

Orchard Home and School Association June 2023 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 9:29 am on June 15, 2023

Attendees (Principal and Board Members): Principal: Mary Ferreri, Co-President: Tia Ly, Co-President: Sarah McCourt, Vice-President: Tina Georgiou, Treasurer: Shweta Dixit, Corresponding Secretary: Meg DiMattina & Recording Secretary: Crystal Cambareri

Other Attendees: James Judge, Mugdha Mukherjee, Fernanda Sbardella, Judy Meany, Patty Leung

Via Zoom: Adrian Walker and Deb Roy

Tia requested approval of the May meeting minutes and Tia and Sarah approved said minutes.

President's Report (Tia Ly):

We are wrapping up the school year. Some recent activities were Play and Popsicles on May 26th and Field Day. Field Day was fun and warm, and the water activities were great for the students.

Treasurer's Report (Shweta Dixit):

Shweta: discussed proposed budget for each item, asked for others to share comments

Shweta reviewed budget for each line item and shared where funds are drawn from.

Proposed expenses for events \$36,900 vs proposed income \$39,000

Jimmy asked what the \$1,000 is for Omni – dry cleaning and wear and tare (May be able to get done for free?) Will discuss after fourth of July

Shweta made motion to approve budget: Mugdha and Shweta

Vice-President's Report (Tina Georgiou):

Tina discussed committee chairs list a lot of those who ran chairs last year said yes to this year.

Still need chairs for:

Artsonia – works with Mrs. Chicas

Bake Sales – Meg signed up, need another?

Dads Night Out – Meg's husband signed up (1X a year)

Field Day- Eimer will co-chair with a new chair

Omni – volunteer must be 5ft 6"=5ft 10" to be comfortable (4th of July and back to school)

Omni Coordinator – Tina Georgiou

Teacher Appreciation Breakfasts-

Library Coordinator – Eimer's last year and will need someone to shadow for 2024-2025

Adding a chair orientation meeting in September – discuss what chairs need to do and their budget for the year’s events.

Corresponding Secretary’s Report (Meg DiMattina):

Meg will prepare HSA news for every Friday; chairs are asked to update info by Thursday in preparation. Sent emails for class parent volunteers. Has about ½ right now, waiting for class break out to determine how many more parents needed.

Committee Reports:

4th of July Float

Tia: A huge undertaking with community building made in America theme – trains planes and automobiles. So far, they have recruited a good number of parents to help build, paint and decorate. Will need more parents the days before. Lots of donations through Amazon registry. Tia thanked community. We take any donations for supplies. Funds donation from Mets Ticket raffles. 4th of July is a super fun event, the whole village lines up, the kids love it, coordinating a dance team and three components. Starts very early in the morning.

We do have extra t-shirts.

Yearbook: Patty shared that yearbooks are in and if pre-ordered will come home with homeroom teacher on 6/15 for 5th graders and 6/16 for the rest of school. Text Patty if did not pre-order and she will help try to purchase. Mary will send another email to kindergarten families that they can purchase yearbooks.

Tia and Sarah go to the federated HSA mtg once a month which includes all HSA presidents in district. Discussions around world languages and the new curriculum in the elementary level. Mary – have been trying to hire world language instructor for the elementary level. The position was written into the budget this year. Posting was generic in regard to which languages. Spanish French Chinese and German were interviewed. World Language supervisor Mark Ferreri proposed a rotating program. BOE mtg tabled world language at last week’s Mark did a presentation on how the world language program would work and the board was able to vote on the program and it was not voted yes. This may not be the best way to get the program started. Position is still posted preferring Spanish or French teachers.

Prepping for Wizards – date TBD

End of Year celebration, date was moved due to air quality will be held on last day of school

Teacher’s Report (Mrs. Meany):

Cannot believe it is the end of the school year. Thanking HSA from the entire school, so grateful. Nothing goes unnoticed, everything is appreciated. They can’t do all that they do at the best of their ability without the HSA and the parent’s support. We believe that we have the best HSA so thank you!

Principal’s Report: (Mrs. Ferreri)

Mrs. Ferreri: the end of the school year with 5 days left. A lot of fun things are coming up. Each grade level does a different celebration. 5th grade promotion coming up next week. Last day of school is step up day which is a Ridgewood Tradition. Great opportunity to meet new friends if they are not in class with the

same current class. Ask your child- Who is someone you are really excited to get to know next year? Some hires to report which is great.

Adding to special education team at each school – to offer more inclusion opportunities. 5th grade example. Reading, writing or math class for 30 minutes. Co teach whole lesson with teacher versus 2nd half during independent working.

Hire Maria Speducchini currently teaching 5th grade inclusion in Paramus

Jennifer Haring – new library media specialist currently working in the same position in New Milford. She spent the day with Mrs. LaBarr recently.

We do need to hire a school Nurse. Nurse Horton needs to be closer to home. New Nurse is on June 26th BOE agenda.

Maternity Leave coverage for 5th grade teacher early in next school year. She will be taking a full year of leave.

5th grade homeroom and 5th grade reading teacher.

Mrs. Mansbach is coming back for 1st grade.

Can't believe this year is coming to an end and am beyond grateful to come here every day. Sad to see this year end after having a normal and typical school year grateful, grateful.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08am