

Glen Rock MS/HS Home & School Association

Meeting Minutes – January 25, 2024

Attendance:

In Person: Colleen Manley, Sheila Berard, Marissa Storinge, Sharon Tishco, Kristin Hodges, Jenelle Wise, Tara Diamond -Kule, Felicia Goldberg, Nancy Bermack, Megan Findley, Valerie Merlin, Liz Tullo

Online: Amy Handler, Anissa Ainbender, Erin McNutly, Karen Eterovich, Lauren Suero, Michele Sapoff, Neetu Arora, Orlee Goldfeld

Vice Principal Report (Mr. DeRosa)

- Appreciates the welcome from the community
- Setting a goal to continue to build community and relationships to move in the right direction
- Working to connect with 600+ students
 - How can they take responsibility for actions to learn moving forward?
 - Simple acts of being visible goes a long way of showing that administration cares
 - Welcoming in the morning
 - Attending after school events
- Wrapped up Mentor program working with 6th graders to get acclimated – socialization, conflict resolution and balancing organization, friendships, etc.
 - Survey was sent to 200 6th graders
 - Was the mentor program an enjoyable experience: ~70% were in 4-5 range of enjoyable
- Advisory program – Feb meeting will be a reset meeting – go over where we did great, but target the areas that can be improved
- Question – what is your background?
 - James Madison – Marketing and Finance – advertising – not fulfilled and wanting education to change trajectory and positively uplift others
 - 2010 switched to education – student teaching North Caldwell continued for 14 years
- Question: How can we get more attendance to MS/HS events? Any Extra Credit for kids to come to sporting events – building community? Hoping this can carry through to HS and coming to stay for games –
- Question: Are you involved in the plans to put preschool plans in this building? – Has not been involved to elaborate on it

HS Planning Parent Panel Update

- Held on January 4th
- Happy with results 60 parents attending
- >90% found the session valuable
- Suggestions to make it better in the future
- Need a volunteer to take this on and lead for next year
- Informative and very real and honest

Director of Community Relations Introduction (Tara Hopfenspirger - not present)

- Director of Community Relations - 50% here/50% Paramus
 - See slide in presentation within meeting materials on website

President's Update (Colleen Manley)

- Treasurer report (see meeting materials on website)
- Holiday Lunch – appreciated by all, thank you to volunteers
- Donut Day – was a success, thank you to all volunteers
- Door project complete – inspiration designs and quotes on doors – within senior hallway
- Spirit Wear raised \$3.6K
- Volunteers – thank you to all
 - Teacher Appreciation - Shira Hochman, Jocelyn Reiman, and Paula Hegyi
 - 8th Grade Pool Party Chairs - Mary Ellen Schwarzbeck and Deirdre Tarrant
 - Spring Spirit Sales need a leader – targeted sale towards incoming 6th graders
- Motion to Approve December Minutes
 - First Motion: Sheila Berard
 - Second Motion: Valerie Merlin
- Question – What is the Naviance Meeting for upcoming 9th graders? A: It is an online course system used by guidance department – quizzes to help with career interests – used by Juniors and Seniors as the core of college application process
- 9th Grade Scheduling – meeting with HS guidance – put in requests for electives and incoming 9th grade parent night
 - March 14-20th individual grade 8 course request meetings (parents are recommended to go)
 - Videos available of courses to watch and decide what is a good fit
- SEPAC Learning Strategies class – change in curriculum, specials services department hosting two sessions HS and MS – HS geared toward 8th graders/2/1 MS Learning strategies 5th grade parents – 2/7 @ 7pm - open for anyone in learning strategies program –
- Comment: District is planning to move the preschool classes into MS/HS building 2025 school year – lots of concerns about challenges – housed in the basement where the theater is – encourage parents to get involved in these conversations