

Price HSC General Meeting Minutes 2/12/19

Attendees: Carrie Whitaker, McKenna Clevenger, Gemma Leach, Melissa Ojczyk, Veronica Pruitt, Sharon Korat, Claire Nastari, Margaret Lavin, Jeff Lowery, Ron Niles, Jill Brigham, Gretchen Stephens, Aer Lee, Heather Casale, Carol Presunka, Nadine Siguenza, Tracie Stamp, Kevin Paskett, Katie Crick, Wendy Niles, Judy Cubiss, Ramesh Krishnan, Heather Murphy.

I. Call to Order, Jill Brigham: 7:03pm.

II. Heather Murphy: Approval of 12/11/18 meeting minutes (posted online), motion to approve by Aer Lee, seconded by Tracie Stamp.

III. Price Updates: Margaret Lavin

Zen Room is open, Room 36, on Wednesdays at lunch. The office will send out a SUG to get volunteers to staff Zen Room on Wednesday lunch and Monday mornings.

Julie Johnston wants to thank Gretchen Stephens for work on Tri-AVAC. Ms Dodge won top honors in her division. Ms Mar, Ms Johnston and Mr Kerwin won the relay. Manning the aid stations were Ms Bibo, Ms Seguenza, Ms Van Campenhout. Auction baskets were donated by teachers, and raised \$2,000.

The celebration of life service for beloved former yard duty, Roger Adams, will be on Saturday. Ms Seguenza gave an update on Gizmos membership, all science classes in all grades are using it. They are able to model experiments, and get tonnes of data relatively quickly, then they can analyze it, look at patterns, and see how it relates to science.

IV. President's Comments: Jill Brigham

Family Dinner Nights - none in February, March 28th at Jack Holders, April 23rd at Chipotle. The Goodwill donation drive will be Saturday March 30th. A list of what items are accepted will be sent out.

The Chill Room is open on Tuesdays during lunch. Needs more volunteers.

BoxTops - we get checks twice a year, this year so far the school has received \$1,461. The funds go to the school, not HSC.

Earthquakes soccer game - CSD is going to promote the game on June 8th. All schools will be selling tickets, and everyone who buys tickets will be in the same section at the game.

There will be some open board positions next year. Contact Jill.

V. Treasurer's Report: Ron Niles

We have a prospective candidate to take over the treasurer position for the CEF, current treasurer from Sartorette HSC, Rebecca Toy. All matching gifts come through CEF, approx \$80k per year, ~600 payments, and need to be distributed to correct schools.

Escrip brought in about \$2,200 so far this year.

The Giving Campaign has surpassed the goal of \$50k, bringing in about \$61k so far.

We haven't paid any Field Trip expenses yet.

We have paid for a Chromebook Cart, \$16,500, a little over budget due to fees and taxes. Ron will make it easy for teachers to be reimbursed and will remind them of their stipend balances.

Jill Brigham: What should we do with our surplus?

Price needs at least one storage shed, for emergency supplies, music dept storage, HSC - Gina in the office is getting quotes. We can also purchase another Chromebook cart.

VI. Committee Reports

A. Pennies for Price: Carrie Whitaker

The fundraiser will be the week of March 4-8. We will be collecting the coins at brunch in front of the library. Coins will be credited (in the form of points) to the house of the donor, bills can be put into other house boxes to deduct points. Checks will be a positive credit to house account. There will be a SUG going out, we will need volunteers to collect and count the coins. We will wrap quarters and dimes, and dump nickels and pennies in Coinstar (which charges 12%). There might be a day of prizes for kids who bring money that day. The fundraiser will be promoted on FaceBook, email, PNN, the marquee. The goal is \$2,000. Money will be counted daily, and announcements made which house is in the lead.

B. Fun Fest: Jeff Lowery

Fun Fest will be on May 3rd, 3-7pm. Approx 400 kids attended last year, mostly students, not as many parents and siblings as at elementary school events. "Diversity" was chosen as the theme (over "Lumpy Rug Day" which is also a thing). Jeff is asking for ideas and volunteers. He will go to Branham and Leigh High Schools to ask booster clubs to attend. There will be inflatables, music, cake walk. Some teacher participation - trying to incorporate house competition, still working on what that will be. Free bundles will be available for low-income families at teachers' discretion. The activity chairs are Jill Brigham and Gretchen Stephens (signage), Wendy Niles (T-shirts), Teresa Calvert (website), Jen Dodge (club activities), Elizabeth Serozzi (inflatables and games), Veronica Pruitt (laser tag), Jasmine Gavilan (food donations), KerryAnn Williams (volunteers), Katie Crick (wristbands), Dusta Eisenman (cake walk), Janice Lowery. All the lead positions are filled which is great. We get 1.5 hours to set up the event, Jeff is trying to get more time.

C. Beautification: Katie Crick

Students planted 440 daffodil bulbs, phlox, society garlic, lavender, oleander, and two crepe myrtle trees. Gretchen Stephens and Chris Lindquist did a lot of work. Katie is opening to change two planters out front, and wants to transform to benches, will work with art teacher. Stand alone benches cost about \$700 each.

VII. New Business

A. After School Theater Program: Gemma Leach and McKenna Clevenger

7th grade students Gemma and McKenna delivered a presentation at the meeting, requesting after school performing arts. The company Starting Arts which is used in the district's elementary schools is already taking final bookings for next school year so this is time-sensitive. They had previously written to HSC asking to speak at the general meeting:

Dear Home and School club and Mrs Gioco,

We are writing to you to request that here at Ida price middle school we create an opportunity for price students to partake in an extra circular musical theatre production. This is a great opportunity for the students of price to have an activity that would benefit price and expand their creative abilities.

This program will also benefit the students because not only is performing arts a creative outlet that develops creative thinking in a child, it also has many other benefits that will aid a child in his/her future. This includes Teamwork, self-confidence, imagination, empathy, cooperation, concentration, communication skills, it creates an emotional outlet and develops public speaking skills. Performing arts is also an extracurricular activity that can cater to all students whereas activities such as basketball or volleyball only cater to a small portion of kids who try out.

A performing arts program outside of school wouldn't be a threat to the theatre arts elective. In fact, this program would feed more students into the program. If students enjoy the after-school program they will be more inclined to choose theatre arts as their next elective.

This program also presents a money-making opportunity for the Home and school club. Companies that provide these services, like starting arts, typically have two price models: 1) where they assume all the risk and make the profit, and the school's outlay is minimal, or 2) Where the school takes responsibility for enrollment and ticket sales but makes all the profit after the company fee. [see here](#) for a break down of the 2 models from the starting arts website. It is understood that most elementary schools follow model 2 and it has proven to be quite profitable.

We understand that there is potential conflict regarding gym space, preventing such a program in the past. We would ask you to consider a creative solution to this problem, as the gym is only needed for the duration of tech week and the performances. This would include using the cafeteria or other district facilities.

Not only is this activity one that will benefit the school, but it is also a program provided by all the elementary schools in the area. It is also provided by all the middle schools in the area such as Union, Dartmouth and Steindorf.

Students with many interests, We are unable to partake in the theatre arts elective so this would create an opportunity for us to pursue our interests while still taking electives that cater to our other interests such as engineering and choir. There are many other students like us that would benefit from this opportunity and there are many other students that enjoyed it in elementary school and will not have a chance to engage in a

program like this until high school which by that time they could succumb to peer pressure on the topic.

As you can see a performing arts program will create many opportunities for price students as well as benefits in later life. We hope you will consider this because there are many students who would love this.

Thank you for your time,

Gemma Leach and Mckenna Clevenger.

Some questions from the community:

- Can students participate behind the scenes, with props/scenery, etc?
- What dates are available?
- How many students can participate? Is there a lower limit?

Leadership will take lead on concessions, ticket sales, volunteer hours if HSC/Price chooses to go with that option.

A space for practices/rehearsals might be an issue. All Price multi-use spaces are booked every day for sports etc. Maybe we can use the Historic Hoover Theater for performances.

Jill Brigham has reached out to Starting Arts for more information, and is waiting for a response.

We were reminded that some money was bequeathed to Price last year for theater lighting etc.

We will have more information by the next meeting.

B. HSC By-Laws: Heather Casale

Lots of changes and additions have been made:

- It will be required that there are two treasurers.
- It will be required that treasurers and auditors are fingerprinted for a background check by the district.
- The budget will be presented in April, approve in May.
- There will be a limit of \$5,000 to be spent on non-budgeted items, voted on at a general meeting. Requests over that amount will be presented at one meeting, added to the agenda and voted on at the next meeting.
- Two of the new sections are regarding conflict of interest, and the social media policy.
- There's a draft version on the website with edits highlighted.

VIII. Meeting adjourned: 8:10pm