

**MHS Home & School Association  
Minutes  
May 2, 2019**

**In Attendance:**

Mercy Varghese	Colleen Kutz	Marie Kramer	Bob Kramer
Christine Capece	Altaira Heiser	Kate Cherekos	Cheryl Rothe
Michelle Petko	Gabby Winters	Kath Schlenker	Sarah Spletzer
Jason Sorgini	Cindy Hartson		

**Welcome** – Introductions were made.

**MHS Staff Reports**

**Principal** – Dr. Sorgini reported:

- We have one foot in next year already. Most of the end-of-year information went out in Happenings.
- Over the next two weeks: next Monday starts AP testing, Keystones will be the 13<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> for sophomores. There will be no bells or announcements in order to keep distractions to a minimum.
- There will be a fire drill today in order to get it in before testing.
- The Art Show is this weekend, Friday – Monday.
- The final exam schedule is on the website. There is a difference between underclassmen and senior schedules.
- MHS High School Happenings comes out every other week, on a Tuesday, generally including reminders from the Student Handbook.
- The car survey is underway and still going on. The data will be compiled and presented to the School Board. This survey takes a look at parking, circulation across the campus in the hopes of finding better traffic patterns.
- (In response to question about changing school hours as other districts have). Changing hours is a central administrative office issue. Radnor was just in the news about this. There are benefits to this and starting later is nice but there are many logistics to work through. Dr. Sorgini has not heard that there is a conversation about it yet. This was discussed generally amongst the group.

**Teacher** – there was no teacher present.

**Counseling** – Cindy Hartson reported:

- The counseling office has been working with the PA Ready Index.
- Juniors have been using a lot of Naviance.
- Counseling has also been working with students who need to improve before June.
- We have Keystones and AP testing, and awards night coming up.
- Course requests are in the system, you can look them up in PowerSchool.
- Schedules will be available no later than first week of August.
- Students should use the College Board website to check SAT tests.
- Tomorrow is the deadline to register for the June SAT and ACT. Most kids take first SAT, ACT during their Junior year (in response to a question). The rule of thumb for SAT, is that students should not take it until they have completed or almost completed Algebra II. There is not as much algebra on the PSAT as on the SAT.

**H&S Reports:**

**Secretary** – Nothing to report

**Treasurer** – Bob Kramer reported:

- Side 1 of the Report – summary for the month, H&S paid for the self-defense class for Junior girls in February, purchased staff recognition gifts, and ordered duplicate checks for the month. Shown at the bottom is the final tally of \$2,256.00 for the Giant A+ Rewards program, which is slightly above what we budgeted.
- Side 2 of the Report – highlights – to finish out the year, we recognize that the Giant A+ Rewards Program made a difference. H&S will fund the H&S awards, 10 of them at \$100 each, as well as pizza for the seniors the day they tour the elementary schools. In the right corner, the net-net shows that we should end the year just about balanced.

**Vice President** – Cheryl Rothe – Nothing to report

**Presidents** – Mercy Varghese/Marie Kramer: nothing to report other than some important dates to remember.

- Awards night is May 22, and will include 10 awards from H&S
- Senior breakfast is May 23, and will feature the yearbook signing pens and yearbooks. This will run homeroom into second period, then Seniors will continue on with the school day. Presentations. 65-70 minutes. Check into homeroom, then head down.
  - Hershey is 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Seniors touring elementary schools on June 11, we provide pizza and water before they go.

**District Reports:**

**SEA** – Colleen Kutz reported:

- Unified Sports had its first meet, and the athletes had a great time. The next meet is 5/8 at 3:30.
- Post Prom had a sensory hour which went really well.
- April's meeting – ask the Special Ed attorneys went well.
- The end of the year picnic will be Thursday May 30. Picnic. SEA will be partnering with Best Buddies.

**Post Prom** – the Community Walk Through was light, but we had 718 students attend Post Prom this year and it was a success.

**School Board** – report provided:

- The 4/16 work session was held in the High School auditorium to honor the founders of Methacton's Post Prom event and recognize the 20 year anniversary of this remarkable volunteer effort. There was a reception, slide show, remarks from the original volunteers and awards were handed out to those who started this wonderful Methacton tradition.
  - \* A check presentation by the Methacton Education Foundation in the amount of \$110,000 to be used for elementary school library STEMakerspace renovations. (Board voted to accept)
  - \* A board discussion on options regarding how to allocate a budget surplus from the 2017-2018 budget (Discussion only)
    - \* Staffing recommendations that included:
      - \* Elimination of 2 Woodland and 1 Arrowhead teaching positions (Approved, though the board will continue to monitor class sizes and enrollments)
      - \* Elimination of one Gifted teaching position at Skyview (This motion was tabled as the result of board and community feedback)

- \* Elimination of 1 Special Education Teacher at the High School due to substantial decline in course enrollments (approved)
- \* Establishment of a Special Education Transition Coordinator at Methacton High School (approved)
- \* Establishment of an administrative position of Supervisor of Elementary Education (approved) and a change of status of Jenifer Brucker to this position with no change in salary (approved)
- \* Establishment of an administrative position of Supervisor of Secondary Education (approved) and a change of status of Zanthia Reddish to this position with no change in salary (approved)
- \* The Board recognized students and staff from Arrowhead elementary school and handed out "M" awards to athletes in several sports.
- \* Presentation of some changes at Arcola which include
  - \* A more structured approach to 8th period, called Warrior WIN ("What I Need")
  - \* Providing all Arcola Students with an opportunity to take a World Language (the Board approved the addition of a .4 Language position, if needed)
  - \* Consolidating homeroom and first period to reduce unnecessary transition time in the morning for students
  - \* Renaming some math courses, most notably changing the name of Algebra Bridges to Pre-Algebra Grade 8
- \* Strategic Plan update highlighting accomplishments and areas of work (Presentation only, not a voting item. The strategic plan is available at <http://www.methacton.org>)
- \* A Presentation on "Arrowhead Forward" regarding Grade Configuration. Considering many factors, the administration recommends keeping existing grade configurations with 4 elementary schools K-4. (Presentation only, not a voting item)
- \* Many textbooks were voted on and approved for the 2019-2020 school year and all titles can be found in the meeting agenda.

- The Methacton Unified Sports Track and Field Team is hosting its very first home track meet on 5/8 (time TBD, please keep checking the calendar) at Methacton High School. By providing opportunities for students both with all types of disabilities and without disabilities to participate in sports meaningfully and by engaging other students in the school community, Interscholastic Unified Sports (IUS) helps promote inclusion, acceptance, and respect.

- There will be a special meeting of the board on Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 7:00 PM at Arrowhead Elementary School for the purpose of presenting the initial concept drawings of proposed construction and/or renovation for the Arrowhead school building. This is not an action meeting and therefore no official actions will be made by the Board that evening on the information presented.

- Please note that the May work session will be held on Thursday, May 16th (not the usual Tuesday) and will include a special meeting immediately prior to the work session to vote on the Proposed Final Budget. The usual voting meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 22 (also not the usual Tuesday). Both will be in the HS LGI at 7pm as usual.

- As always, we welcome your attendance, participation and feedback. Thank you!

**MCC** – next meeting is to be held May 13.

H&S would like to recognize the contributors to its meetings: Dr. Sorgini, Cindy Hartson, Cara Woudenburg, Mr. Sussman, and Cheryl Rothe.

**Questions/comments  
Adjourned.**