored in time for Communion. Thanks to Pat for running this event again.

Fun Friday- Teresa said they were originally planning on having tubing at Campgaw the first Friday of March, but Campgaw changed their policy and the kids are now supposed to go head first and that doesn't seem so safe. So stay tuned for a different event to be planned.

Gala- The Gala is set for 3/24 at the Sheraton in Mahwah (new chef). While we are honoring Mrs. Palmieri, she is not retiring. The invitation folders with the 50/50 tickets will be going home this Thursday so be sure to look for those. Reminder- every family is required to buy or sell at least two 50/50 tickets. There is a change in the gambling rules that prohibits people from mailing in checks to pay for the 50/50 tickets through the US Mail. In the past we used to mail out flyers and people would mail us a check to get their tickets. We can no longer do this but we will be selling after masses. So if you can take some extra tickets and sell at work or through sports teams, clubs, etc. please let Jenny or Jacquee know. Thanks!

Gala donations-Anything is accepted- nothing is too small- (needs to be new though). Please ask businesses for items or sponsorships. Donate cash or \$4\$ scrip cards. There will be an ad book again so ask for ads from businesses or create one for your family.

All of the Gala forms will be on the home page under the Gala button. The payment for the 50/50 has to be separated from the payment for the dinner. Feel free to go in as a class or other groups to take more chances on 50/50 tickets.

There was discussion about the Class Crafts. If any grade is having difficulty coming up with an idea please speak with Jenny or Jacquee for a list of popular past themes. The Class Crafts and Class Baskets typically make up a large portion of the profits and they are usually nice items so please let them know if you need help with ideas.

There will also be Tricky Tray baskets this year ranging in value from about \$50 to \$100 so there will be items to win in all price ranges.

Track- The registration form will be coming out shortly. The 2 meet dates that are set are our meet on 5/6 and a relay meet hosted by AOL for grades 5-8 on 4/15. The other dates are still to be determined. If anyone (in or out of track) can help out at the SES meet on 5/6 please let Denise know. The meet usually raises about \$5,000 and many hands are needed. The practices are being determined as well but we are shooting for Wednesday and Sundays at Midland Park High School. Antoinette suggested that if anyone wants to start training for the 5K next year you can train as your child is at track practice.

\$4\$- Stephany gave an update on \$4\$s. The program has brought in a profit of over \$10,000 for the first 5 months of the school year. She has many cards for Sears/ KMart, Pedigree, and Toys R Us so keep this in mind for the Gala- you can use the Scrip cards to buy items and make your own basket- or donate the gift card to the Gala helping to fulfill your \$4\$ requirement. Stephany suggest you try the on line ordering-it is easy to use, saves printing 8 pages of the order form, and it helps with the reporting for the program. A parent spoke about how easy it is to go on your phone, order the gift card and get an e card sent to your phone- all while standing on the check out line! Stephany has done a great job of organizing \$4\$ by creating spreadsheets that can be passed on so if anyone would like to take it over next year please let us know.

Valentine's Special Lunch- Park Wood Deli is offering a fundraiser for a special Valentine's lunch box (on 2/13). You can write a special note to your children via the heart form that can be found in past e envelopes.

Meeting adjourned 9:04