

Glen Rock Federated HSA Meeting
Wednesday, February 2, 2022
Zoom - 7 p.m.

Attendees:

Sharon Tishco, Kristin Hodges, Julia Wang, Dr. Brett Charleston, Dr. Michael Parent, Michelle White, Michelle Ciffo, Erica Bratspies, Jackie Schwartz, Lisa Torsiello, Tina Bacolas, Orlee Goldfeld, Laura Occhipinti, Stacy Hendl, Heather Olenick, Jennifer Scherer, Heidi Ryan, Michelle Della Fortuna, Greg Van Nest, Kathryn Morris, Alyssa Mandara, Lauren Suero, Jamie Sporn, Kristi Reilly, Kristen Roth, Edward Thompson, Sinead Rundell, Laurie Sosson, Jyoti Belani, Cathy Lee, Sheila Berard, Monica Lauro, Kellie St. Laurent, Jackie Pucci, Jennifer Marzolla, Robert Ball, Lisa Lynch, Monika Eisenbart-Majewski, Maggie Jacoby, Allison Cassin, Lauren Schept, Stephanie Carosella, Julianna Moore, Olga Nikelshpur, Jackie Pappas, Stephanie Carusone

1. President's Report – Sharon Tishco

Sharon welcomed everyone to the meeting. Check out our website at grfederatedhsa.org that has all the documents from Federated available.

2. Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes from the previous meeting, so they were fully approved.

3. Treasurer Update – Jackie Pappas

- Jackie shared that the Federated HSA has received 3 out of 5 of the dues from the other HSAs.
- We have \$2,408.97 in cash.
- The full Treasurer report is available on the Federated website.

4. SEPAC – Orlee Goldfeld

- SEPAC is following a new format for their meetings. The most recent meeting's topic was Executive Functioning and was very well received. If you would like a recording of the meeting, please email glenrock.sepac@gmail.com. All meeting information can be found on Federated's website - grfederatedhsa.org/sepac
- At the "Parent Only" meeting, they discussed many issues such as distractions in the elementary schools due to multiple classes in the same room, a new name for pre-k students that Dr. MacKay is forming a parent group for, and creating a panel of college students who have received special education and their experience.
- Thank you to the Federated HSA for posting SEPAC meeting minutes and for all the donations.

5. Superintendent Update – Dr. Brett Charleston

- Kindergarten registration is 2/14/22. You can find all information on the district website.
- On 2/28/22, there will be QSAC monitoring, which is an all-day affair. It will take about one month to finalize the scores and present to the BOE.
- There will be a BOE Community Day for everyone. It will focus on 3 areas:
 1. HS/MS – preparing students for real world experiences
 2. Elementary – educating every student
 3. Facilities & Finance – providing a strong learning environment for an increasing population. We have crossed the 2600 student mark.
- The district is creating "Wellness" rooms in all schools. We hired a consultant and the rooms should be ready by next fall.
- The next BOE meeting will be 2/14/22. Topics will include:
 1. Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI) – There will be a presentation to the BOE and community on this group, its purpose and developments.

2. Start Strong presentation on the testing for current 4th and 5th graders.
 3. Budget discussion covering high level expectations and plans.
- Dr. Charleston will hold office hours on 2/10/22 from 11am – 12:30pm. He plans to continue those once a month assuming there is attendance.
 - There is a Restart Committee meeting next Tuesday, 2/8/22. The school doctor will be there as well as the 25 people on the committee. Members of the committee consist of parents, teachers, health officials and the GREA. Masks will be discussed. The decision ultimately rests with Dr. Charleston, but he considers all the viewpoints and stakeholders.

6. DEI – Greg Van Nest

- Last year, the focus was on how one's culture and upbringing shape the way one sees the present. This year, the focus is what we can do about all that.
- There have been 4 focus groups created for the whole community. The first focus group begins next week on 2/8/22. We currently have 60 people across the 4 groups. If you did not receive an email last week with the focus group topics and would like to take part, please reach out to Greg Van Nest.

7. Middle/High School Principal Update – Dr. Michael Parent

- Tomorrow is the end of the 2nd quarter.
- The 3rd week of February is when scheduling will begin. Take a look on the website for all the course selection information, descriptions and videos.
- NJ State Testing is returning.
 1. NJ Graduation Proficiency is in March.
 2. NJ SAL is in April. We are working on a bell schedule and there will be some delayed openings as a result.
- We have FUN too!
 1. Our musical production of Matilda is next week.
 2. Winter athletics is wrapping up. Come see a match, game and help celebrate these athletes.

8. Elementary School Principal Update – Ed Thompson (Coleman)

On behalf of all the Elementary Principals I would like to wish everyone a very happy New Year! We thank our parents for joining us for our K-5 conferences this December. Our teachers are happy to be able to once again include our gr. 3-5 parents for this important and informative activity.

Thank you to our Coleman HSA and Hamilton HSA for coordinating an awesome night of Snow Tubing. The weather was perfect, the hot cocoa was hot and I saw many smiles. I won't mention that Coleman won the principal's challenge as Ms. Pierides might see it differently! Ms. Pierides claims she has photos proving that she out-tubed Mr. Thompson! Thank you to the Central and BYRD HSA's for organizing tubing last Friday for their schools!

All Elementary Schools will celebrate our 100th day of school on February 15th. Everyone will be having a HW Free Night in order to encourage our families to spend some quality time together!

Coleman School

- Our classes are celebrating Black History Month as well as Lunar New Year with a number of engaging activities.

- Our January “Choose to Be Nice” value is TEAMWORK and we kicked off the month with a school wide read aloud of It Takes a Village last month. Our value for February is RESPONSIBILITY. Tomorrow, I will be reading Pigsty to all our students via Zoom.
- Our Student Council is celebrating the upcoming Super Bowl by having a Jersey Day on Friday, 2/11. All students and staff are invited to wear their favorite team’s jersey.
- Looking ahead, our 5th graders are looking forward to their first field trip in 2 + years when we walk to the MS to see the MS for the production of Matilda!
- Our Inspire Science program is in full swing and all K-5 students are interacting with this hands-on engaging curriculum.
- We once again thank our HSA for all they do for our students!

Hamilton School - Hamilton School participated in the Global School Play Day on 2.2.22! Students and teachers incorporated play throughout the day. “You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation.” -Plato. This theme goes along with our new play area called Discovery Zone, which we look forward to opening this spring. Hamilton School looks forward to bringing back some favorite school activities that bring us together as a school community, starting with Breakfast in School in early March.

Central School

- Central School celebrated 2.2.22 because we will not be in school on 2.22.22. Students were encouraged to dress up, #2 pencils were given out and we celebrated this unique date.
- The Central School students also celebrated the Lunar New year, with books, crafts, and learning activities.
- In February, we are celebrating Kindness with a Kindness calendar, created by Mrs. Chon with activities for each day and creating Valentine’s Day cards for Senior Centers and Valentines’ for Vets.

Byrd School

- Byrd School will be celebrating Black History Month in our K-5 Classrooms. Through read-alouds, writing activities, and exploration, students will be learning about the important contributions of black Americans.
- We also will be celebrating Lunar New Year with fun crafts and read-alouds. Our Student Council is actively involved in creating a new outdoor recess plan that utilizes our space in a more safe and effective manner. We are exploring a few options and hope to unveil our plan once we have our next meeting.
- Great job Byrdies!

9. Board of Education Update – Sinead Rundell

Dr. Charleston covered it all. Thank you.

10. Questions

- How much weight does GREA have in decision making? Dr. Charleston expressed that he didn’t feel it was fair to put pressure on a particular group. Decisions are made with all stakeholders in mind.
- Where would we be able to view the members of the Restart Committee? Dr. Charleston said he would ask members at the Restart Committee meeting next week (2/8/22) and share after that meeting.

11. Motion to adjourn the meeting – Sharon Tishco