

Masterman HSA Monthly Meeting

Date: Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Zoom



Attendees

Board members: Anne Albert - Stacy Koiler - Michael Wang - Chelsea Badeau- Jennafer Howard- Sarah Schindler Williams- Sam Vitiello-Mae Trieu- Ya-Chi Tsao
(See sign-in sheet for general members and school staff)

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Anneto approve minutes from the February 20, 2024 meeting. Chelsea seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved

President's Opening Notes - Anne Albert

We always come to these meetings and I always say we need volunteers. We need volunteers. I'm happy to say that we are also getting volunteers. So what we're asking for volunteers for does keep shifting.

- So you know we put out a call for people to to work on logo sales. Now we have a pair of people who are signing on to co chair the logo sales committee which is fantastic.
- We put out a call for people to work on the rooftop Beautification Committee. We have a generous with his time parent who's willing to take the lead on that project and coordinate with us and with Mr. Holcomb from school on short and long term goals for groups. So that's underway and I'll I'll report on that.
- What else we made a call for option volunteers and a bunch of people have stepped up we have a fantastic active group of like eight or 10 people who are working really hard on optional but we can always use more very labor intensive we put out a call for people to help with social media a couple of people have stepped up there we could also use more but really like it's so wonderful to see like you know we're putting out these spaces we are putting out these is calls for help and parents are stepping up and so it's wonderful wonderful to see the organization growing and the company's growing and things kind of getting back to business.

General Discussion

HSA General Meeting

Summary

- **Volunteer opportunities at a school.**
 - Stacey and Michael encourage volunteering at the school, with Stacey highlighting the impact on students' lives and Michael expressing gratitude for recent volunteer sign-ups.
 - Volunteer opportunities are available for various committees, including logo sales, rooftop Beautification, and social media, with a need for more volunteers to help with these tasks.
 - Committee members are needed to help plan Teacher Appreciation Week events in early May, including food-related activities.
 - Parents with architecture or design experience are needed to advise the Committee on the rooftop garden design has a chair.
 - Committee seeks volunteers for various tasks.
- **Early dismissal protocols for students under 18.**
 - District policy now requires parents to sign students out for early dismissals, with exceptions for 11th and 12th graders.
 - School officials aim to create a safe system for early dismissals for students with ongoing activities.
- **School policy change regarding early dismissal.**
 - Discussion around district policy on early dismissal, highlighting inconsistencies and the need for change.
 - Committee members advocate for a more convenient and equitable system, considering the needs of economically disadvantaged students.
 - Emphasis on the need for community input on school policy changes, citing previous instances of changes made without consultation.
 - Mr. Gilken did send a notification about a potential change in early dismissal policy.
- **School policy and liability for student safety.**
 - Parents express concern about school policy requiring parents to sign out students under 18 in person.
- **School budget, graduation date, and parent-teacher conferences.**
 - Speakers discuss changes to school policy and communication with community.
 - School district has confirmed graduation date of June 10, but approval is pending.
 - Parents had difficulty changing their report card conference time slots after signing up via Google Docs, but the issue was resolved by updating the date.
 - All teachers will have the updated version of Google by Friday, allowing parents to sign up for conferences without any issues.
- **Teacher vacancies and site selection at a Philadelphia school.**
 - Parents express concerns about teacher vacancy and graded work for AP English class.
 - Teacher Cohen takes over AP English class, collaborating with Olson on grading.
 - Site selection for next school year will begin soon, with conversations already underway with teachers to gauge their interest in returning.
 - One teacher has confirmed they will not be returning to teach both middle and high school classes, impacting vacancies in both schools.
 - Site selection committee members must commit to attending all interviews, with no substitutions allowed.

- **School events, scheduling, and student concerns.**
 - Ms. Solomon updates on the Franklin Institute trip for the senior class, which was impacted by the pandemic and lost their eighth grade graduation activities.
 - Shares a heartwarming story about the seniors' creativity and teamwork at the Lego exhibit, including building a maze and racing cars out of Legos.
 - Students discuss Spirit Week, class selection, and clubs during SAC meeting.
 - Staff aims to address student concerns about high school schedule changes before September.
- **School schedule, auction, and rooftop plan.**
 - Highlights -return of gym and language classes to middle school schedules, and the intention to ensure no student has lunch before 10am.
 - Anne expresses gratitude to everyone involved in the hard work (particularly the SAC Ad-hoc scheduling committee) to finalize the schedule, and encourages attendance at HSA meetings for more information.
 - Sarah mentions the auction and its purpose, while Sam gives the date and details of the eighth grade production of Clue.
- **School budget and spending.**
 - Speaker 3 mentions a long-term project with educational benefits for students, and a need for help with gardening.
 - The final number of fifth grade classes for next year will be four classes and five classes of 9th graders.
 - Next year, sixth grade will not add an additional class
 - Community initiatives, including school dance activities, are a significant portion of the school's spending.
 - Yachi provides an update on the group's finances, mentioning that they have raised \$140,000 and spent \$600 so far.
- **School auction and fundraising efforts**
 - Emphasis on the importance of attending the auction to support the school and highlights the ongoing ticket sales.
 - Sarah mentions a teacher and staff discount code for the auction, and encourages parents to buy tickets to support the school.
 - The auction committee is still accepting donations and looking for volunteers to help with the event.
- **Welcoming new families and fundraising at Masterman School.**
 - Speaker 3 suggests using the transition committee's email list to invite incoming families to the auction.
 - Speaker 5 proposes a welcome call in the first week of April to invite incoming families to the auction.
 - Speaker 5 expresses gratitude for new auditorium curtains, praising the school's investment and the effort put in by various individuals.
 - Speaker 3 highlights the importance of fundraising for future improvements, such as a better sound system or grants for seniors.

- Speaker 1 mentions the need to welcome new families and invite them to the Masterman SAC auction, with Speaker 8 expressing hesitation due to planning commitments.
- Speakers 3 and 9 suggest coordinating with HSA and SAC to communicate with new families and provide necessary information.
- **Fundraising and membership for Masterman School.**
 - Speaker 3 mentioned that a fundraising event for Masterman is happening and encouraged everyone to join and share with their families and colleagues.
 - Speaker 7 mentioned that there is a membership chair and encouraged newer members to join and find the link on the website.
- **School events and fundraising ideas.**
 - Parents collecting ideas for special gifts for graduating students, volunteers needed for events.
 - Eighth grade students want a dance, but funds and date may not be available.
- **School accreditation and fundraising ideas.**
 - Middle States reaccreditation process is underway, with a committee including two parents representing HSA and SAC to be convened soon.
- **Fundraising goals and strategies for a school organization.**
 - Sarah mentions the goal of the membership campaign is to raise funds for specific items, such as the sports budget and the rooftop project.
 - Sarah is open to suggestions for targeted fundraising ideas and volunteer opportunities, and wants to highlight the work done this year and future plans with actual videos and pictures.
- **School fundraising campaigns and volunteer opportunities.**
 - Speaker suggests organizing a third fundraising campaign for a specific grade level.
 - Parents discuss organizing a lottery to raise funds for a school event.
- **Open positions in two organizations.**
 - Everyone is encouraged to get involved in SAC or HSA, emphasis on the importance of finding the right fit.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07pm

Respectfully submitted,

Jennafer Howard

MHSA Recording Secretary

