

Glen Rock Federated HSA Meeting
Thursday, March 12, 2020
Central School - 7 p.m.

Attendees:

Attendees: Sheila Berard, Jenelle Wise, Katie Gibbs, Stephanie Carosella, Megan Findley, Sinead Rudnell, Tania Grove, Kellie St. Laurent, Katie Fanelli, Heidi Ryan, Nicole Redmond, Barbara Gomes, Colleen Manley, Stacy Hendl, Liz Sonzogni, Jen Constantia, Lisa Lynch, Sharon Scarpelli.

1. Welcome

Stephanie and Liz welcomed everyone to the meeting. They thank Dr. Charleston for being there to give the in-person group and those online an update of the Corona Virus. The meeting took place on the eve of the closure of the Glen Rock schools due to increase in Covid-19 cases. Heidi Ryan helped with the Facebook live discussion. The crowd did practice social distancing as spread out in the seats provided considering the nature of stress everyone felt.

2. Approval of the January 2020 Federated HSA Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes approved by Heidi Ryan and Sinead Rudnell.

3. Board Officer Updates

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

1. Discussed that the Federated Board was working on Board nominations for next year's HSA's. The presidents did tell Dr. Charleston they appreciated being included in the discussions with Glen Rock school restructuring plan. It was announced that most of the meeting would focus on the Covid-19 response for Glen Rock.

b. **Treasurer** - Stacy Hendl

1. Discussed that the budget was in line as it should be. The 2020-21 budget would be discussed at the next Federal meeting and would be the same amount budgeted as in previous years.

c. **Online Directory** – Colleen Manley

1. Discussed the movie “Angst” which was supposed to be shown at the high school at the end of March. Most likely we would have to stream it instead of in-person.
2. Announced we would be most likely renewing contract with Mobile Arq. for the district's online directory. Encouraged all to have new families sign into the program and update contact information.

d. **Calendar** – Katie Fanelli

1. Katie mentioned to the group that the calendar is updated every two weeks

e. **SE PAC** – No update

4. District Updates

a. Superintendent's Report - Dr. Brett Charleston

1. Dr. Charleston spoke through most of meeting regarding what our district's response would be with the Corona Virus.
2. Dr. Charleston was awaiting news from the NJ Press conference that Thursday evening and said he would update the school community when he could. Here is what he could tell the group this evening.
 - a. Most likely, Friday, March 13, 2020 would be the Glen Rock students last day in school. On this day, the teachers would prepare the kids even more for e-learning.
 - b. The kids would be expected to take home homework folders, necessary learning tools, passwords, chrome books if needed, etc.
 - c. Likely all school grounds would be closed by 5 p.m. on Friday, March 13, 2020 until further notice.
 - d. On Monday, March 16, the teachers and principals and special teachers will go in for a full day of school. They will prepare their lesson plans for the week. The students will act as on a snow day for Monday the 16th and no school work will be submitted.
 - e. Dr. Charleston stressed that the High School online curriculum was strong and that they would be operating on the normal bell schedule. He is very comfortable with how the high school would run their e-learning.
 - f. The Middle School was about 90% ready for e-learning. It was decided they would run on a 7:50 a.m. – 12:20 p.m. schedule. Dr. Charleston feels the middle school curriculum will be ready by Tuesday, March 17.
 - g. The Elementary School preparedness was a concern of Dr. Charleston. He stressed the teachers, TA's, elementary coaches, specialists and principles at the elementary level will be more than ready to answer questions of students by Tuesday, March 17.
 - h. The Elementary School curriculum should include around four hours of e-learning work. He was confident with the close of school on Monday, March 16, the teachers could further prepare. Attendance would be required each day on the elementary level.
 - i. There will also be a Help Desk number that will be distributed in communications. He encouraged to reach out to the Help Desk if your family needs a chrome book or assistance with technology.
 - j. Dr. Charleston announced that after school activities will be case by case. Currently, all March and April activities at schools cancelled until further notice. The Elementary science fairs cancelled.

k. There were some questions that Heidi Ryan received from the Facebook live. How long will the schools be closed? Do you envision e-learning going throughout the school year? When would the playgrounds open back up? Would the construction at Hamilton School continue? Would the plan of the air conditioners at each elementary school be installed as planned?

l. Dr. Charleston responded to the group that he would have to take all actions for the district day by day. He was on calls every few hours with the state of NJ and the Board of Directors and other districts on how to move forward with the threat of Corona Virus in our town. He would keep the community updated with any changes and asked for everyone's patience and support.

m. Professional support will be offered to teachers and the BOD is in full support of what the teachers will need to offer a strong e-curriculum.

b. Elementary School Principal Update – Krista La Croix was not present. Due to the Corona Virus discussion, the Presidents just mentioned the school HSA's would continue to work together for the schools and figure out how to proceed with future events for each school.

c. MS/HS Principal Updates – No update from John Arlotta, yet there was a short report from the new security guard Rob McCorry. He is a former Glen Rock Police officer.

1. Rob said he was working on a more effective way to handle the safety of kids at sporting events and in large crowds.

2. He put in place more strict guidelines for new hires and guests/contractors entering the High School. You have an ID to enter building.

d. Community School Update – Allison DeMeulder was not present but update provided.

1. At this time twenty-six summer camps would be offered in the district. As well as coding and science camps. Allison would be updating the district on any camp changes due to the Corona Virus and would be helping Dr. Charleston with all communications during this uncertain time.

e. Board of Education Update – Sharon Scarpelli

1. Sharon mentioned they will be continuing the interview process for the Assistant to Superintendent position on March 24.

2. She also mentioned the Board is in line with each other and has the support of Dr. Charleston and the HSA Federated Presidents on the restructuring of the district. The resolution passed.

3. More informative meetings will be held by the Board for the community to find out more about the changes that will happen.

4. Sharon also showed support to Dr. Charleston on the Corona Virus response and said that this matter will take importance.

5. It was shared by Sharon Scarpelli and Dr. Charleston that the budget of the Board is around 1.75 million and there will be additional aid of the state of NJ as needed during this uncertain time. There could be a 1-2 % increase in taxes in our area to support the new restructuring of our district. More to come in future meetings.

6. We are still on tract for a cost savings of \$175,000 this year.

7. The district is able to increase health benefits by 12%.

8. The district will be able to use around \$925,000 towards the approved construction projects.

5. New Business - The focus of the district would be the closure of the Glen Rock schools and further updates would be provided as needed.

6. Motion to Adjourn the meeting – Sheila Berard