

Northern Highlands Regional High School Home and School Association, Inc., (HASA) minutes of the general meeting held on April 14, 2021.

Present at Meeting: Joy Wenberg, Lisa Kulick, Linda O'Brien, Felicia Bechtel, Kelli Moss, Jane Bodnar, Jean Onufrak, Kathy Travers, Audrey Flynn, Kristen Tsarnas, Gianna Mundy, Christi Yu, Andrea Pennington, Amy Hesse, Julie Cornacchia, Lorraine Reichert, Christy Soell, Sonia Agarwal, Michelle Murray, Maggie Liljegren, Kristin Robins, Christine Ferrarie, Lisa Halperin, Lynelle Tedesco, Tammy Bingham, Grace Perruzzi, Christe McGraw, Nicole Van Oehler, Diana Norian, Christa Paolillo, Liz Batenhorst, Bob Males, Naomi Ono, Christine Giunta, MaryAnne Arber, Sue McDermott, Rima Prajapati, Yasmin Pavri, Zoya Weisensel, Gail Trumbetti, Lisa Comninellis, Deborah Hayden, Jess Carlin, Dipti Chauhan, Annaliesa Anderson, Katherine Lynch, Emma Phillips, Ping Wei, Julie Wolfe, Aly Singer, Emily Kaufman, Joann Meyer, Thomas Connors, Jennifer Recht, Thao Groenewald, Payal Sadarangani, Karina Ferrales, Natale D'Arcy, Alicia DeLalio, Jill DeLuise and Karen Begleiter.

Present at Meeting: Dr. Scot Beckerman, Mr. Joe Occhino, Mr. Mike Koth, Ms. Kelly Peterfriend, Ms. Robin Knutelsky and Jose Madhavasseril

HASA President - Joy Wenberg : Joy called the meeting to order at 9:02am.

Superintendent - Dr. Beckerman:

The schedules with State reporting and budgeting have been hectic. The Board of Education has passed the referendum, but is in the process of revising numbers. There shouldn't be any tax impact to community. Many projects will be included such as redoing art rooms, refreshing the library, and updating the planetarium projector. We are also redoing entire TV media room and FLT classrooms. We are building a field house, which will include a new weight room and bathrooms. The baseball and softball fields will be re-turfed to include an all-purpose field. Finally the light project should be completed by the end of the summer. This is separate from referendum. We don't have an exact number for the referendum yet. Hopefully, we will see a reduction in taxes not an increase. We are looking for approval by November which will include a 34% tax credit from the State and the current Bond is coming off too.

Question from Bob Males - Are there two different Boards to approve this? Answer: We are looking for the Department of Education's full approval in November, but the NH BOE has approved it already to start the process.

Principal - Mr. Joe Occhino:

NJSLA State Assessment, which was formerly PARCC which was scheduled for May 20-21, has been postponed until the fall. We are still at low capacity for indoor events, so everything we are planning will be outside. This will include 8th grade orientation and graduation. For 8th Grade night, we will be providing a package and have it via zoom. For 8th Grade prospective student athletes we are still working out logistics. Senior awards will be on the front lawn on June 10, still 6ft distancing. Graduation is June 24, at 7pm, with 30% of capacity. 30% of 2500 will be 750 spectators. That does not include graduates. If there is inclement weather, we cannot bring it indoors so rain date is 25th. Secondary rain date 28th, we will select a time for that day. We will have jumbotrons again. We are still in orange code which means 6ft distance, if goes to yellow it will be 3ft. We are waiting on the Governor's announcement. May 3, hopefully more students will be back in the building.

Question: What do you mean May 3 are all students back? Answer: For the 500 students who are all virtual they will have the opportunity to come back into one of the 2 Cohorts. We will still have both cohorts for rest of the year.

Assistant Principal - Mr. Mike Koth:

We will rotate periods one more time next week. 2 cohorts rotating each week. We want to remain in school, so please stick to the covid protocols, mask, social distance, do not send student if sick. However, student can get credit for going virtual if they are supposed to be in school.

Director of Guidance - Kelly Peterfrend:

We have a second conference for junior parents to ask any questions regarding college, via zoom open forum. Basic training for college applications is on the website, and will also be sent to junior parents. Supplemental essay portion for students who require that, and will be virtual at an extra cost. For 8th-11 grade students please check your course requests in genesis. If you want to change it do it asap. Pending appeals - appeal submission due this Friday. Counsellors are meeting with seniors helping with college choices.

Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment - Robin Knutelsky:

Summer Academy flyer is on home page for full details. Courses for advancement are going to be at NH, so no need to go to other districts. We have math and honors chem and honors bio, and financial management. We can assess the student to see if they are ready to go into higher level courses. There are also courses for students that struggled due to COVID 19. Students can recover credits in Algebra 1, Geometry and English. Registration form is on the website. However, registration needs to be done

using student school email. This will all be in-person learning. However, Financial Management course can be taken virtually. Please register asap.

Once your application received we will start making decisions to see if student is accepted into the program. Honors Chem, Bio and Geometry require approval, to make sure they will be able to handle the course.

This is meant for students that want to get to the next level and prepare them for the AP level. It will be rigorous, it shouldn't skew their gpa. You cannot take all 3 you can only take one.

<https://sites.google.com/northernhighlands.org/northernhighlandssummeracademy/home>

Question: Is it open to incoming 9th graders? Answer: No only open to current students.

Question: Regarding student wellness and workload - The school doesn't seem to be set up to spread out assignments for students? Answer: Teachers have been flexible during this time. Strongly encourage student to talk to teacher.

Question: Students don't always feel comfortable talking to teachers. Teachers still seem to be cramming tests into a few days? Answer: It's almost impossible to set up tests. At end of each semester we were having the teachers spread out tests, this year it's been a lot more difficult. Two tests on a day can't be avoidable sometimes, more than that we are working on. Robin stressed students should be vocal to their teachers.

Vice Presidents - Felicia Bechtel & Kelli Moss: - Nothing to report

Treasurer - Linda O'Brien: - As of Monday, April 12, 2021 Operating account balance was \$39,778 and the Money Market Account was \$68,065.

Allocations Committee approved 2020/2021 allocations.

Linda and Joy made a presentation for the HASA 2020-2021 and 2021-22 allocations, sheets are attached.

Our most exciting project was being able to allocate \$25,000 to the Wellness Center for a complete overhaul. We are so grateful to everyone for their contributions which made this possible. It will be a warm open space for our students. We have been looking to do this for a while and so happy it has all come together.

The NHTV allocation is for equipment to help them facilitate live broadcasts, like sports and art events. At the moment everything has to be recorded and now this will give them a live element. This will help push the NHTV departments abilities forward.

Mr. Occhino said, "On behalf of everyone here at Northern Highlands and the Board of Education, we really appreciate everything HASA does for us. This is an unbelievable amount of support you have given us."

Secretary - Lisa Kulick: - Motioned for approval of the March 2021 minutes, approved by Kathy Travers and seconded by Jane Bodner.

Membership and Directory - Christy Soell and Linda O'Brien:

We got one additional member since last month and now are at 311 members. We are always accepting new members. The cost of membership is \$35. Go to our link www.northernhighlands.org/joinhasa. You will then receive an email with instructions to download the Directory Spot App to the email registered with the school.

Grocery Cards- Naomi Ono & Audrey Flynn:

We have sold \$19,075 worth of ShopRite cards so far, \$860 in profit for HASA. Selling them until end of May. This is at no cost to you. These cards can be used on-line, in stores or for curbside pick up. We have them in denominations of \$100, \$50, \$25. We received 5% of what we sell. For information to buy, text or email: Audrey Flynn 917-715-9305 (ablandau@aol.com) or Naomi Ono 917-685-7574 (nmono7574@gmail.com). We deliver to your mail box. We accept checks.

Newsletter - Jean Onufrak:

Next publication for newsletter is May 5, last submission date April 21. Email me at: jonufrak1@gmail.com or you can email Joy at HASA@northernhighlands.org.

TD Affinity Program - Jane Bodnar: -

Harut Berberyan, is the Store Manager VP, at our local TD Bank and can be reached at 201-825-1011. If you are a customer of any TD Bank you can ask to link your accounts to The Affinity Program for HASA. This will be at no cost to you. TD Bank then gives HASA a small donation, just from linking your account.

Board of Education - Lisa Halperin: -

Thank you to HASA for all your accomplishments, it is really appreciated. Robin presented biliteracy and school data report to the BOE. This is now on our website if you would like view it. Next BOE meeting is April 26 at 7:30pm.

MPAA - Mary McAuliffe:

Senior scholarship application will be available to Seniors on Canvas April 21. The three Acapella groups had their quarter-final competition last week and the Harmonics

and Voices passed through to the semi-finals. Sophomore Michael Pontecorvo of Highlands Harmonics received an award for Outstanding Vocal Percussion. Semi-finals date to be announced. The theatre program is underway with rehearsals for a performance in the spring. Details were sent out via email by the theatre department. MPAA is currently looking for a few new board members. If you are interested please contact Gwen Keeble at gwench@me.com.

Sports Association - Kathy Travers:

Spring sports are off and running. We wish all the athletes well, and lets hope we are able to remain COVID free! In spite of Covid, the winter athletes had successful seasons.

The girls volleyball team just defeated IHA, who was ranked first. They are now ranked #1 in the Big North and playing Mount Olive today, best of luck to them. Boys Wrestling team is currently 8-0. They have 5 athletes that have advanced to Regionals. Meg Rourke, who is a swimmer was named Athlete of the Weeks 2 weeks ago. Amazing accomplishment! Congratulations to both the girls and boys swim teams who both won their leagues this winter season.

Finally, the SA is holding its Annual Golf Outing on Monday, May 24. Registration begins at 7am, followed by a shotgun start at 8am. Please come out and support us, so we can support our coaches and our student athletes.

Great job HASA, you should be very proud of yourselves! Any questions you can contact me kgtravers6@gmail.com

Other Business:

Project Graduation - Lynelle Tedesco:

Amazing Race starts end March 28 thru senior dinner. Need more volunteers for Amazing race mainly on Sundays, send email to lt913@yahoo.com, we would love to have you.

Sponsorships needed. Also a volunteer who is musical that can help with the video for senior dinner would be great. Deadline for toddler baby photos is May 1st. June 11 senior dinner, rain date is 17th.

HASA President - Joy Wenberg:

Teacher Appreciation week is May 3-7. We are providing lunch and gift. We can't set up our usual nice hot meal, so this year will be providing a pre-packaged meal and small gift. We are working with Rohsler's with that. We are also collecting artwork from students who would like to show their appreciation, and display it around the school.

We are accepting the art electronically to our email HASA@NorthernHighlands.org or bring in a hard copy and leave it in our box at Highlands. Deadline for the artwork is April 27. Jess Carlin is helping coordinate this. Her email is jessblevy@netscape.net.

Our May meeting will be our last with our current board. Looking forward to seeing you next month. Joy adjourned the meeting at 10:18am.

HASA 2021/22 Allocations4/14/2021

<u>Allocation Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>Check #</u>
Administration	Teacher of the Year Recognition Plaque	\$ 225.00		
	Luncheons/Reception for Faculty			
	1. New Teacher Welcome Orientation Luncheon	\$ 500.00		
	2. Teacher Back to School Night	\$ 1,100.00		
	3. Teacher of the Year Luncheon	\$ 170.00		
	4. Teacher Appreciation Luncheon	\$ 1,500.00		
	Water for Back to School Night	\$ 250.00		
	Water for Graduation	\$ 300.00		
	New Staff T-Shirts for Orientation	\$ 600.00		
		Administration sub-total	\$ 4,645.00	
Freshman Parent Welcome		\$ 300.00		
NH Scholarship Fund, Inc		\$ 1,500.00		
Helen's Hope Fund		\$ 1,500.00		
Senior Scholarships	2 @ \$500	\$ 1,000.00		
Senior Assembly	Program for all seniors during the electives audit	\$ 1,500.00		
Boomerang Project	Refreshments, shirts, supplies, retreat transportation	\$ 3,000.00		
Career & Academic Pathways Reception/Luncheon	For students and mentors participating in program	\$ 500.00		
	TOTAL	\$ 13,945.00	\$ -	

HASA 2020/21 Allocations

4/14/2021

<u>Allocation Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Budgeted</u>	<u>Paid</u>	
Administration	Teacher of the Year Recognition Plaque Luncheons/Reception for Faculty	\$ 225.00	\$ 213.00	
	1. New Teacher Welcome Orientation Luncheon	\$ 500.00	\$ 195.00	
	2. Teacher Back to School Night	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 717.00	
	3. Teacher of the Year Luncheon	\$ 170.00		
	4. Teacher Appreciation Luncheon	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	
	Water for Back to School Night	\$ 250.00	N/A	
	Water for Graduation	\$ 300.00		
	New Staff T-Shirts for Orientation	\$ 525.00	\$ 794.08	
	Administration sub-total	\$ 4,570.00	\$ 3,919.08	
Freshman Parent Welcome		\$ 300.00	N/A	
NH Scholarship Fund, Inc		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 2,000.00	
Senior Scholarships	2 @ \$500	\$ 1,000.00		
Skylar the Hypnotist	Program for all seniors during the electives audit	\$ 1,500.00	N/A	<==all virtual this year so no funds needed
Boomerang Project	Refreshments, shirts, supplies, retreat transportation	\$ 3,000.00	N/A	<==all virtual this year so no funds needed
Career & Academic Pathways Reception/Luncheon	For students and mentors participating in program	\$ 300.00	N/A	<==all virtual this year so no funds needed
National Multicultural Day	Global Citizens Club - Salsa band	\$ 1,000.00	N/A	<==did not take place
Added Allocations for 20/21:				
Wellness Center		\$ 25,000.00		
NHTV Equipment		\$ 11,313.00		
Graduation Jumbo Screens		\$ 3,500.00		
Helens Hope Fund	Recurring in future allocations @ \$1,500	\$ 2,000.00		
Teacher Appreciation Gift		\$ 900.00		
Senior Send Off - mugs		\$ 500.00		
	TOTAL	\$ 56,383.00		
	- minus the 20/21 N/A amounts	\$ 6,350.00		
		\$ 50,033.00		