

Northern Highlands Regional High School Home and School Association, Inc., (HASA) minutes of the general meeting held on November 14 , 2018.

Present at Meeting: Maria DiMartino, Kelli Moss, Lisa Kulick, Michele Madonna, Jane Bodnar, Tammy James, Felicia Bechtel, Katherine Lynch, Christy Soell, Joy Wenberg, Cindy Spence, Dana Sileo, Tamara Doyle, Lisa Monard, Cathy Squasoni, Christine Ferrarie, Linda O'Brien, Kathy Travers, Joan Clifford, Denise Branca, Magda Svorec, Tara Krause, Lisa Ceccon, Katy Smiechowski, Sandy Haas, Yasmin Pauri, Renee Lardieri, Christine Kearney, Andrea Pennington

Staff Present at Meeting: Dr. Beckerman, Mr. Mike Koth and Kelly Peterfriend

HASA President - Maria DiMartino: Maria called the meeting to order at 9:04am and welcomed everyone to the HASA meeting.

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Beckerman: Welcomed speaker Kim Hayes who is here to talk about the Option II initiative. He then started his report by talking about the new vestibule which he said should be completed by Thanksgiving. A letter will be sent out regarding the new sign in procedures. Any dropped off items will go into numbered cubbies that will be built. He mentioned that he had visited Lakeland High School which has the same thing and said it works out well. They are presently working on the budget for next year for programs and staffing which seems consistent and he is happy that it is proceeding well. He said sometime in February the budget will go out to the public and they are not reducing anything. He was happy to say the solar panels are up and running and we are already reaping the savings from them. The savings are paying for a lot of projects including new windows which are in the process of being installed. A note went out to parents about asbestos found in the windows and that they are being replaced and asbestos removed. By February, \$1.2 million of windows will be installed. The removal is taking the longest because of the asbestos found in the caulk of the old windows. He said we will see how the snow situation goes tomorrow, hopefully not effecting school. Everyone will get a phone call if there is a delay or cancellation. Twitter will have it before any call or email. Facebook, which is now streaming on the school home page, will also have it posted. School is now streaming Facebook on the homepage instead of Twitter because only one social media can be streamed at a time. We decided to switch from Twitter to facebook because more parents are on Facebook, then Twitter. We are working on school calendar for 2019-2020 and will be adding a 3rd snow day into the calendar not much else changed. This should be approved in December. Spring break will be 2nd week of April next year 2020.

Question: What is the procedure for school for lighting detector? Answer: Town is in control of it not the school. Allendale Police are in charge of changing the batteries and take care of the maintenance. Although it's on our campus it is not a Highlands product.

Vice Principal's Report- Mr. Mike Koth: Once the installation of the Vestibule is complete, no visitors will be allowed without an appointment. A letter will be sent out with full procedure details.

Student absences accumulate this time of year. Attendance letters will go out for missed classes. You need to sign up for alerts through the Genesis Parent Portal. Student Services Bulletin will have details. We have one security drill a month. This month, it is a lock down drill, and it's today at 11:15am. He gave HASA meeting attendees a lesson on what to do if the alarm sounded. Lock door, by pressing button go to corner of class room. Huddle in near

corner away from the door and where you cannot be seen through the windows. Do not answer or go near the door if anyone is knocking on it. If there are not two announcements it is not safe to go out. Lockdown alarm is a very distinct alarm it sounds like a British ambulance siren and goes straight to the police. The district is in budgetary discussions regarding the possibility of adding a class 3 offer for next year.

Question: Will a letter go out to notify parents and children that an armed officer will be in the building? Answer: Yes of course, he needs to be comfortable with kids and have a trust level with them.

Question: If the kids are in hall when alarm sounds, what happens? Answer: They have to get into the nearest class room or bathroom, as soon as possible or a designated area outside campus. But there are no locks on bathroom door.

School Counseling Report- Ms. Kelly Peterfriend: 84% of the seniors have their college applications out already. We are continuing instant decision days, this is where colleges come in and provide an instant acceptance, if the student has already submitted an application. College may also advise that they will require further information before they can offer an early acceptance. Michigan State was the only college last year to provide this alternative, but more colleges are expected to follow suit this year.

Parent meetings for high school planning went well. Counselors going into 10th Grade to get Career interest surveys. Elective choices for students are going up shortly for next year. Curriculum Guide will be finalized today and hopefully posted next week. After Thanksgiving students can start to look and choose. Question: Is the instant decision from Colleges that come in binding? Answer: No it's not binding, just an immediate decision on the spot.

A Presentation was given by Ms. Kim Hayes, Option II Coordinator:

Ms. Hayes introduced herself as a parent from Allendale with a Sophomore here at school and is also a HASA member. Ms. Hayes said she's an educator, writer, editor, and instruction designer by day.

Ms. Hayes has a link on the Northern Highlands Website: Go to northernhighlands.org. Then go to Our School and select Option II. All the information on this great initiative is there.

On Tuesday, November 27, at 7-8:30pm there is an Option II General Meeting.

Raffle Committee: Kelli Moss: We are still collecting prizes and going to start wrapping soon. Extra baskets are still needed if anyone has any. Katherine Lynch said especially small baskets. We could also do with some filler items like wine to add with gift cards.

Treasurer's Report- Joy Wenberg: Checks for the Planetarium and the Bleeding Control Stations have been requested. As of November 11, 2018 the Money Market Account balance is \$27,934.26 and Checking Account balance is \$17,634.96.

Secretary- Lisa Kulick: Motioned to approve the minutes from the last meeting, October 17, 2018. It was motioned to approve by Michele Madonna and seconded by Tamara Doyle.

Membership- Linda O'Brien and Christy Soell: Membership for 2018-2019 is ongoing \$35 each. Extra books are an additional \$6.

Newsletter - Jean Onufrak: Jean wasn't present so Maria DiMartino thanked Jean for the Fall Edition Newsletter.

Grocery Cards- Cathy Squasoni:

The grocery store fundraiser is on going and cards are available for sale. The Shoprite and Stop and Shop cards are available for sale. Cards are in denominations of \$50 or \$100. HASA members are encouraged to buy these cards; they cost you nothing, but add up to a nice amount for Northern Highlands. Uncle Guissepes and Wegman's don't have a program and we do not participate with ACME.

Refreshments: Dana Sileo Coordinator: Thank you to Joan Clifford for the lovely spread. Please sign up for future refreshments

Board of Education - Christine Ferrarie:

Election results are in and Gail Trumbetti, Shelia Yallowitz and Jim Mulanaphy are coming back to the Board of Education

Sports Association (SA)- Andrea Pennington:

Girls Varsity Soccer team won last night State Final on Sunday. Wonderful runner Daisy Lundigren placed in the State Cross Country Champtionship. All forms should be in by now for Ice Hockey, Wrestling, and all winter sports.

Andrea went to the Northern Trust charity breakfast to receive the check for the PGA event in Ridgewood. Next year it's on Aug 6-11 in Jersey City? Next time as well as selling tickets there is a community service forum for kids and parents to participate in, volunteering 6 hours each or you can do as much as you want. It's \$85 to volunteer but you get 6 free tickets to the PGA event. To be in Honors Society you need community service hours, so this is a good way. We also provided photos of Athletes on a video at the breakfast, which was really nice. Additional Comment: Just wanted to say Girl's Varsity Volley Ball Team finished 2nd in County's.

MPAA- Lisa Monard: This year's fall school play is the comedy 'Fools', written by Neil Simon. tickets will be available at the door on the night. Performances are this Thursday, Friday and Saturday, at 7pm. The Highlands Winter Band and Choral Concert will be held on December 12, at 7pm in Hopkins Hall. It is a beautiful night of music, all are welcome. Admission is free, light refreshments will be served, provided by MPAA. The Highlands Regiment Marching band had an outstanding season. They won Second Place and the Best Visuals Caption Award at the US Bands States Competition on October 28th. They also placed in the top third at the US Bands Nationals Competition on November 4th. The annual MPAA food and wine pairing event will be held on Friday, February 1st. This year's event will be held at the Post Family's home in Ho-Ho-Kus. Further details will be provided closer the event.

Maria DiMartino: Project Graduation for seniors. Information was emailed through constant contact and payment is past due. If you did not receive the information, you may have unsubscribed from Constant Contact. We are encouraging people not to unsubscribe from Constant Contact, so they don't miss important information.

Thursday December 6, Holiday Luncheon, please come. Buy the raffle tickets for successful event

TD Bank Fundraiser: Nothing new to report. Joe from TD Bank will be at the Holiday Raffle Lunch

Maria DiMartino adjourned the meeting at 10:24am