DRAFT MINUTES

Arcola Intermediate Minutes

Home & School Association

Monthly Meeting

November 13, 2019

In attendance:

Shane Bone Donna Schuebel Katie Shireman. Mary Hull

Laurie O’Neill Michelle Jackson-Greenwalt Deanna Roeger

Carrie Loughran Semira Perdue Renee Miller

1. Welcome – meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

2. Introductions –

3. President’s Report-

 Kahoots trivia game during lunch, possibly

 Big thank you to all chaperones

4. Vice President’s Report-Carrie Loughran

 Volunteer pool is now up to 25, formerly 18

 a. NEED Spirit wear coordinator

 b. Post Prom-Arcola will decorate a section of the high school, not the entire area. Further information on Konstella. Need more Post Prom volunteers.

 c. School Beautification Committee, Appropriate for both 7th and 8th graders

 Someone will speak to Dr. Mangano about:

 Ideas, 3 top, special event posters, team banners, quotes

 $100 budget for mural

 d. Need volunteers for:

 -Staff Appreciation Lunch

 -STEAM Day: welcome, feed, make sure volunteers are fed and happy, pack up trays, drinks,

 Set up and clean up

 e. Spring Activities Night, will need, tentatively, 8 more volunteers. Need fresh ideas, other than bounce/trampoline places. Weather will be warmer, maybe something outdoors

5. Treasurer’s Report-Courtney Kusy

 Red Ribbon Week - $50.46 increase was approved

 Mini grants: requests

 $299.24 Gifted STEAM support coding – approved

 $250.00 Art club supplies – approved

 $250.00 Piano moving service – approved

 Donation paperwork needs to be completed

 Capital expenditures

 Refillable water cooler $1113.72

 Assembly -Teen Truth $3250.00

 Glow Zone was a BIG success – Raised $267.00 for Arcola H & S

 7th Grade Pizza Lunch December 18, 2019

 $5/student pizza, chips, cookie, bottle of water

 Activity Night April 3, 2020

 Possibly at Urban Air

 No Frills Fundraiser - $7030.00

 8th Grade Social May 29, 2020

 Volunteers Meeting to be scheduled in near future; considering making décor changes and have students choose a theme

 Helping Hands Closet – Semira Ayitey

 New socks and new underwear are needed, as well as a coat rack

6. Principal’s Report – Dr. Mangano

 School Beautification ideas, discussed earlier, proposed

 Deanna Roeger can get an Art teacher to help

 Have $100 budgeted for mural

 Mini Grants were approved

 Advised Dr. Mangano that paperwork is necessary for donated, large ticket items

 Paperwork is done for the piano, as per Dr. Mangano

 Kahoots activity at lunch – Dr. Mangano is onboard with a parent organizing; to be added to

 Newsletter

 Area needs to be provided for Kahoots activity and to play chess

 Warrior Win – what worked/what didn’t work; need to survey students so changes can be

 Made for 2nd semester. Two ½ hour lunches; eat first, then go to activity or reverse

 Lunch: 7th grade, 11;16 – 11;46; 8th grade, 12:03 – 12:33

 Do a trial period where activity would only be on a Friday is one possibility

 Helping Hands: Someone asked if students can help with the closet? This will not work due to

 Confidentiality. Guidance counselors can tell parents about clothes/food

 There may be families who just need temporary help. At the end of the school year, non usable

 Items will be donated. Program needs to be promoted at school

 Veteran’s Day was a huge success

 -Students enjoyed the speakers

 -Well attended

 Trying to do a monthly newsletter at the end of each month

 Report card conferences starting soon

 Water fountain purchased by Home and School was installed November 13, 2019

 December 2 – Teen Truth Assembly during day and evening, leadership summit

 Attorney General’s office is offering educational seminars to students

 How much information to be put out to parents if an event occurs at school? Principal is NOT

 Allowed to give out details to parents/others

7. Student Congress Liaison-Laurie O’Neill

 Fright Night – HUGE success

 Next event Cupid Shuffle February 7, 2020

 Donations and raffle tickets

8. Methacton Coordinating Council Report-Shane Bone

1. Guest Speaker: Zachary Lindeman – Aramark Employee – Food Services Director Methacton School District
	1. Goals:
		1. Looking for feedback: email – lindeman-zachary@aramark.com phone – 610-513-3877
		2. Reducing carbon footprint
			1. Moving to reusable plastic trays and away from Styrofoam
		3. Considering how to implement “farm to table” programs and education within District.
		4. Ways to add more healthy food choices, such as grilled chicken vs breaded meats and fresh veggies and fruits vs canned.
2. District Round Table Follow-up
	1. Lifetouch Frustrations Expressed RE: Pictures
		1. District contract is expiring at the end of this year and they will be reevaluating the vendor for future years.
3. Student Loan Fund Update
	1. Currently being managed by Mr. Bricker
	2. MCC, Dr. Zerbe and Mr. Bricker met to discuss the long-term plan for the fund. tan
		1. $120,000 outstanding loans
		2. $28,000 in the Student Loan Account
	3. Collection letters will be going out Nov. 2019 and Jan. 2020
	4. Follow-up team meeting is scheduled for March 2020
	5. Michele Petko informed MCC there is potential interest among the High School H&S to take over the management of the fund and will follow-up after their H&S meeting on 11/14/19
4. Amended Bylaw Approved
	1. “The Secretary sends the “draft” minutes to the Board within 10 days of the meeting for comments/additions/corrections. The Board posts the approved minutes 48 hours following the next Home & School Meeting and Board approval.”
5. Venmo Discussion/Question
	1. Venmo can not be used to accept payments for H&S Fundraising as it a forum designed to be used for personal transactions only and not approved for 501 3(c)
	2. Paypal may be an option but is going to be researched by Amy Smith, MCC Treasurer. She will be following up with each H&S President and treasurer to gather necessary information and take gathered information back to MCC for further discussion and follow-up at January MCC meeting.

9. Methacton School Board:

 The board was pleased to award over 170 "M" awards to students who earned a 93% or higher in their 7th or 8th grade years.

The per capita tax elimination proposal that was discussed in September​ made its way through the finance committee and in October, the board voted 9-0 to eliminate the tax.  High processing costs, questions on how full-time student status is verified for exemption purposes, and the general "nuisance" quality of the tax were cited as reasons to support the elimination.

Dr. Zerbe presented a proposal to the board on bringing full day kindergarten to Methacton.  Many aspects of implementation were discussed including cost, transportation, social/emotional learning and play, community impact, and facilities considerations.  The board passed a resolution to authorize the administration to move forward with exploration and development of a plan to offer full day kindergarten in August 2022.  There is a lot more data that needs to be gathered, analyzed and presented so keep an eye out as we hear more information at future meetings.

There was a special meeting of the board held on October 7th to discuss the high school facade and some potential construction concerns at the main entrance. It was decided to remove the facade, waterproof the wall behind it, and then gather more information regarding prices and styles of a new facade.

On October 24th, the Home and School Associations hosted their first "Unity Event" at the high school.  Mary, Paul, Kim, Andrea and I were able to attend. Topics included about ideas for improved communication, volunteer engagement, ​avenues for parent feedback and ways that the administration and the school board can collaborate with and be more visible at Home and School events and functions.  Thank you to Megan Fitzgerald and Katie Shireman for planning this event. We look forward to more meetings like this!

We invite you to attend our upcoming meetings:

Work session: Tuesday, November 19, 7:00 PM

Regular meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 7:00 PM

Both meetings will be in the HS LGI room.

10. Meeting adjourned