

**Washington School**  
HSA Meeting Minutes  
201 Central Avenue West Caldwell, NJ 07006

**January 13, 2021**

Virtual Meeting called to order at 7:04

Meeting Minutes from November 11, 2020 were approved

Attendance:

Jill Olinsky, Julianne Grosso, Katie Monello, Kerry Guzman, Leah Berkowitz, Lisbeth Axell-Christiana, Liz Hart, Megan Hladik, Melissa Lace, Padma Mukherjee, Rebecca Vlacich, Stefanie Swanson, Theresa Migliaccio, Valerie Skikus, Kristan Kehoe, Taryn Kaufman, Jen Mattesky, Adrienne Mee, Christina Yurkosky, Jennifer Hansen, Carly Luciano, Jenna Hawkswell, Dana LaBattaglia, Lauren Smith Cohen, Terri Di-Martini Greenlee, Kerry Guzman, Jeanie Gerdy, Jennifer Anderson

Faculty Update

Everyone was so excited, and the kids were smiling and happy to be in school. The faculty is thankful for the support at home and they cannot wait for everyone to come in. The teacher's felt that it was so nice to hear the kids voices in the hallways!

Principal/Staff Update

Mrs. Hawkswell: On track for a return to in-person schooling on January 19. Last day to notify Mrs. Dyer of a change from remote to in-person or vice versa. Thank you to the Literacy Committee for the hot cocoa event. The teachers were excited about it as well. Kindergarten registration is opening, please spread the word to neighbors to help with planning. Registration will be online and opens Jan. 15. New Twitter account is up and running. It will give everyone a peek into the school. Link can also be found on the bottom of the school's web page. SEL Committee is interested in starting a community support group (deliver materials to students, bilingual translation, etc.). If there is an interest please let Mrs. Hawkswell know. Remote instruction is going well. The teachers are doing an impressive job! Please be sure to fill out COVID forms every month and remember to contact Nurse Dean if you travel out of state.

Mrs. Anderson: The Washington Weekly is amazing. Thank you for the effort and the communication to families. Thank you to class parents and volunteers for making class parties so creative and bringing such enthusiasm. The Reading Challenge on See Saw worked out really well. Teachers rely on parents so much throughout this virtual learning experience. We couldn't do our job without you! You are amazing! Please communicate with the teachers if there is anything you need or any suggestions you have.

Mrs. Gerdy: Pickup and drop off of materials has been great. Thank you for doing your part in that. Thank you for your support and patience. Please come directly to the teachers if there is a problem or a concern so it can be managed and solved.

### President Update

- Happy New Year! Thank you for coming and for being so creative with ideas for all of the committees. Everyone has really stepped up in spite of the limitations and challenges we are facing.

### Budget/Treasurer's Report

- Operating budget: Starting balance \$46,392.19 Ending balance \$45,680.64
- Licensing account remains at \$650 with no activity
- Total deposits: \$90.46 (mainly from Membership Dues and Spirit Wear)
- Total withdrawals: \$802.00 (mainly Fifth Grade Promotion/T Shirts)

### Committee Updates

- Sunshine Committee:  
Valentine themed Grab and Go lunch for teachers and staff on February 12th. Lunches will come from Shop Rite, utilizing gift cards purchased.
- Fifth Grade Promotion:  
Fifth graders voted on the theme "Our Future's So Bright We Have to Wear Shades" Moving forward with ideas for decorations, yearbooks, promotion invitations. Service Projects were a success: Over 500 coats were collected for Jersey Cares, 4 car loads of toys and \$100 in gift cards were distributed for the holidays and some put aside for other celebrations throughout the year. Additional service projects will be coming.
- Passive Fundraising:  
Heart-shaped pinata chocolate boxes will be sold, flyers will be coming out

### New Business

- HSA League is being reinstated, if you are interested in serving on the board or have any questions contact Julianne Grosso
- Two final candidates in the Superintendent search

### Questions

- Can we check on food restrictions among the staff to be sure everyone is accommodated for upcoming luncheons and future events? (Mrs. Hawkswell will look into it)
- What is going on with Tricky Tray? (We are holding out as best we can until we have a better idea of what's going on. Planning to sit down with Mrs. Hawkswell in February to see what's what)

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM