

Orchard Home and School Association February 2024 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 9:00 am on February 14, 2024 – confirm time with Sarah

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

Other Attendees: Amy Hayes, Jen Zolcinski, Jenna Hammond, Mrs. Rubin, and Nurse Caruso

requested approval of the January meeting minutes, and approved said minutes. – confirm with Sarah

Presenter from West Bergen Mental Health (Mrs. Rubin):

Looking to offer workshops for parents. West Bergen has a location on chestnut in Ridgewood and in Ramsey.

Orchard offers school-based support and having this additional resources is a fabulous way to help families with children who function well at school but need assistance at home. Parents can contact Eileen directly (information will be shared in eNews). Any contact with West Bergen will be confidential unless the parent requests for Orchard's involvement.

Looking to schedule workshops and parent mentoring groups. Coffee talks about what works for my family and what doesn't.

President's Report (Tia Ly):

Thank you fellow 5th grade committee for a really fun bingo night. Some changes from the prior year included early kindergarten bingo and sensory bingo. The winter concert was great and very impressive.

Treasurer's Report (Shweta Dixit):

Credit of \$4,525.21 and debits. Net profit is on track for this time of the year. 5th grade celebration raised over \$7510.41. Friends of Orchard letters will go out next month.

The process for requesting money versus a check: Check request form is on the Orchard website. Asking for cash us a separate form located in the same place.

Vice-President's Report (Tina Georgiou):

No Report

Corresponding Secretary's Report (Meg DiMattina):

No Report

Committee Reports:

Reading Marathon: The reading marathon is happening; all children are eligible, and 100% participation is the stretch goal. All reading counts, in school and at home. Everyone who participates gets a free Ben & Jerry's gift card. The class with the most participation will get a pizza, bagel, or popsicle party. Orchard was in 4th place out of all the schools last year. All forms must be sent in the last week of February.

Ladies Night Out: On 3/7. Bowling at Bowlero in Fair Lawn. \$58 for 2 hours of bowling, shoes refreshments and food. Winner's child gets a lunch with Mrs. Ferreri.

Orchard Auction: Loads of great gifts and prizes coming in, have worked with an auctioneer to fill in the gaps. 60 paid RSVP's which includes 23 staff member's and plus 1's. Hoping more people sign up. Working on a collaborative art project for the students which will be auctioned off. Parents can sign up to help through sign up genius. There will be more volunteer opportunities throughout the preparation.

Sports Equipment Swap on 3/10. Drop off donations on 3/9 at Hawes. Details in GroupSpot.

Science Fair (Becky): Gearing up for the Science Fair. 20 scientists have signed up so far. This is all about fun not fuss. Students will receive a homework pass for participating. Set up will take place after school on 2/29. Students can view the exhibits the following day during school. Extra promotion to be done through GroupSpot.

Super Science Saturday (Sheila from the Board of Ed): Saturday, 3/2 from 9-1:30 at the high school. 1000 people from preschool to all ages visit. Liberty Science Center will be licking the day off with a demonstration about Newton's Laws and sports equipment. Highly recommended by Mrs. Ferreri.

Talent Show (Jen Zolcinski): Tomorrow is the last day to submit forms. The Talent Show is always loads of fun. Participants must attend all 3 of the rehearsals. Submit songs to Ms. Chicas on a USB. Will look into another way to submit music next year. Maybe a share drive?

Co-Presidents (Sarah McCourt): The federated meeting is tomorrow, no updates. Wizard's is coming up.

Last LRP Meeting is on 3/6 at 7:30pm.

Teacher's Report (Nurse Caruso):

The teachers want to thank the HSA for the assembly on Monday. Working on trying to keep everyone healthy.

Principal's Report: (Mrs. Ferreri)

Eileen from West Bergen Mental Healthcare presented, and we are on track to set up parenting workshops. Happy she was here. Monday's school board meeting was great. Dr. Schwartz shared about his first 6 months being here. The meeting was informative and can be watched online.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02am