

Meeting Minutes

September 2024



Cold Spring Home School Association

Meeting Minutes 09/09/24

1 PM / CONFERENCE ROOM

ATTENDEES

Kevin Cochran, Jen Snyder, Rhonda Ragona, Leah Clark, Angela Cook, Mrs. Davis, Tara Marmur

APOLOGIES

Denise Chila

Welcome

- Meeting minutes for June 2024 were not available. Meeting minutes for June and September will be approved in October.

Committee Updates

- See attached document.
- Some additions: *Mr. Cochran suggested reopening the **Apparel Sale** from Thanksgiving through the beginning of holiday break to drive sales for holiday gift giving in addition to the second apparel sale set for later in the school year.

*Parent volunteer Nicole Schilling will be joining Fernanda Fitch on the **Pretzel Day Committee**. This year the pretzels will be bought from Philly Pretzel Company.

*Mrs. Davis agreed to take over the **Pumpkin Decorating Contest** from Rhonda.

*Mr. Cochran approved moving **Bucket Day** back to April. Possible dates are April 14-16.

Principal's Updates

- The Official Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Outdoor Classroom will take place on Fri., Sept. 13 at 10:15 with students and invited guest, Mr. Finger. Four tables—enough seats to accommodate a full class—are now installed and the classroom is complete and ready to be used. It was restated that the financial piece of the outdoor classroom is paid in full.
- The board voted “Yes” to funding a full year of Scholastic Classroom Magazine for the school.

- ROAR Assemblies and Town Hall Goals: The first assembly of the school year introduced CSE's Theme of "Make Good Choices," which ties in with the school's ROAR values.

Fundraising

- **Harlem Wizards Fundraiser:** Committee is formed for the Nov. 4 event. Rhonda will hang advertisement posters throughout the school. Mr. Cochran will recruit teachers this week to play against the Wizards. An assembly for the students with a Wizards player is set for during the school day on Oct. 23.
- **Pretzels** - All agreed to My Payments Plus being available for pre-paid option at a price of \$10.50
- **Trunk-or-Treat:** Event is scheduled. Action Karate is approved to set up a trunk at the event.
- **Book Fair Kickoff:** Board approved a Costume Contest and free popsicles for the family event on Fri., Sept. 20. HSA board is also volunteering time to work the registers throughout the week of Book Fair.

Financials

- Budget Increases approved for Trunk or Treat and Hospitality Committee.
- Financial report is attached to the email.

Other Business

- **HSA Open Meeting:** A brunch is on the calendar for Fri., Oct. 18 at 10am. Mr. Cochran suggested sending out a TEAMS link to include parents not able to meet in person.
- 6th Grade Social Club - discussed with Mr. Cochran the possibility of a 6th grade photo club to share photos for the yearbook with possible teacher overseeing.
- Garden Club - Purchase of worm casings from last years budget that wasn't used was approved. Rhonda will submit.

End Meeting

September 2024 - Committee Updates

Committee	Chairpersons	What's the update?
Apparel	Margot Bauer	<p>Our fall apparel sales. I've been running right now. It runs through September 10.</p> <p>As of right now, we have 23 orders and we've made \$456 in fundraising.</p>
Bingo	Leslie Morgan and Abby Cundari	No updates
Book Fair	Catherine DeLorenzo, Divya Cyril and Tara Marmur	<p>The 2024 Fall Book Fair will Kickoff on Friday, September 20th 4 - 7:30pm, and take place in school during regular classroom library time Monday Sept 23 - Friday Sept 27. The Kickoff will incorporate a free family fun element to draw families in to visit the Fair and those details will be finalized by the HSA Board meeting on 9/9. The committee and Mrs Rosencrans discussed the idea of having a mystery teacher reader, or two, visit the beginning of the Kickoff to generate excitement in addition to the planned free fun. We may possibly ask the teacher(s) to come dressed as a book character if not too inconvenient. Details to be confirmed.</p> <p>The Book Fair committee chairs held a planning call with the Scholastic Representative supporting the fair in August. We have also met with Mrs Rosencrans to go over in school details, classroom visit schedule which is almost finalized (just waiting on Mrs Melissen's class being switched due to a conflict with the ROPES course), the Cathy dollar donation and information to be shared with the teachers on how to set up their own e-wallets. The custodial staff and Mrs. Chila have also been emailed the dates for the building calendar. This year, Scholastic is offering a \$5 off coupon for any teacher who spends at least \$20. We're hoping to support teachers to set up e-wallets and share the code with their class parents, many of whom like to generously contribute to classroom libraries. Mrs. Rosencrans will be emailing teachers book fair information next week.</p>

		<p>The committee shared a save the date notice to go in News & Notes. We will be sharing an email with Mr. Cochran on Monday 9/9 to ask him to send it to the families. We have a volunteer SUG prepared that will be in this family email, but likely also sent separately. Our families are so giving and help make the Book Fair shopping experience much easier for our students during the fair.</p> <p>Two final important notes. Thank you to Angela Cook who has agreed to assist us in closing out the Fair registers daily. We appreciate the Board's support in this and also assisting us with running the cash registers. Mr. John Laricella will be giving another sizable donation this year towards providing every Cold Spring student with a \$10 coupon to shop the fair. This donation is in honor of his late wife Cathy, who worked at Cold Spring and was an avid reader.</p>
Bulletin Board	Trisha Markowitz	I put up a welcome back board the week before school started. The Bulletin Board Budget is \$50 so I will be purchasing some new letters
Father/Daughter	Janelle Collier	<p>As far as the Father/Daughter/Someone Special Dance, we are all set with the date of Feb 22 and a theme of "Sweetheart Dance". The idea is a traditional Valentine dance with lots of hearts, flowers and chocolate.</p> <p>I would absolutely love help in any capacity. If there is a volunteer with a specific area of interest they would enjoy helping with decorations or desserts, that would be awesome.</p>
Garden Club	Dana Evans & Karen Vechionne	<p>The CSE Garden club was busy this past week. I attended the Ice Cream social and had a sign up table because we are desperate for other members to help keep the gardens beautiful. I got 5 new members on Wednesday.</p> <p>Then 3 other members helped clean up weeds and thistle in the butterfly gardens during Chalk the Walk.</p> <p>Karen and I have been watering and planting or weeding all summer long.</p> <p>In the next week or so I will be sending out a signup genius for some volunteer hours over the next three months for members to help us prepare the beds for winter and uncover the tulip beds for tulip planting.</p>

Harlem Wizards	Rhonda Ragona and Tara Marmur	We officially have a committee with members being Rhonda, Tara, Debbie Olivastri, Michal Walson, and Candice Cippoletti. We had our first meeting this morning. Save the Date is going out in News & Notes this week and we really need to get our Teacher Volunteers lined up ASAP according to the event timeline we are behind. Our first Assembly with them will be September 23rd - time tbd. That will include one wizard.
Holiday Shop	Jennifer Fisher and April Shaikh	Holiday Shop.... Shopping is underway! We have our first meeting/shopping trip next week. We will be reaching out soon to gain interest for this year's Holiday Shop committee. We always need help finding deals, local businesses, and donations. Holiday Shop will be held in the gymnasium December 6th.
HRPCoordinators/	Rhonda Ragona	The Committee has been working with Mr. Cochran this summer on the process. Tonianne was kind enough to start her vision of a Homeroom Parent Guide. Rhonda took over and added to it. Now we have a new guide for parents. The Flyer and SUG will be going out in Mr. Cochran's News & Notes today, just in time for Back to School Night.
Hospitality	Lauren Rigby and Mary Beth Tingley	The Hospitality Committee changed hands accidentally by Rhonda from Lauren Messina to Lauren Rigby who then recruited Mary Beth Tingley to be her co-chair. Lauren and Mary Beth actively reached out to businesses to see who would donate from the community and received lovely donations from the Bagel Barrel and Mary Anne's Pastry Shop. They created a simple grab and go Welcome Back breakfast and were able to stock some of the teachers lounge. This year, we instituted a My Payments Plus donation for the event and it was a huge success so we will continue to do that.
International Night	Marielba Santana and Becca Bateman	No updates yet.
Kindergarten Liaisons (which falls under the HRP Committee)	Dana Hembree and Katy Jacoby	The Committee sent their welcome letter with all of the playdates they have set up to the Kindergarten Parents and were at the Kindergarten orientation. The playdates have been a wonderful success and the kiddos had a great start to the year. Talk of dropping playdate after orientation since it was such a big day for kiddos.
Mother/Son	Rhonda Ragona	Michal Walson has expressed being interested in helping with this event again. We haven't started planning yet.
Pretzel Day	Fernanda Fitch	We are working on the flyer and Pre-Order Slip to go home for Pretzel

		Day. We would like to know if we can accept my payments plus for pretzel friday payment as well as cash/check. I can submit the form today if we can agree that it is feasible to pass the 40 cent charge on to the parents. We figured with the huge amount of communication going these first two weeks, we would wait til next week to send out the information and have the cut off be a few days before the first pretzel day.
Pumpkin Contest	Rhonda Ragona	Rhonda lost her co-chair to this event and is looking for someone else to help run it.
Rebates	Rhonda Ragona	Rhonda is trying to shed light on the box tops - which I usually do during the summer and have this year. However they had a summit zoom and sent out free gifts to incentivize. We received a Box Tops Tshirt and a pop - socket. Is there a good way we can utilize this at school? Or should I just keep them?
Spring Fair	Rhonda Ragona	We have decided to do a Country Fair theme this year and utilize the decorations from last year's mother/son. We already know the mechanical bull is a hit.
Sixth Grade Social	Angela Cook and Janelle Collier	The Sixth Grade Social Club is off to a wonderful start. We have volunteers to coordinate an activity every month except April. The September event will consist of Kickball and water ice. It will be held at our school on Friday, September 20th from 3:30-4:30 pm. My Payments Plus registrations are live and we look forward to a great turn out. Thank you to the 3 coordinators; Lauren, Carolyn and Leslie for all the time they have spent preparing for this event. For the month of October, we are planning for a Hayride. More details are forthcoming.
Trunk or Treat	Rhonda Ragona	DJ is secured, Travelin Hot Dog and Dough and Co are secured for food trucks. The HSA has agreed to purchase back up candy for the teachers.
CS Superintendent Advisor	Catherine DeLorenzo	

Welcome/ Volunteer Committee	No one yet	
Yearbook	Kerry Scandale and Danielle Niblick	<p>Kerry and I are excited to get start on the yearbooks. Here are some highlights of what we've done and what we hope to work with committee members on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - created basic layout with page assignments - created an easier way with a link and QR code for families to share photos - reached out to Mrs. Alderfer about the cover as the deadline is October 31 - working with the 6th grade coordinator volunteers about the tasks we hope they will take on (Thank you Rhonda) <p>For other committee chairs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - is there any flexibility to move bucket day back to April? This was a great day to get photos of the entire school and fill in any gaps but we had to leave it out last year as our book submission deadline is late April. I see that it is again being planned for May - request homeroom parents take on photo duties for their class, including submitting photos from the class parties, any special events the class has and photos shared from their teachers.