

**Ridgewood High School Home & School Association Meeting
Minutes for November 10, 2020**

In Attendance:

Kelly Aherne, Tamara Amos, Michelle Anderson, Deena Atlas, Valerie Auyeung, Samira Bahrami, Anastasia Bamberg, Amy Beiersdorf, Sara Beinstein, Lynn Benson, Lorraine Bergman, Lucy Blaskovic, Penny Boag, Sheila Brogan, Dawn Calvetti, Miranda Cantine, Christine Chanley, Patrick Chao, Joanne Cheng, Young Cho, Carol Cho, Agnes Choi, Lena Christinger, Linda Chuang, Barbara Clarke, Beth Clay, Elena Conn, Susan Cook, Christina Dunican, Christina Esteve, Alyssa Fiol, K. Fischer, Claudia Fortunato, Jessica Franklin, Tom Gorman, Deidre Groehnert, Girish Gudi, Cathy Hamilton, Isabella Harellick, L Harellick, Susan Harrison, Carolyn Holt, Anneke James, Hyewon Jun, Leila Kamel, Jung Eun Kim, Medha Kirtane, Peter Kong, Mark Kossick, Yuka Koyama, Kelly Krumenacked, Ajanta Kumar, Antenette Lam, Ingrid Laub, Patty Lee, Jin Lee, Michael Lembo, Elina Lerner, Sookyung Lim, Nicole Liu, Pamela Lobosco, Melissa Maloney, Erin Mannion, Jennifer Marionni, Lilia Marotta, Kathy Marshall, Nina Mathews, Anne McAskin, Jennifer McCabe, Rose Mary McCotter, Carla Merlino, Mary Micale, Agnes Minn, Janette Morgan, Martha Morley, Jeff Nyhuis, Maureen O'Connor, Caroline Oddy, Andrew Oh, Ruth Parks, Melissa Perlman, Adam Perry, Alithea Phillips, Basil Pizzuto, Andrea Rademacher, Rebecca Rubenstein, Anna Salerno, Garry Sanchez, Lisa Sands, Evelyn Santos, Sam Saraceno, Lauren Saraceno, Greg Schmitt, Karyn Schoenherr, Saira Shah, Kristin Shechter, Glen Sherman, Audrey Shin, Melody Shiu, Allyson Sklar, Maria Small, Marianne St. John, Alison Stephens, Julie Stewart, Cathy Stillwagon, Luka Suramelli, Mari Tagliabue, Colleen Tansey, Allison Teller, Stacey Tsapatsaris, Frances Loshin-Turso, Vaibhavi Mistry Udeshi, Lesvia Urbaez, Mike Vigliotti, Marina Wain, Kristen Walicki, A Warden, Jill Williams, Gabrielle Winnert, Kate Yates, Heather Zachariah

**Other Callers were on the ZOOM – but their names were not registered*

I.Call to Order:

Mary Micale called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Meeting information had been made available via eNews, emails and GroupSpot post. All attendees were accepted through zoom meeting.

II. Approval of October Meeting Minutes and Board Appointment:

A motion to approve the October meeting minutes was made by Nicole Liu and seconded by Pamela Lobosco. Meeting notes were unanimously approved.

2nd Vice President Deanne Dunne has unfortunately had to resign her position. Amy Beiersdorf has been nominated for the position. A motion to approve Amy Beiersdorf's nomination to the 2nd Vice President position of the RHS HSA Executive Committee was made by Carolyn Holt and seconded by Sarah Beinstein. Amy Beiersdorf was unanimously approved.

III. Introduction of Student Representatives:

Isabella Harellick, Sam Saraceno, Saira Shah and Audrey Shin will be the Student Representatives for the 2020-2021 school year.

Sam Saraceno reported that the school year is going well so far. The school is doing a good job. It seems students may start to go virtual once the winter months start.

Saira Shah is a virtual student and reported that overall the year is going well. It is easy to contact teachers and the addition of Period 9 has been valuable to the students.

IV. Korean Parents Association:

Sookyung Lim reported that the Korean Parents Association donated 1,000 masks to the staff in September and an additional 1,000 masks in October. The masks were well received and very much appreciated by RHS faculty and staff.

V. Class Reports:

Senior Class (Class of 2021): Pamela Lobosco reported that plans for PG21 are moving along. The committee is planning for an outdoor event and thinking of different ways to fundraise.

Freshman Class (Class of 2024): Mary Micale reported for Lucia Donohue. The YETI fundraiser is closed. It was a successful fundraiser that resulted in a \$2,000 profit for the Freshman class.

IV. Guest Presentation: Adam Perry, Princeton Review

Adam Perry spoke about standardized testing in the age of Covid-19.

In the Spring of 2020 40% of standardized tests were cancelled nationwide, in NJ 70% were cancelled.

The College Board did not allow remote SAT exams to be taken but encouraged colleges to utilize their test optional plan.

At this point there will be no changes to the SAT (construction or delivery).

Overall ACT added dates for Fall 2020 (including Sundays), which was not the norm. ACT is being aggressive with its forward plans.

AP exams were taken remotely in the Spring.

Most colleges accept both SAT/ACT and a lot are now test optional.

Practice tests are available for free on the Princeton Review website.

V. Assistant Principal / Guidance Report: Jeff Nyhuis

The reason standardized tests were cancelled in the Spring is because the schools were closed due to the pandemic and were not able to give standardized tests.

Colleges that say that they are test optional are truly test optional.

77% of the Senior Class has already applied to college.

The 11th Grade Parent Meeting was last week and is recorded for anyone that was unable to attend.

The 8th Grade Parent Meeting Thursday 11/12.

VI. Principal's Report: Tom Gorman (Reopening update)

The Administration would love to hear the good things that are going on this year at home. Send the school a note to share positive news.

Q1 ends this week and the school remained open the whole time. It took hard work from everyone to make that happen.

The school is in constant contact with the Ridgewood Health Department regarding Covid-19. All reported cases of Covid-19 are reported to the HD and traced by District Nurses with input from the HD.

When Phase 2 will begin is uncertain right now.

Screens and plexiglass shields are available in each classroom, more are being delivered this week.

The District purchased additional computer monitors for the teachers so they can see their students at home while teaching the class live in the classroom.

The Fall Sports Season is wrapping up, the athletes are getting some extra games in the next two weeks.

The Winter Sports Season is scheduled to start December 3rd.

The Administration is worried about some of the kids that are not touching base with school, guidance is trying to reach out to everyone.

VII. Assistant Principal: Basil Pizzuto

Attendance is primarily taken to report to the State of NJ.

RHS has its own attendance policies. If your child is a hybrid student and does their class online instead of attending in person, they are marked with an "R" for that day. Parents are made aware that they are absent from the building.

For planning purposes, it is difficult on the staff that attendance and switching between hybrid and virtual has been so fluid.

Students have been great about wearing masks.

There have been no Covid-19 cases transmitted through physical attendance in the school building. Although some students have been exposed to other students with Covid and have had to quarantine, the exposure has not resulted in additional cases.

Sports teams and New Players have had issues that have resulted in quarantine due to prolonged contact of more than 6 feet together outside of the building.

Senior Slide Show is planned for next Thursday, it will be outside and socially distant.

VIII. Faculty Report: Medha Kirtane

Thank you to the HSA for the breakfast provided recently, it was so nice to see other teachers and staff. The breakfast helped to boost the morale of the staff.

Teachers are still experimenting and learning new things. Information is being shared in a lot of different ways between teachers and students and all are continually learning.

Students have been resilient and adaptable; life lessons are being learned throughout this time.

IX. Board of Education Update: Sheila Brogan

Antoinette Kelly will be leaving the BOE on November 18th.

The BOE has hired a new Business Administrator.

Dr. Fishbein is retiring on December 10th.

The Board has chosen a search firm for the Superintendent. There will be an opportunity for community input as to the qualities we are looking for in a Superintendent.

The Question on whether to consolidate the April Election with November Election passed in the recent election.

X. Executive Board Updates:

Fran Turso/Nicole Liu (Treasurer) – Fran Turso presented and explained the 2020-2021 HSA budget. The Budget includes anticipated revenue from the Friends of RHS Campaign. The timing of the campaign is being moved to November of the academic year moving forward. This year we will combine the proceeds for the Spring 2020 Friends Campaign with that we raise in November and gift it to the school in January, 2021.

Sara Beinstein/Carla Merlino (Development) – The Friends of RHS Campaign begins in November. RHS usually brings in 25k from the campaign, the goal for this campaign is 15K. The campaign will be done electronically. Payment can be made via Paypal link.

XI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Christine Chanley, Secretary