

Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 2024



Cold Spring Home School Association

Meeting Minutes 11/04/24

1 PM / CONFERENCE ROOM

Attendees

Kevin Cochran, Rhonda Ragona, Leah Clark, Angela Cook, Tara Marmur, Mike Bateman

Apologies

Jen Snyder, Brenda Davis, Emily Kiernan, David Weller

Welcome

- Meeting minutes for October were approved.
- We welcomed Mike Bateman to the HSA Board as Co- President

Committee Updates

- See attached document.

Principal's Updates

- **Trunk-or-Treat/Halloween Parties:** Students had a great time at the classroom Halloween parties. The Halloween Parade was also a hit with students. This year's parade was well-organized and well-attended by parents. Trunk-or-Treat went extremely well. An estimated amount of about 6,000 pieces of candy were handed out, with an estimate of about \$1,100 spent on the candy. Lights borrowed from the fire company helped with alleviating some of the safety concerns of the playground area being too dark. Rhonda's "Guardians of the Woods" idea was successful in keeping kids from entering the woods.
- **Student Council:** Elections will be held next week for grades 4-6. Two representatives from each class will be chosen at teachers' discretion.
- In response to the growing need of keeping kids aware of proper use of technology, **NOVA** will be presenting a program for online safety to grades 4-6 in the coming months.
- **Outdoor Classroom:** It's been great to see that teachers have been signing up to use the outdoor classroom.

- In an effort to further bring a sense of camaraderie among the teachers, Mr. Cochran will be setting up different events “outside the classroom” for teachers to bond like Eagles’ tailgates, etc.

President’s Recap

- **Harlem Wizards Fundraiser:** The goal for ticket sales was reached with the event selling out. Rhonda has been in constant contact with Gayman Elementary’s HSA and is ready for Cold Spring’s contributions to the concession stands. A full recap of the event will be given at next month’s meeting.
- **30th Anniversary of Cold Spring Elementary:** Initial ideas were discussed for CSE’s 30th anniversary. Possible date for a school wide event is Friday, September 19. More details to be discussed at upcoming meetings.
- **HSA Budget Surplus:** Possible ideas were contributed on how to use the HSA budget surplus to benefit Cold Spring Elementary. Ideas included: a portable sound system; extensive landscaping around the school’s grounds; a new addition of playground equipment; and a shed for the use of the HSA.

Financials

- Financial report distributed.

End Meeting

November 2024 - Committee Updates

Committee	Chairpersons	What's the update?
Apparel	Margot Bauer	Apparel Sale is on for this week coming up. Margot will release info after the Harlem Wizards game.
Bingo	Leslie Morgan and Abby Cundari	No updates.
Book Fair	Catherine DeLorenzo, Divya Cyril and Tara Marmur	<p>All Book Fair financial 'close-out' updates were shared at the last HSA Board meeting. Library budget updates for purchases via HSA funds and scholastic dollars have been communicated with Mrs. Rosencrans, School Librarian, with oversight of the HSA Treasurers. She has communicated her gratitude for the HSA support and looks forward to making more books available to the student population.</p> <p>Next school year's Scholastic Book Fair is scheduled for September 19 – 26, 2025. The three co-chairs plan to stay on to oversee the 2025 Fair: Katy DeLorenzo, Divya Cyril, and Tara Marmur. It will be Katy's last year since her son will graduate next school year.</p>
Bulletin Board	Trisha Markowitz	No updates
Father/Daughter	Janelle Coller	No updates.
Garden Club	Dana Evans & Karen Vechionne	Margaret helped Dana prepare the tulip beds as Mrs. Kruopas' class will be planting the tulip bulbs soon (if she hasn't already). We are waiting to hear how it went.

Harlem Wizards	Rhonda Ragona and Tara Marmur	Everything is on track for the Harlem Wizards game - Final touches today - Concession stand is covered and stocked. All volunteers will meet early and help set up and get to their stations. This has been a relatively easy one now that we know what to do - Now we shall see how much stock we go through as that is the major variable - Rhonda is thinking anything we can't return we can save and use for Bingo.
Holiday Shop	Jennifer Fisher and April Shaikh	Holiday shop is in full swing. They had a meeting trying to drum up volunteers, especially someone interested in taking over next year but so far no takers. We are looking into outsourcing this to a company that holds it for us with one Chair.
HRPCoordinators/	Rhonda Ragona	Homeroom Parents are finalized even more as some people have still come forward to help. Classroom parties went well.
Hospitality	Lauren Rigby and Mary Beth Tingley	We are planning for an Olive Garden themed Soup/Salad/Breadstick style lunch for conferences November 25th. We are also planning for a "value engineered" cookie swap in December.
International Night	Marielba Santana and Becca Bateman	No updates.
Kindergarten Liaisons (which falls under the HRP Committee)	Dana Hembree and Katy Jacoby	No updates
Mother/Son	Rhonda Ragona	Rhonda has asked in PTO Facebook groups what other schools have done.
Pretzel Day	Fernanda Fitch/Nicole Schilling	October Pretzel Friday: - happened on October 25th - we ordered 340 pretzel - 232 prepaid - we made \$112.10 at the cash table. - sold out
Pumpkin Contest	Mrs. Davis	Mrs. Davis and all of her helpers did an amazing job with the pumpkin contest. Rhonda felt bad throwing them to the wolves and did try and help, but Mrs. Davis and helpers made it even better this year. They will continue to run it from now on. We can remove this row from our

		Committee Updates in the future.
Rebates	Rhonda Ragona	No updates
Spring Fair	Rhonda Ragona	Planning has begun. We will go with the Country Fair theme this year. Rhonda and Mike will focus on this event once the Harlem Wizards game is done, including first booking the food trucks, etc. Crafting their volunteer letter and reaching out to sponsors.
Sixth Grade Social	Angela Cook and Janelle Collier	<p><i>The Sixth Grade Socials Committee held its Haunted Hayride Event on Saturday, October 19th. This event was planned and run by Tara Kurten. A total of 61 kids were in attendance. Great fun was had enjoying s'mores around the fire pit and riding wagons through the haunted field.</i></p> <p><i>Our next social event is bowling and will take place on Saturday, November 9th at Thunderbird Lanes in Warminster from 4-6 PM. This event is being planned and run by Stephanie Conover</i></p> <p><i>The following events are also upcoming:</i></p> <p><i>December - Ice Skating - Friday the 13th</i></p> <p><i>January - Snow Tubing - Friday the 10th</i></p> <p><i>June - EOY Party (YMCA Doylestown) - Saturday the 7th</i></p>

Trunk or Treat	Rhonda Ragona	<p>Trunk or treat went great - it was a huge success and a fan favorite as always. Rhonda has brought her candy receipts with her so that we can compare exactly how much candy we have bought and can purchase even more next year. Rhonda thinks tracking and knowing the amount of candy will be awesome for next year. Rhonda also wants to remind Leah, how many bags did you purchase? and don't forget to submit for your reimbursement. Also, according to Rhonda's budget for the event, we may be able to purchase even more candy. While I did go over in the candy purchasing, we didn't need to purchase face paints or decorations as we reused mostly what we had. We can re-evaluate when we update the budget for next year.</p> <p>Also, Midway FD brought lighting for the playground that helped and the guardians of the woods were rockstars. It definitely worked to keep people out of the woods.</p> <p>The clean up crew was great but we need to discuss finishing up the event and custodial staff.</p>
CS Superintendent Advisor	Catherine DeLorenzo	<p>Dr. Yanni oversaw this school year's first Superintendent's Parent Advisory Meeting on October 25th. The Communications director, Elementary and Secondary School Directors, the executive assistant and a member of Technical support were all in attendance to support the meeting.</p> <p>The meeting started off with a "shout out" to CBSD facilities and custodial staff who work hard to keep our school buildings looking excellent. I shared this with Mr. Smith who appreciated the recognition.</p> <p>"Making practices public" tab on the CBSD website with the intention of making it easier to have a "one stop shop" for critical points. Information on this new tab has been included in Mr. Cochran's News & Notes.</p> <p>Dignity through belonging – PSSM Belonging survey will be administered to grades 5th through 12th grades. The survey is a nationally and internationally recognized since 1993. Questions will be made public. Dr. Yanni has used this survey before and the results can help inform needs in schools to course correct. There will be an Opt-Out option. The survey should take 15 minutes. A letter to parents and staff was sent out to parents and staff (post this meeting and prior to our Cold Spring HSA meeting). Action plans will be developed if needed based on survey results and Principals will be asked to communicate any changes. Another survey will be given at the end of the school year to see if there's a change.</p>

		<p>Commitment to Inclusion: Special Education Honoring that no two students are the same and looking to keep kids at their home schools. Looking at ways to increase the numbers of support staff and making sure those staff members feel supported.</p> <p>Artificial Intelligence Jason Jaffe delivering a handbook about ethical use and planning to present at the Dec/January Board meeting.</p> <p>Recent Policy changes Social Media Sports – recent policy was “retired” due to it not being lawful. Going forward will rely on PIAA guidelines.</p> <p>School Calendar Vote next year’s calendar in November</p> <p>Realign and Redefine Full implementation 2026/27 November – announce Kindergarten Pioneer schools Kindergarten – bringing PLAY back to K</p> <p>Monthly newsletter from the District on Thursdays, 2 days after Board Meeting called “Board Briefs”</p> <p>Schools/Facilities 8 elementary schools need work – no recommendations yet. Will be having ongoing discussions about how to approach this</p> <p>Next Superintendent Parent Advisory Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 17, 2024</p>
Welcome/ Volunteer Committee		No updates yet.