**Arcola Intermediate School**

**Home & School Association**

**Monthly Meeting**

**October 10, 2018, 7:00 p.m.**

**In attendance:**

Carrie Loughran Michelle Petko Jennifer Zavertnik

Gabby Winters Shane Bone Melissa Schrieber

Laurie O’Neill Courtney Kusy Kellie Catanzaro

1. Welcome Call to order at approximately 7:00pm
2. Introductions
3. Approval of September Meeting Minutes- Motion made by Gabby Winters and minutes approved.
4. Principal's Report – Amy Mangano – Mrs. Mangano reported:

* Auditorium renovations coming along beautifully, was able to take a look at the progress. A certificate of occupancy for the new auditorium will be given in the end of November and the auditorium will be ready in time for use for the winter concerts & the play.
* There will be a Veterans Day breakfast taking place on Monday, November 12th that will be put together by Arcola Staff members. Due to the auditorium not being completed by Veterans Day, there will be an assembly and groundbreaking where all of the Veterans will be invited to come back once the auditorium is completed. The local community will also be invited to attend. We are aiming for early December.
* Looking into getting a “chair” grant to purchase a “Veterans Chair” memorializing all those Veterans who are no longer with us. The chair would be on permanent display in the new auditorium. Following up with Mark Fretz in the Facilities Dept, meetings will be held regarding the event. Looking for a chair person to help facilitate this event. Looking for someone, either a parent or Home & School Board representative that is willing to work with Administration on the event.
* Internally at Arcola, Amy is working with a group of teachers to see if they are optimizing their time and skills in order for the students to learn most effectively. Parents will be kept in the loop on what is happening.
* Contract with Springfield Psychological Associates for a program called R.E.A.C.H. (**R**aising **E**xpectations and **C**hildren’s **H**opes) Therapists will be placed on site at Arcola to provide extra emotional support for students who may need it. These services go above and beyond the help that the emotional support teachers and our counselors provide. R.E.A.C.H. will not replace sending students for help outside of the school if they need that too. R.E.A.C.H. was approved at the Methacton School Board meeting two weeks ago and will start sometime in the second marking period and will service not only students but families as well. They will be here to help ensure that all students are getting the help that they need. Other school districts are using these programs as well. Students can be referred in a number of ways. No child will be permitted to be seen without parental permission and each child must willingly agree to be seen. Parents may not be fully aware of all of the services that are available for emotional support services within and out of school. October 10th, was the first day that the therapists visited the building and the information was shared or communicated to staff and parents.
* 1 Book, 1 School will go until the end of the 1st marking period which ends November 2nd.
* Amy requested that parents share information regarding lockdown issues. She is always looking for feedback from parents. There are always ways to improve the process and they learn from each drill or incident that takes place. Communication to parents was discussed about these drills or incidents and they will do their best to communicate in a timely and appropriate manner.
* Inappropriate behavior on the bus was discussed. This can be distracting to other students and the bus drivers. Expectations are the same on the bus as in school and this is why feedback is important to monitor buses. We need to educate bus drivers on appropriate behavior and give them feedback of behavior on buses they may not be aware of. Parents need to report behavioral issues things right away so that these issues can be directed toward specific buses.
* A parent asked if itwould it be possible to have guest speakers attend our Home & School Meetings including Jerry Thompson, School Counselors, etc. Would like someone to come to speak regarding Google Classroom.ASchool counselor would be beneficial to have at our meetings and they have attended in the past.

1. Teacher’s Report – none given
2. Officers' Reports
   1. President’s Report – Gabby Winters & Michelle Petko

**Michelle Reported**:

● Christmas Carol breakfast will be a lunch instead of a breakfast this year due to all students in the 7th grade attending the show on the same day due to the amount of cross teamed students. Each student participating will be given a pizza luncheon for the cost of $4.00 per child if they chose to participate. Any leftover funds will be donated. We will need approximately 20 parent volunteers for the event.

The Christmas Carol show will take place on December 20th and forms will be due back into school by 11/20.

● M Awards Tuesday night and Board Meeting.

**Gabby Winters reported**:

● Ed McCaffrey was the driving force behind the “Chair of Honor” or “Veterans Chair”. The “Chair of Honor” will be permanent and will be out year around to honor fallen soldiers. We have spoken to Amy Mangano regarding board approval. Options are splitting the cost with MEA, $200 a piece, suggestion of “Hats For Vets” fundraiser to help defer costs for chair.

● Junior National Honor Society wants to give the ~~Veterans~~ Seniors a favor/gift when they come for ~~breakfast~~ the luncheon on ~~11/12~~ 11/15.

● Science Fair judges get a free lunch funded by Home & School but the lunch is not organized by Home & School.

● Melissa Schreiber will be doing box tops for education. 1st one is in November.

* 1. Co-Vice Presidents’ Reports – Karyn Gormley and Michelle Davis – nothing to report
  2. Treasurer's Report – Courtney Kusy- See attached

● 141 children attended the last dance

● Checks will be in mailbox on Thursdays

* 1. Corresponding Secretary's Report – Laurie O’Neill reported:

● Arnold’s Fundraiser October 19th

● Morning announcements are going well. 55% read rate

● 73% of families have registered on Konstella

● Parents sometimes ask to resend announcements

* 1. Recording Secretary’s Report – Carrie Loughran – Nothing to report

1. Methacton Education Foundation Report — Nikki Krelovich-not present
2. Methacton School Board Report –: See attached
3. Methacton Coordinating Council Report – "**The following agenda item was accidentally omitted from the reports at the meeting but is being included to inform all families of this information."**

● The MCC held it's first meeting of the new school year on Monday evening.  The format for the meeting is changing a bit for this year.

Periodically there will be a guest speaker from the District.  This month Mr. Che Regina, Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations, was the speaker.  He updated us on the guest teacher program that Methacton is implementing.  He explained those interested will receive training and will be involved in a shadowing experience.  He answered questions pertaining to the program and listened to concerns voiced by members regarding training for "Casual On-Calls". Home & School has been invited to present at the School Board meeting.  Instead of the old format from a couple years ago, we will present on a topic instead of about our specific school.  The first one is 11/27 and Gabby Winters is presenting tentatively about volunteering in the district. A request was made to alternate our elections between day and night to give those who can't make day meetings the ability to vote.  This will be implemented beginning next school year. The next MCC meeting is Monday, November 12th at 7:00pm in the MHS library.

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

● It is proposed to add SEA to the Meeting Agenda after the Principal’s Report, The 1st Meeting coming up on the 18th. Thank you for allowing them at Back to School Night and the night went really well, got a lot of new sign ups. Diane Peel is the guest speaker and next month’s topic is Dyslexia.

1. Committee/Liason Reports:
2. Old/New Business – covered above
3. Questions/concerns – covered above
4. Adjourned approx. 9pm