

Glen Rock Federated HSA Meeting Notes
October 18, 2019
Hamilton School

Attendees:

Sharon Scarpelli, Shiela Berard, Valerie Merlin, Katie Gibs, Lisa Lynch, Jennifer Lota, Erica Bratspies, Kristin Hodges, Ann Boyle, Brett Charlston, Stephanie Carosella, Liz Sonzogni, Katie Fanelli, Stacy Hendl, Colleen Manley, John Arlotta. A.M. Chisppeltra.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Stephanie and Liz welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked the Executive Board for being there, HSA Presidents and Dr. Charleston. The Executive Board introduced themselves and role to the crowd.

2. Approval of May 22, 2019 Federated HAS Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes were not approved as there was not a copy for everyone to see. We did discuss and made decision to approve at the next meeting in January 2020.

3. Board Officer Updates

a. **Presidents** – Stephanie Carosella & Liz Sonzogni

1. Welcomed everyone again and mention all schools had a good start to the year. Both Presidents mentioned they would like to continue to improve ways to share updates on the elementary schools with Dr. Charleston.

b. **Treasurer** - Stacy Hendl

1. Discussed approved budgets for the year. Mentioned we have a starting balance of \$2,224.97 for year.

c. **Online Directory** – Colleen Manley

1. Discussed in detail the rolling out of Mobile Arq, district wide directory of students and address book. Reminded everyone to log in and update their information. Spread the word and look for communications on the app.

d. **Calendar** – Katie Fanelli

1. Katie mentioned the calendar gets updated every 2 weeks. Reminded everyone to send in any changes to her.

e. **SEPAC** – Kristine Gifford and Nicole Redmond

1. SEPAC is a program for families that require special services. The district has programs such as Top Soccer and Pathways which are free and run by high school students as a mentorship for kids. All kids of all abilities welcome.

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4. District Updates

a. **Superintendent's Report** - Dr. Brett Charleston

1. Dr. Charleston's focus is to save schools on spending and presented ideas on how to generate cash.

- Dr. Charleston is eliminating all printers from classrooms to save on cost of paper and maintenance.

- Looking at hiring 3rd party to for substitutes for all schools. Right now the budget in place for subs is too expensive and difficult to navigate.

- China and USA exchange program, International camps for summer by bringing over 12-24 students from China. These students will participate in sports and stem focused camps and live with Glen Rock host families.

- These camps could generate up to \$70,000 in revenue. Dr. Charleston spoke about his upcoming trip to China as he will visit 4 different regions. He will present this program to these schools to gain their interest level in coming to our Blue Ribbon school district as well as great town with proximity to New York city. We could host the summer international camp by June of 2020

2. Looking to interview an assistant to himself to help with all school and district matters. Will re-open the search in 2020.

3. Offering for selected staff an 8 hour CPR Wellness Training course. The first training is scheduled for Dec. 5.

4. Supportive of "No Hate" campaign in the high school.

b. **Elementary School Principal Update** – Irene Pierides (Principal of Hamilton School)

1. **Hamilton School** - Discussed welcome back to school breakfast for teachers/staff, upcoming Progressive Dinner, yoga night and upcoming fundraisers for the remaining part of the year.

2. **Central School** - Discussed back to school welcome back to school breakfast for teachers/staff for new families, fall social, upcoming winter concert/play and pizza days in effect.

3. **Byrd School** – Discussed welcome back to school breakfast for teachers, Byrd family play date to welcome new families and fall Progressive dinner, ice cream and pizza days in effect.

4. **Coleman School** – Discussed welcome back to school breakfast for teachers/staff, upcoming fall social for parents, Hunger 5K walk fundraiser.

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c. MS/HS Principal Updates – John Arlotta

1. Mentioned putting together a transition team of students to help make transition from elementary school to middle school easier as well as from middle to high school.
2. High school installing vape detection machine.
3. Discussed increased security at the high school and how to find the right balance between overly secure measures which guests/students might find violating.
4. Encouraged families to sign their kids up for the Pathways events which are mentorship of high school students by playing games, planned Halloween event in HS gym, etc.
5. Supportive of “No Hate” campaign Dr. Charleston putting in place.

d. Community School Update – Allison DeMeulder – she was not present

e. Board of Education Update – Sharon Scarpelli

1. Sharon mentioned they would be looking to interview candidates for the Assistant to Superintendent role in the new year.
 5. The Board already working on the 2020-2021 calendar
 6. Possible change in start times for middle and high school to make all schools in sync. Figuring out way it could help manage traffic and parent schedules.
 7. Month of school starting was topic of conversation but the after Labor Day start will not change at this time.
 8. The Board is supportive of Dr. Charleston’s China partnership

5. Open Discussion/Questions

1. Guests attending the meeting had a few opinions on when schools should start school: before or after Labor Day.
2. Discussed next meeting on January 31 @ 8:45 a.m. and to spread the word as attending meetings could result in changes and suggestions being heard.

Adjourn of meeting made by Presidents, Stephanie Carosella and Liz Sonzogni.