**Arcola Intermediate School**

**Home & School Association**

**Monthly Meeting**

**October 11, 2017, 7:00 p.m.**

1. Welcome (Call to order and time)
2. Introductions
3. Principal's Report – Amy Mangano – Mrs. Mangano attended by phone and spoke about the following:

• Thank you to H&S for the help on Water Day, parents were there helping out and teachers appreciated it.

• We are coming up toward the end of the 1st marking period, student congress and clubs are pretty active. We have 30-some clubs this year, which is more than we’ve had in the past.

• The 1st dance went great. There were a lot of tickets sold. Many 7th graders attended, not as many 8th graders.

• One book one school will be done by 10/24.

• We continue to meet with the students at All Arcola meetings every couple weeks. Yesterday we talked about empathy and some things we’re “looking for” – like caring for each other and the school.

• We are preparing for Vets’ Day Assembly on 11/10. This is very big at Arcola. There will be an assembly and speakers, then 8th grade does a day of community service. We will encourage the students to think about how to give back on this day.

• PAY survey is, posted on main web-page, voluntary for 8th grade. This is surveying students on climate, drug and alcohol use in their building. There is a hyperlink to see what they’re surveying in more detail. The administration gets a report back. The survey is for 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th graders.

• Personnel news: Brooke Sheplock is out right now. We have a substitute in there now but we could be preparing for different sub. Once a new sub is in place, a letter will be sent home to parents. Mrs. Bruce is also out right now. Both of these absences happened very quickly. Also, Mr. Creeden is leaving for a job at Perk Valley. He is probably not leaving until mid-December-ish. This is a good move for him and his family, but we are sad to see him go. She will keep everyone posted. There will probably be a parent committee sought for interviewing/hiring purposes.

• We are happy to have input/questions, things H&S might be hearing from parents that we could be doing differently.

1. Teacher’s Report – none given.
2. Officers' Reports
   1. President’s Report – Gabby Winters – Gabby spoke about the following:

• Mr. Chantry will do planetarium laser light shows again, December 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 9, 10. We’ll offer those dates to the other schools in the district to sell snacks. Gabby suggested that we give ½ the profits to whatever school is sponsoring that night. We all agreed. Gabby will raise it at the MCC meeting and check for conflicts.

• MCC will be reviewing the by-laws. She passed them out to our board for review. Suggestions for things that could change are welcome. MCC next meeting Monday night at 7:00 p.m. in HS library.

• Spiritwear: so far with online orders we’ve gotten $31.13 from Starting Line-Up. We did a spiritwear sale in the past before holidays with Schuylkill Valley, would be nice to try to do it again. Schuylkill Valley will produce the flyers – Gabby thinks we should use Schuylkill Valley – we earn a higher percentage, and we have a standing relationship. If anyone wants to run SpiritWear, it would be appreciated.

• She updated school events on the Konstella site for the days we are now in school that we were originally off.

• Communication – Gabby called Angela Linch to talk to her about the Science Fair – what should H&S be pushing out message wise and should we use School Messenger or Konstella? Gabby is trying to recruit judges for Science Fair, and wanted Angela to send a district wide blast requesting volunteers with a science-background. She will also be reaching out to Merck, etc. to reach more people. We discussed sending hot news or summary every 2 weeks through Konstella. Mrs. Mangano added her concern that you only get Konstella if you’re signed up. She can push a school messenger from Arcola anytime she wants. She can even put out important Home&School messages in order to reach the most number of parents. Suzy Dowell commented that this no matter which system we use, reaching all parents is a problem. Angela suggested a best-practices of communication through Konstella.

• The next Activity Night is November 10. She has been in touch with Sheila Smith who is chairing it. Sherry Polidore and Carol Davidson gave her a lot of good information. She will contact the YMCA which will come and do things for free. Michelle Davis will give it a week and then check in with Sheila.

* 1. Co-Vice Presidents’ Reports – Karyn Gormley and Michelle Davis – No report given.
  2. Treasurer's Report – Suzy Dowell – Suzy Dowell spoke about the budget:

• The No-Frills fundraiser has brought in a little over $5k at this point, which is a little bit below last year. We may want to remind people to send in if they have not already.

• The main expense this month was for One Book One School, for which we donated waters and pretzels for $419.95.

• Gabby raised that we’ve budgeted $1,000.00 for activity nights. She proposed we take that down to $500, since we are only hosting 2 this year and not 4. We discussed that you never have any idea how many kids you will get, and it is generally safe to assume you’ll have 100. The only expenses we’ll have are a bouncy house, snacks and drinks. It is not a big money event. We don’t want to schedule expensive events and have no one come. We agreed to move the $500 to the Hospitality Budget.

• The Magazine Fundraiser may be an ongoing source of confusion for parents. Gabby will talk to Mrs. Mangano about sending a letter home to straighten out misunderstandings and clarify that the Magazine Fundraiser is not for Home & School.

• Snacks for student congress dances have run about $140.00. We discussed creating a line item for this, since they are doing 4 dances.

* 1. Corresponding Secretary's Report – Michelle Petko – nothing to report
  2. Recording Secretary’s Report – Sarah Spletzer – nothing to report

1. Methacton School Board Report – no report given
2. Methacton Coordinating Council Report – no meeting, cancelled because of the strike
3. Committee/Liason Reports:
   1. Homecoming Events – October 13, 2017
   2. Veterans’ Day – November 10, 2017 Mrs. Cantello
   3. Science Fair – November 18, 2017 Reached out to Mrs. Stewart, we pay for lunch at the final event in March
   4. Staff Appreciation – TBD?
   5. STEAM Day – May 24, 2018
   6. 8th Grade Social – June 1, 2018
   7. Activity Nights – Ongoing

November 10, 2017, February 9, 2018 (11/23 snowdate)

* 1. Student Congress Events – Ongoing

September 29, 2017, December 1, 2017, March 23, 2018, May 27, 2018 (same night as Student Congress dance 12/1/17 – ask Adam Chantry)

* 1. Fundraising – Ongoing

Box Tops/Giant

No Effort

Dining Out

Spiritwear

1. Old/New Business
2. Questions/concerns
3. Next meeting November 8, 2017 at 9:15 a.m.
4. Adjourn