

Northern Highlands Regional High School Home and School Association, Inc., (HASA) minutes of the general meeting held on June 6, 2018.

Present at Meeting: Stacy Paton, Michele Madonna, Kathy Travers, Maria DiMartino, Andrea Pennington, Cathy Squasoni, Christy Soell, Lisa Monard, Christine Ferrarie, Dipti Singh Chauhan, Haneeta Tobaccowalla, Jennifer Pataki, Joy Wenberg, Jean Onufrak, Dana Sileo, Nicole Oehler, Nupur Kothari, Nicole Sardo, Barbara Garand, Sandy Haas, Ann Ho, Linda O'Brien and Julie Cornacchia

Staff Present at Meeting: Dr. Scot Beckerman, Mr. Joe Occhino, Mr. Mike Koth and Ms. Kelly Peterfriend

Stacy Paton called the meeting to order at 9:06am.

HASA President- Stacy Paton: Stacy welcomed everyone to the last HASA meeting for the school year.

Superintendent's Report- Dr. Scot Beckerman: Dr. Beckerman reminded those who use the track that it has been torn up and is now closed until the first week of August.

The BOE meeting which was initially scheduled for June 11 was switched to June 18. The date had to be changed because of negotiations that are going on for that night.

Dr. Beckerman thanked HASA for another great year.

A parent asked a question about the accuracy of information on Genesis. Mr. Occhino mentioned that there was a glitch with the system and now all info should be accurate and correspond with the students' activities. If you still see a discrepancy, please contact guidance.

Principal's Report- Mr. Joe Occhino: Mr. Occhino thanked everyone in HASA for all the support and hard work throughout the school year. Lots of end of year activities going on now. There are three staff members retiring and tonight is the retirement dinner. The senior awards dinner is tomorrow night. The graduation ceremony is June 21 at 6:00pm. Final exams begin next Friday, June 15. NH is hosting the NJDOE. Save Our Schools NJ (SOSNJ) is the host and the event will take place on June 12, 2018 at 7:00pm in the main cafeteria. It is encouraged that students, parents, and teachers participate in the roundtable discussions. NJDOE is seeking input and recommendations from educational professionals, teachers, parents, and students on how best to proceed with statewide assessments for students in NJ public schools. Specifically, the NJDOE representatives would like to meet with the various stakeholders with regard to the type of assessment that could replace PARCC, both immediately and in the longer term, as well as the future of New Jersey's standardized testing graduation requirement. Even the graduating students are encouraged to attend. When PARCC testing was first initiated, the refusal rate for the test was at a very high percentage. That rate has gone down significantly, mostly because it is required for the ninth and tenth graders to take the test as a graduation requirement.

Next Wednesday, June 13, the parking and dismissal procedures are being assessed. A new pick up procedure is being tested. Next Wednesday, all the buses are going to park on side of the

building. All parent pick up will be along curb line without any buses blocking their way. There will be no egress from side, it will only be for the buses. This is a trial run to see if it will work for implementation next year. A parent asked what the future plans were for the piece of property the school purchased, which is at the end of the campus. Are they planning for additional parking at this location? Dr. Beckerman said that the tax burden, at this time, is too high. But this may not work anyhow as it is not a good location for parking. Many options were discussed but this project is about four years away. This has to go for a vote to the tax payers. They are accessing to see if it is feasible to put a sidewalk by the softball fields. Parent asked about an electronic sign for front of school. This project was put on back burner. Dr. Beckerman is not in favor of this type of signage as there are many other, more productive, ways to disseminate information to the parents such as Instagram, Twitter or Facebook.

Vice Principal's Report- Mr. Mike Koth: Mr. Koth sent out letters to rising seniors for vehicle registration and parking permits. The decals are sent in to the students in August and it is to be placed on car's back windshield. Even if student does not want to drive to school their senior year, they should still fill it out and indicate as such on the form.

Next Tuesday is locker clean out. Device return information will be sent out soon. If anyone knows or has any leads about any senior pranks, please advise him.

Mr. Occhino said that before graduation practice all the seniors have to return their devices. If they do not abide by this rule, they will not be able to walk for graduation. Dr. Beckerman said that they spent a lot of time during the summers tracking down graduated seniors who did not return their devices.

School Counseling Report- Ms. Kelly Peterfriend: Ms. Peterfriend reminded parents of rising seniors about the Basic Training Workshop at Northern Highlands this summer. It will be held August 20 thru 24, 2018 at 9:00am-12:00pm or 1:00pm-4:00pm. At this workshop students will work with an essay coach for the Common App.

PSAT registration is being advertised now, for current ninth and tenth graders. The deadline to register is June 21. The test is Saturday October 13, 2018. She likes to remind everyone that geometry is included on the test. So if the student hasn't taken geometry yet, they may not be able to answer those questions, which will affect their overall score.

The seniors are all set with their college choices. We wish them the best of luck.

Counselors are currently working with any students who have conflicts with their class scheduling for next year. The Option 2 internships are also being scheduled. Students who are participating in this option will be in school in the morning only. There are currently 17 students participating in this new program.

Mr. Zobel, one of the guidance counselors, will be leaving the school. They are in the process of interviewing and a replacement hire should be made soon.

Ms. Peterfriend thanked HASA for all their support and help in her department.

Final transcripts are automatically sent to the colleges. They are sent by July 1. The Aspire test scores will be added into Genesis once they are received.

Parent asked about balances for lunches. Can they donate the money to scholarship fund or transfer to another family member? Mr. Occhino is going to check on this.

HASA President's Report- Stacy Paton: Stacy thanked administrators for all their work.

We recently sent out e-mails with membership information for the 2018/19 school year. A lot of eighth grade parents have started sending in their membership form.

Sign up sheets to help mail the directories are on back table. Christy will contact you when she is ready to do the mailings.

We need two volunteers for the night of graduation. HASA has to give out the waters after the ceremony. Volunteers just have to stand by tennis courts and hand the waters out. Dipti Singh, Lisa Monard and Jean Onufrak volunteered to do it.

HASA Board Vote: Joy Wenberg coming in as treasurer and Maria DiMartino staying as secretary. Stacy motioned the vote and asked who was in favor. All were in favor, no opposition.

Someone has spoken to Stacy about taking over the Holiday Raffle. This person will be taking this responsibility over which means it will not be the job of the president.

Kathy Travers is remaining as an advisor for HASA. So she will be part of board discussions but does not have any voting rights. Christine Ferrarie will remain as an advisor on the board, also without any voting rights. She is also the BOE representative. Jill Webb will no longer be an advisor or BOE rep.

Project graduation sign pick up is today.

HASA is putting together the calendar of meetings and events for next year. There is more randomness in schedule because third Wednesday of month has many conflicts throughout the year. Freshman breakfast should be September 21. It is proposed that the March 2019 meeting be an evening meeting again.

Stacy thanked administration and committee heads for all of their hard work throughout the year.

Thanks to Nupur Kothari for the treats and coffee today.

Treasurer's Report- Kathy Travers: As of June 5, 2018 the Money Market Account balance is \$21,806.52 and Checking Account balance is \$29,697.49. Balance after today's deposits will be up about \$10k but checks for allocations haven't been written yet.

Secretary- Maria DiMartino: Motioned to approve the minutes from last meeting, May, 2018. It was motioned by Cathy Squasoni to approve and seconded by Christy Soell.

Sports Association (SA)- Andrea Pennington: The Tennis and Golf Fundraiser outing was a great success. The event made about \$27k. The SA board approved money to buy new wrestling

mats. The team also fundraised some of the money on their own. The boys Lacrosse team won the group III state championship for the first time. Because of this, SA is putting money towards the purchase of their rings. Money going for new dug-outs for the girls softball team. The board voted on eight new members, which makes the the board complete at 25 members. Membership forms were sent to incoming eighth graders. Soon there will be an option to pay an additional fee for subscription services to watch games on a network on your TV at home. Cameras are in place and working to support this new endeavor.

MPAA- Lisa Monard: Marching band marched at all three Memorial Day parades for the towns, Allendale, Ho-Ho-Kus and Upper Saddle River. The kids in marching band got an actual varsity letter this year, for the first time. Normally they just received a written letter without receiving an actual letter. The band will play at the graduation ceremony.

Membership- Michele Madonna: Membership for 2018-2019 is underway. Linda O'Brien has taken over this position for next year. People are paying \$35 even though it says \$30 for early bird June 30 deadline.

BOE Report- Christine Ferrarie and Barbara Garand: Christine said that all information was covered by Dr. Scot Beckerman. Barbara Garand thanked all the NH parent organizations, for all their hard work and participation.

Grocery Cards- Cathy Squasoni: The grocery store fundraiser is on going and cards are available for sale. There is still \$300 in Stop and Shop cards leftover and \$150 in Shoprite cards. The Shoprite cards are in \$25 increments. We will not continue with Acme as cards were compromised and it was very difficult to deal with them. Grocery Card fundraiser sales generated a net profit of about \$1750.00. Wegmans and Uncle Giuseppe's do not participate in this.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.