

**HSA General Meeting  
8/25/2021 8:30am via Zoom**

**Welcome:** (Jackie Carlson) Welcome to Harbordale and our 1<sup>st</sup> HSA meeting! We are a group of parents, teachers and staff who support our school through membership, fundraisers and activities throughout the year to help fill the gap between what the School Board provides and what we need to deliver great programs throughout the year. All the money we raise goes toward the students, teachers and school programs including: reading programs, busses for school field trips, supplies for student programs like Student Council, and classroom supplies for our teachers. This year things look a bit different, as we are limited in the types of events we can host. I'll have some of the team talk to you about our initiatives and how you can get involved.

**Volunteer** (Christina Curry): Parents will not be allowed in the classroom, but there may be volunteer opportunities such as organizing the uniform closet, shelving library books, etc. Get volunteer application in with the county and indicate interest on our website.

**Room Parents** (Eva Shoop-Shafor): If you are interested in volunteering as a Room Parent for your child's class, please apply on the HSA website by 9/1. In September, I will send the list of applicants to each teacher, and they will choose a Room Parent or a team. Please be sure to apply to be an approved volunteer through the county and join the HSA. Currently, classes in need of Room Parents are: Zenny, Webb, Fisher, Fitzgerald (1<sup>st</sup>), Edler, all 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes, Guerrero, Messenger.

**Adopt a Class:** (Kelly Dean) Individuals and businesses can adopt a classroom with a donation via our website. Last year, some teachers used the money to buy books, supplies for science projects and recess equipment - whatever the teacher feels they need to make their class the best. Local businesses are awesome to hit up for adoptions. We put up logos on our website to show their support. All donations go directly to the teachers.

**Membership:** (Chantal Manno) Family membership is only \$10, and it's good for a year. We have the option of additional donations to cover AR, Scholastic News and agendas for your student or an additional student. Benefits of joining include getting the HSA newsletter and being allowed to vote on programming and financial decisions for the school. Join at [Harbordalehsa.com](http://Harbordalehsa.com). As a member of the HSA, you'll be the first to know about events in school.

**Fundraising:** (Sandy Stetter) Walk-a-Thon: 150 students registered for virtual walk-a-thon last year, and we were able to raise over \$15,000 in the middle of a pandemic!!! We also organized a book fair and a holiday shop online. This year we will organize another Walk-a-thon, hopefully in school, most likely in January or February. Also, the Change Challenge is another fun event where students collect change to support their classes and bomb other classes with money. Bingo Night is also a fun event for the whole family. We just need to figure out how to make it safe for everyone. We are trying to bring our Holiday Shop back on the stage in the cafeteria. It's so much fun for the kids and the volunteers. Volunteering is so fun and cute because we guide the little ones to the tables to buy gifts for family members, and we help them budget their money. It gives them a sense of pride that they can give their families gifts for holidays. Dine Out to Donate is a partnership with local restaurants. When we eat there on a specific night, we get 20% back from the restaurant that goes directly to the school! I know many of you are wondering about Pumpkin Pizzazz. So far, we can't do it in October, but we are hoping to push it back and rename it as a Spring Carnival scheduled for March. We will also have the online Book Fair. Another super simple way to support Harbordale is to use Amazon Smile where Amazon will donate a small percentage of each purchase you make to our school. Go to Amazon.com and click on "Your Account" and select "Amazon Smile." Then search for Harbordale School Association. Save it, and it'll always be there! We have tasks that need volunteers, so reach out if you are interested and contact me at [fundraising@harbordalehsa.com](mailto:fundraising@harbordalehsa.com)

**Merchandise** (Maria Chinda) You can order uniform shirts or Friday t-shirts on our website. I'm currently filling out orders and delivering them to classes tomorrow through Monday. We will try to order adult sizes.

**Budget:** (Maryann Cockerille) We have \$60,928 in the account. Restricted funds (\$4,939) are funds we hold in our checking account for different organizations (such as Adopt-a-Class, Class of '21, clubs, etc.) and not ours to spend. This money does roll over. General funds (our money to spend) are \$55,988. Side note: Gina Reynen will donate extra money

from Class of '21 for picnic tables. For past 2 years, we've taken the money we had and split it because we weren't sure we'd have the opportunity to do any fundraising. \$14,250 is budgeted for potential fundraising income. In a normal year, we raise about \$40,000 through fundraisers. Walkathon is only big fundraiser scheduled this year. Hopefully we'll have more money coming in because we need it for the school to function. The money we raise this year will go to our budget for expenses next year. The highlights we were able to budget for this year include \$100 per teacher (classroom/specials). Usually they get \$200-250, but last year we didn't give any money. We've also budgeted for items such as author assemblies, extracurricular, gardens, club needs, Scholastic news, daily agendas, etc. All money raised this year goes towards next school year's budget.

Any Questions? (Jackie C.)

Alda D. Is there a way to "turn on" the Amazon Smile donations? It doesn't seem to be connecting. Jackie C: If you go through the Amazon Smiles page and then search, it should work. Sandy S: On the Harbordalehsa.com there is a red link on the top that will take you directly to the Amazon Smiles page.

Rinear C: When I go to Amazon.com, it tells me you need to go to Amazon Smile to donate. If we are short from last year, can we make it up with extra money raised this year? Sandy: We've already done the budget, but if we do raise an excessive amount of money, we can reconsider our budget for this year. Our budget is typically around \$40,000 with \$40,000 income from fundraising. If we have extra money, we offer it to Mrs. Bucolo for additional needs (like computers, iPads, etc.). We offer excess money to Mrs. Bucolo for good use as she sees fit and as voted on by HSA general members who get to say where the money goes. Sandy S.: Just because we have extra money in the budget doesn't mean we have to spend it. It's nice to have cushion. Every penny we raise goes back to Harbordale students and teachers to make the school better and give our students more opportunities. The District doesn't fund everything, so we fund things like the Accelerated Reader program, agendas, etc.

Maryann C.: Mrs. Bucolo asked if the 2 new curriculum teachers could also get the \$100. They use this money to buy things for the classroom, decorate, purchase supplies for classroom. This would add \$200 to the budget. Eva S. made a motion to add this additional \$200 to the budget (\$100 per teacher). Christina C. seconded the motion. All approved via show of hands. No one was in opposition, so the motion was approved.

**Principal's Message:** (Mrs. Bucolo) Welcome! We've had a rough year and a half and were hoping to be back to normal, but we've made the best of it. We welcomed many students back and our newest families. Thank you to the Board for all you do. I thank HSA for the back to school breakfast. Teachers are overwhelmed when they come back and were given breakfast and lunch. Thank you for the teacher checks. We supply the basic supplies, but teachers do have other needs, so they appreciate anything they are given above and beyond. I requested virtual HSA meetings for first few months. If trends go down, we can have face-to-face meetings again. Maybe we can do a hybrid option in the future. 83 participants is awesome. We are looking at potentially meeting face-to-face in October.

School Opening: Opening was successful. We were happy to welcome back families and students. 20% of students were home last year. Now we have 485 students on campus, so we are feeling the extra students and cars. Meet and greet was limited to visit class and meet teacher. The District only allowed Kindergarten families to come on campus 1<sup>st</sup> day. Every student was wonderful coming in; we had so few tears! 4 new students arrived yesterday, and we are continuing to grow. After Labor Day, more come in and some leave, so we will probably level off around 490. In the past we've been around 510. Our campus is tight, but we can't limit students who are within the boundary, and some hardship cases come in. We have 24 classroom teachers and fairly full classes. Student averages for each grade are: K @ 18, 1<sup>st</sup> @ 18, 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 5 classes with 20-21, 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 21-22, 4<sup>th</sup> @ 24 and 5<sup>th</sup> @ 20. The 10-day count is next week. We have a revenue estimator, so we will surpass our expectations. If we go over too much, the District may offer us more money to hire staff. We added 2 new staff because the District (via Federal money) gave additional support. They are interventionists for intensive reading. Ms. Chee (intermediate) & Ms. Nappier (primary) will meet with small groups of students for reading. This supports the classroom teacher. These are Tier 3 level students who are struggling, not ESE students. Ms. Messenger joined us for 5<sup>th</sup> grade and Ms. Fitzgerald in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. We have vacancies for 2 classroom assistants. The District has openings for bus drivers, cafeteria, etc. We also need a speech pathologist. Room use: we are using every single room across campus. We only have 24 classrooms, so the art room is being used for art (for now). Right now, Ms.

Hardison is teaching PE. 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter she will teach art. In the other specials room, we have music and Spanish. We have Mr. Dinwiddie in the media center. If we have to add another class, we will use the art room, and specials will rotate using the specials room. Last year, we limited movement by having specials in classrooms.

Visitors: We've always been a school that welcomed volunteers. We can have a limited number of volunteers to shelve books in media center, help in gardens, organize uniform room, car door opening in mornings, etc. No volunteers allowed in classrooms at this point. If teachers want volunteers to help at home with tasks, that's fine.

Activities: We will take it slow. Part of the experience of elementary school is the activities. The students go to breakfast, to class, specials, lunch, recess, and dismissal. We will look at options for bringing things back slowly such as Walk-a-thon, Field Day, Book Fair, Holiday Shop, etc.

Picture Day: Last year we didn't have picture day, but this year Simple Smiles is back. Class pictures are also scheduled. Our yearbook was fabulous last year despite the restrictions. We are happy to have a regular yearbook this year.

Field Trips: There will not be off campus field trips.

Change Challenge: We hope to come up with a modified change challenge.

Covid Protocol: Masks are required for everyone (visitors, staff, students). The students have been wonderful. I have masks for those who forget or dirty a mask. We are down to 3 feet of distance between students. We have campus marked up for spacing, hand sanitizing when they walk in, wiping down desks between specials, misting of rooms every other evening. We have plenty of PPE. If we need anything, I get it free from District. We have two nurses. Nurse Sara in the front clinic and Nurse Hernandez is in the isolation room in the back of the office. If Covid symptoms are present, student is sent to isolation room, and you get a phone call. Those nurses make the determination regarding symptoms. Protocols are changing constantly. It's a challenge to keep up. Direction comes from CDC through District to me. We don't quarantine entire class for 14 days. It's a range depending on situation that nurse decides. It's generally a bubble of students who sit around the student. If a staff member is vaccinated, they don't have to quarantine. If a student has recently had Covid, they don't have to quarantine. We are having far more cases than last year. For first few days, I offered packets to students who were in quarantine. Prior to yesterday the district stated quarantined students may pull up assignments to complete at home via Canvas and listen to audio of class. "Ask Bria" is available for help during school day. As of last night, students can also access video at home (similar to hybrid). This is only an option for students under quarantine (not for other absences). There may be more info coming.

Joint use agreement: I brought it up at the end of the year. The City of Fort Lauderdale approached us about a joint use agreement to open the bigger playground to the public via a reciprocal agreement between the City and School Board to open playground on weekends, holiday, etc. for the community to use equipment. City would lock up after use, upgrade fencing, etc. It's on the agenda for approval. I foresee this happening next year. This does not allow anyone else to come on campus; access is only to playground. We would report repair needs, etc. to City.

Smart Bond Project: NTP/Notice to Proceed was received this summer. Under Smart Bond, we were awarded money for roof repair/replacement and HVAC systems for older buildings. My concern is having it done during school year. Originally, they'd planned to take 2 summers to complete work, but it looks like it will be moved up. Advanced Roofing wanted to start now, but I said no because they need staging areas, parking, barriers. There are challenges on our campus, so they are back to some revision stage. They may start in fall or over winter break. I'm concerned about what they do when students are on campus. When I know more, I'll call a special meeting. More to come.

Questions:

Ulrica H: Regarding the playground: Kids can't currently use the playgrounds, but neighbors will be able to, right? Mrs. Bucolo: District said you can use the equipment, but it's recommended that you mist it between uses, but there is no way to schedule Chad to do this. Kids are going outside, but not using the equipment at this time. We are limiting it for the time being. We will reassess.

Rinear C: The playgrounds around the neighborhood are disastrous because no one cleans up. Why would we let them do this? Mrs. Bucolo: If this happens, we would need to be vocal. They are supposed to clean up.

Maria C: Reminder, that if you are going to volunteer on campus, you need to be cleared by the County as a volunteer. I appreciate all of the offers to help work in the uniform closet, and I will take one of you up on the offer.

**Closing** (Jackie C): Typically, these meetings aren't this long, but thank you for sticking with us. The next meeting will be Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:30 am using the same link. We will send out info before the meeting.

Christina C. noted that agenda item for fence covering was not covered. She made a motion to defer fence covering to next meeting. Motion seconded by Chantal M. Approved by all via show of hands.

Meeting ended at 9:50am.