

MINUTES

HSS Parent School Association Meeting

Monday, March 14, 2022 | 5:45 p.m. | psa@hsseg.com

PSA Advisory Board: Alicia Andrews, Samantha Ayala, Bailey Naples, Elizabeth Bogdanowicz | Michael Kosar, Principal | Parish Liaison

Welcome and Call to Order

Ms. Andrews called the meeting to order at 5:49 PM. Mr. Kosar led the opening prayer.

Read-a-Thon Update

- 158 students (91%) created a PledgeStar page. It is not too late to participate!
- As of Monday (3/14), we received \$20,057. We also received pledges totaling \$895, bringing our total amount raised to \$20,952. Thank you to the HSS community for your active participation! Please continue to share the fundraiser with family and friends to help us reach (and exceed) our \$25,000 goal.
- The Read-a-Thon “officially” ends on Sunday (3/20). The website will remain open for one month for donations. We will announce winners and award prizes during prayer service the following Friday (3/25).

Father/Daughter Dance

- In light of recent updates to COVID guidance, Mr. Kosar reported we can bring back the Father/Daughter dance.
- Fathers, grandfathers, uncles, godfathers, and any other special father figures are ALL welcome at the Father/Daughter dance.
- We **need** 3-4 volunteers to plan the dance, and to help on the day of the dance.
 - Ms. Gicewicz offered to assist the committee. Thank you, Ms. Gicewicz!
- The PSA can provide information to assist with planning efforts.
- Depending on the number of available volunteers, we may be able to consider bringing back an event for mothers and sons.

Action Item(s)

- Ms. Andrews will draft a request seeking volunteers.
- ALL - Please contact psa@hsseg.com if you can help!

Collecting for Ukraine

- On Thursday (3/14), St. Patrick's Day, we will hold a dress down day. We encourage everyone to wear something green. We will also collect funds on this day to support relief efforts in Ukraine. All funds collected will be sent to Catholic Relief Services (CRS), which is accepting financial contributions to provide shelter, hot meals, and transportation for Ukrainian refugees seeking to move to safe areas. Our Diocesan Investment and Loan Trust will match donations up to \$50,000 in support of this relief effort.
- The PSA is also interested in partnering with the Rensselaer Elks Club for a collection of supplies (e.g., toiletries, medical supplies, clothing). The Elks Club is currently collecting on behalf of St. Nicholas Church in Watervliet.
- The PSA is also interested in facilitating a letter writing campaign to show support for our local Ukrainian churches.

Action Item(s)

- *Ms. Andrews will contact the Elks Club to express our interest in supporting their collection.*
- *Ms. Andrews will contact the parish office to ensure the school and parish are aligned on efforts to support Ukraine.*

PSA Treasurer Position

- Thank you to Ms. Bailey Naples for her MANY years of service as the PSA's Treasurer. After years of dedicated service, it is time for Bailey to pass the torch to another volunteer.
- The PSA Treasurer provides checks and balances for the PSA. This involves counting and depositing money; paying bills and reimbursements; and ensuring the PSA's budget is sound, and fundraising efforts adequately support the PSA's contribution to the school's operating budget.
- Bailey is available to serve as a resource for the new Treasurer. Prior PSA experience is not required. The ideal candidate has excellent organizational skills.

Action Item(s)

- *ALL - Please contact the PSA (psa@hsseg.com) if you are interested in the Treasurer position.*

Principal's Quarterly Update

- Enrollment for 2022-23 is underway. Please continue to spread the good news about HSS!
- HSS is up for re-accreditation through Cognia. The re-accreditation process occurs every five years, and this is the second time HSS will be accredited through this organization. The diocese and the Catholic Schools Office are also going through the re-accreditation process. Cognia will conduct a virtual visit with diocesan schools from April 3rd through April 6th.
- Father Vo's birthday is next Tuesday (3/22). To celebrate, students are working on cards, and the faculty is collecting to give Father Vo a Starbucks gift card. If you would like to contribute, please contact Mr. Kosar by Friday (3/18).
- Father Vo wishes to offer an in-person spring concert. Please save the date for June 2nd. K-8 students traditionally participate in the concert. More information will be available in the coming months.

Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Mr. Kosar led the closing prayer. We adjourned at 6:22 PM.

Next Meeting

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 5:45 PM.

We hope to see you there! You can join us in person or virtually next month.