**Arcola Intermediate School**

**Home & School Association**

**Monthly Meeting Minutes**

**October 11, 2016, 7:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance:**

Mercy Varghese Sarah Spletzer Ashley Wilkerson

Mary Hull Liz Drummond Crowley

Sharon Polidore Carolyn Davidson Suzy Dowell

Nicole Drake

1. Welcome (Meeting was called to order at 7:05)
2. Introductions
3. Approval of September’s minutes moved in (Sarah) and seconded (Liz), already posted. Going forward we will use an acknowledgment of circulation and posting, voting.
4. Principal's Report – Amy Mangano was not in attendance, notified Liz prior to meeting. She gave Liz the report that the first two months of school have been fantastic. There has been a great attitude among students and staff. Student gov’t will be coming back, there will be more info to come. Stay connected and keep contact information current.
5. Teacher’s Report – no teacher present
6. Officers' Reports
   1. Co-Presidents’ Report – Liz Drummond and Nicole Drake

Liz – discussed Homecoming, it seemed like it was not a great showing. There were some Arcola kids who walked with Skyview kids. Those who came were enthusiastic, but there was no vehicle and no float. Next year we may try to go through Arcola Connection (club), maybe we can also consider an Arcola mascot for next year. October’s Activity Night was postponed for lack of volunteers and information, in addition to everyone being very busy.

We have two issues going forward: (1) whether we are using Vance for spiritwear and (2) getting the money from Vance from the Back To School nights. Liz Rosti’s name was brought up, as she heads up Worcester and Skyview spiritwear through Schuylkill Valley Sports (SVS). If we could we get something out to let parents order spiritwear by end of next week, it would be good for the holidays. The offerings at Worcester and Skyview are: T-shirt, long sleeve shirt, performance t-shirt, hoodies, PJ pants, fleece blanket. We discussed whether to do Arcola or Methacton. Liz Rosti already has the pricing done, we would just need to let SVS know we want to use him for Arcola as well.

* 1. Treasurer's Report – Cindy Rhoads

Cindy’s report included that she’s made 7 No-frills deposits for a total of $6,056. Gym uniforms (10 shirts/10 shorts) for families in need were requested by counselors and have been delivered. Schuylkill Valley Sports charged us for only 7 sets, and provided 3 for free. Cindy has reached out to Amy Calamari about fall sports spiritwear, she was last years contact but I haven't heard back from her. She has contacted Mr. Schnabel to see if he has a new contact person.

* 1. Corresponding Secretary's Report – Ashley Wilkerson

Ashley reported that Konstella sign ups continue to go well, and that we have approximately 290 families signed up at this time.

* 1. Recording Secretary’s Report – Sarah Spletzer

Sarah reported on the results of the student poll taken for Activity Night preferences. In addition to circling choices from the options H&S provided on the poll, most students wrote in meaningful, great ideas for other activities we could try to organize. We discussed that as a H&S, we really want to come through for the kids on these ideas, but we can’t do it without serious volunteer commitment from Arcola parents. The results were:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Idea** | **# of student responses** |
| Movie Night | 422 |
| Dance | 325 |
| Open Gym | 305 |
| Planetarium | 211 |
| Open Mic/Variety Show | 128 |
| Read-A-Thon | 112 |

For the write-in options, she grouped written responses into 9 main categories:

**Game Night:** Scavenger hunt, bowling, game shows, trivia battle, board games, family feud, glow golf/mini-golf, Arts & crafts, bingo

**Sports/Tournament Night:** Every sport was listed, including students vs. teachers, laser tag (12), dodgeball (63), gym maze, races, capture the flag, world domination, swim at HS

**Food Night:** Dessert bar, ice-cream social (32), food in general (26), pizza night (w/ movie), mcdonalds night, cultural food fair, food eating contests

**Fun Day:** Inflatables, walk-a-thon

**Field Day**

**Electronics Night:** Pokemon-a-thon, video game tournaments, gaming tournaments

**Social Night:** Friendship night, teamwork event, fandom meet up, lock-in, elementary school teacher reunion

**Parties:**  Fall fest, Christmas party, costumes, parade, winter formal dinner dance, pajama day/night, camping night, glow party, school sleepover (read-a-thon)

**Outings:** Arnolds, ice skating, merrymead, franklin institute, dorney, skyzone

1. Methacton School Board Report – Brenda Hackett

Ms. Hackett was not present.

1. Methacton Coordinating Council Report – Ashley reported that MCC has updated the bylaws, tweaked a few things, and the bylaws will be up on the website end of the week. Some areas that saw changes are: conflict resolution, how to handle vacancies. There will be a ESL back to school night this coming Monday 6-9 at Eagleville, featuring how to get parents of ESL students more involved, etc. MCC has formed a Community Building Committee, and a Special Needs Committee (which has a 10/24 meeting scheduled at MHS). MCC is discussing standardizing recycling at all the schools. Regarding recordkeeping, all schools should be keeping records, particularly financial records for 5 years. Cindy mentioned that she has two years’ worth and will try to locate older records.
2. Committee/Liason Reports:
   1. Homecoming – October 8, 2016 – discussed above under so-President’s report
   2. Veterans’ Day – November 11, 2016 – Nicole reported that she heard from Mrs. Cantello, we discussed that perhaps this request should go back to Mrs. Mangano for clarification. She is requesting tablecloths, table toppers and printed canvases highlighting each branch of the military. Is this a situation where we could provide her instead with the art supplies necessary to having students make banners about the military? Nicole and Sarah will work on clarifying how H&S can help, and will discuss same with Mrs. Mangano. We discussed whether scouts, Arcola Connection, Art Students, etc. could help with this project.
   3. Science Fair – November 19, 2016, Liz reported that she reached out to Cathy Stewart. Mrs. Stewart has received 4 judges from DOW chemicals. She needs a total of 10. She still has not heard from anyone interested in chairing the volunteer committee. This event takes place November 18th and 19th. Ashley will work on finding scientists. We will reach out to families like the Kumars, Ludwigsons, Chris Spletzer.
   4. STEAM Day – April 11, 2017. Cindy reported that teachers do most of the work for this, and that she gets the lunch.
   5. Staff Appreciation – May
   6. 8th Grade Social – June 2, 2017
   7. Activity Nights – Year-round, Sarah and Suzy will act as coordinators.

November will be movie night. We loosely discussed that January’s Activity Night will be a game night (Planned by Carol Davidson and Sherry Polidore) and that February’s Activity Night will be a dance. We would also like to solidify plans for Laser Shows, implementing the plan of hosting one night during a given week for each elementary school.

* 1. Spiritwear – Year-round, discussed above with idea of Liz Rosti bringing Arcola H&S in on whatever Skyview is doing.
  2. Fundraising – Year-round

Mercy Varghese reported that there is now a Box Tops box in the office, and that we’ve gotten some in. There is some PTA vs. H&S issue with sending in the box tops. The next deadline may be in February. Marie was talking to them.

No Effort

Dining Out

Spiritwear

We need to differentiate magazine fundraiser from a H&S fundraiser.

1. Old/New Business – address Homecoming business with principal/vice for next year.
2. Questions/concerns
3. Next meeting November 7, 2016 at 9:15 am
4. Adjourn