**Arcola Intermediate School**

**Home & School Association**

**Monthly Meeting**

**March 14, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance:**

Michelle Petko Jennifer Daugherty Sarah Spletzer

Sherry Polidore Carol Davidson Carrie Loughran

Kathleen Bacon Gabrielle Winters Suzy Dowell

Michelle Davis Liz Drummond Mercy Varghese

Marie Kramer Jennifer Mintz

1. Welcome (Call to order and time)
2. Introductions – introductions were made
3. Principal's Report – Amy Mangano; Mrs. Mangano reported:

● What questions do parents have?

● Liz asked about the Walk Out. Mrs. Mangano explained that Dr. Zerbe set the tone for the district. Arcola is providing some form of response to the National movement. Each building will take it on for their age group. Arcola talked about it on News Journal on Monday and had an all Arcola meeting yesterday. Reviewed expectations, walk out safely and peacefully, talk to your parents about what to do, how to do it. Respect for all choices. Teachers were not allowed to leave classrooms.

● 200-250 students went and stood outside against the building for 17 minutes. Mrs. Mangano, counselor, school and LP police officers were outside too.

● Lunchroom behavior has been a topic of discussion. Parent volunteers are welcome to come in during lunch.

● Last night’s email came from an incident that didn’t actually happen yesterday, but was reported yesterday. Incident was reported and deemed to not pose a credible threat to school or students. Gabby – when she gets that email about a threat – she wants to know how much it was investigated, more worried about sending kids to school. Amy is learning that when they report and police look into it, they are saying, you’re safe to return, may be continuing what they need to do, but no imminent threat is posed.

● Social media lessons take place in health. It takes a lot of time, but we have to keep educating.

● Mrs. Mangano is thrilled to have Officer Momme in the school, he is great, former officer, all over the school and the kids love him. Arcola has also added someone who picks up the shift at 2:30, unarmed, and stays until 7:00, 5 days/week. The daytime officer is armed. He is involved in any disciplinary case that borders on needing him.

● Vaping seems to be taking a back seat to the social media.

● Parents would support having back the officer who spoke at Back to School Night, to come in to talk to the kids.

● Every Monday she announces a segment called “Mondays with Mangano,” where she sends out a message for the week and wants to perhaps send it out via messenger to give parents the heads up.

● Jerry (new assistant principal) will attend the 4/11 to meet H&S. He’s been great and is clicking well. He brings a lot of experience, and is very low key.

● PSSA’s are coming up, followed by the Keystones in May.

● Arcola’s auditorium will soon be under construction. They’ll be creative for assemblies, etc., until it is finished.

● Mrs. Mangano encourages parents to ask her question, send her emails, etc.

1. Post Prom Report – Post Prom Representative reported:

● The dinner dance was one of post prom’s bigger events. It was a great time. They filled the room for the first time in a few years and earned 12k for the night; they are on target to hit their number.

● Their last fundraiser ended today.

● Volunteer training will take place 4/11/18 in the High School library. Post prom has made a desperate plea for volunteers. Their biggest challenge is finding people to work between 2-6 a.m., and also for morning cleanup.

● They are seeking people who would like to be shadows for positions that are being vacated by next year. Some of the chairs being vacated for next year are registration, decorating, casino and game room. They will also have an opening for a post prom co-chair.

● It is never too soon to start participating, it is great to have parents of younger kids involved.

● This year there will be a virtual reality stage and an escape room in place of the money machine and bull riding.

● The Prom is 4/27. Community walk-through starts at 6:30 and goes to 8:30.

1. Konstella Report – Kathleen Bacon. Kathleen reported:

● She is trying to make sure that everyone is utilizing Konstella, find out issues, figure out how she can help.

● Konstella has the ability to operate like “Remind,” H&Ss could be utilizing it better to get more done.

● They are working on the critical piece of migrating parents from Skyview to Arcola. Additionally, teachers have access to parent emails and can invite parents to join.

● They are trying to get it well-integrated at the elementary level so it moves with the child through his/her school career.

1. Teacher’s Report – none given
2. Officers' Reports
   1. President’s Report – Gabby Winters. Gabby reported:

● We bought candy for the laser light show and had it leftover. We donated it to Liz for JazzFest, Arcola H&S will be noted in the program for the donation.

● She is working on next year’s calendar to submit to the office.

● We will try a SkyZone night, parents can order tickets online, we will send home a ½ sheet of paper to advertise it. In order to be identified for Arcola fundraising purposes, someone in the group needs Arcola I.D.

● Michelle and Gabby are trying to figure out something for the end of the year. Possibly a Fun Day type thing.

* 1. Co-Vice Presidents’ Reports – Karyn Gormley and Michelle Davis - nothing
  2. Treasurer's Report – Suzy Dowell – Suzy reported:

● We received one no-frills check

● Spring sport spirit wear money to come

● Bus driver appreciation money is in from all of the schools - $420

● The next mini-grant is April, we had one in February.

* 1. Corresponding Secretary's Report – Michelle Petko – no report
  2. Recording Secretary’s Report – Sarah Spletzer - Approval of January minutes

1. Methacton School Board Report – Liz Drummond. Liz reported:

● The MEA contract is settled and calendar revisions are made.

● At the 3/20 meeting there will be presentation of a financial summary of the work stoppage.

● The Board will also address the 2018-2019 calendar. There is a pre-Labor Day start date in contract because of when North MontCo Tech starts. 5 schools feed into North MontCoTech, our district needed to align with their start dates. Built in snow days are not contractually possible. They are trying to creatively look at keeping spring break untouchable.

● Board is still in negotiations with MESPA.

● The property committee meeting date is tomorrow night.

● The appraisal has been approved for Audubon property.

● There will be improvements in the High School gyms and pool over the summer, and renovations of the Arcola auditorium.

● The routing contract for First Student is approved, upper bus time limit is now 50 minutes, with very little room for variation. There are penalties in the contract. They are hoping for a great bussing year next year.

1. Methacton Coordinating Council Report –

● They met Monday night, discussed doing a hunger run again as they did last august, and doing a dining out.

● The backpack program falls under Methacton Education Foundation.

● Nominations now open for MCC. Every position is for one year.

1. Methacton Special Education Alliance (“SEA”) Report –

● SEA is a place for parents to get together who parent special needs kids.

● Their first social was 3/5 at ARC alliance.

● They have an upcoming March meeting on 3/26, theme is Calming the Chaos. Any parent can attend.

● SEA’s facebook page and email address are available to anyone.

● April 9-14 is SEA Chick Fil A spirit week.

1. Nominating Committee Report – 2018-2019 Home & School Board Nominees TBA
2. Committee/Liason Reports:
   1. Homecoming Events – October 13, 2017
   2. Veterans’ Day – November 10, 2017
   3. Science Fair – November 18, 2017
   4. Staff Appreciation – May 9, 2018 – Karyn Gormley, info to come
   5. STEAM Day – May 24, 2018 – Michelle Petko
   6. 8th Grade Social – June 1, 2018 – Gene Dickey reported that she has chairs for this event, and plans are up and running
   7. Activity Nights – Ongoing

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

* 1. Student Congress Events – Ongoing, trying to work with them on something together

September 29, 2017, December 1, 2017, March 23, 2018, May 27, 2018 – has not heard anything

* 1. Fundraising – Ongoing

Box Tops/Giant – Mercy Varghese report: $126/$603 ends tomorrow. There may be a little bit more to come.

No Effort

Spiritwear

1. Old/New Business – We discussed options for doing something for 8th graders, last year we did towels.
2. Questions/concerns – Altaira brought up a minigrant idea from Woodland last year, door magnets to get doors locked faster.
3. Next meeting April 11, 2018 at 9:15 a.m.
4. Adjourn