

Travell Elementary School
Wednesday, January 29, 2020
General HSA Minutes

Attendance: D.Ryan, M. Leininger, D.Fishbein, S. Brogan, C. Morbelli, L. Anghelone, M. Romero, M. Agatep, J. Tesseyman, V. Lee, L. Henky, K. Nakasone

D. Ryan calls the meeting to order and welcomes Sheila Brogan from the board of education to present.

Sheila Brogan promotes Super Science Saturday which will be held Saturday, February 29th from 9am-1:30 pm at Ridgewood High School admission is FREE. The website is supersciencesaturday.org

Presenters at the event include: Ridgewood Police, EMS, Bergen Community College students, Ridgewood Fire Department, a drone flying club, meteorologist from MSNBC, Ridgewood High School students presenting on global water shortage, a presentation on vaping. The vaping presentation will include compelling information that will be great for kids. Classroom presentations on schedule of events and they will be announced through the day. Rep from Microsoft will be there showing new products, Professor Tennis is back using the principals of physics, members of the society of women engineers, maker space will be open, library will demonstrate 3D printing. Day starts at 9 and ends at 1:30 with the rocket launch. D.Ryan comments that it will be a great day and thanks S. Brogan for coming to the meeting.

D. Fishbein presents on the board referendum. A packet is passed out and this same information is available on the website.

-Travell Orchard and Hawes were built in early 60's and need massive upgrades.

-D.Fishbein believes acting now to take advantage of the debt service money offered by the state will be in the districts best interest. The state claims to give back 40% but Fishbein points out that the actual number will be 34%.

-Each school building has two boilers we were able to change out one in most buildings. Part of the referendum is changing out the others. Multiple boilers are in schools because they alternate and if one breaks there is a backup. On a really cold day both may need to run.

-Another part of the referendum is to digitize the unit ventilators to have better control in the building. We have a company to monitor and control and will be able to save if we digitize.

-The windows in this building are problematic. We would put insulated panels and functional windows in.

-M.Romero asks about the safety of the new windows which will be safety glass but not bullet proof.

-D. Fishbein points out that for the high school there will be new construction. New construction is different, the price is \$143/square foot and can get 34% of that. We are able to get this because we do qualify as having "unhoused" students.

-Regular Operating District grants were part of the last referendum. We received 8 million in ROD grants. We can bond for less with grant money. Business Administrators would rather do debt service than grants because of the bureaucracy. Debt service the money is agreed upon up front.

-The taxpayers getting 40% of the agreed upon amount will be on the ballot question despite the number being 34%.

-Right now there is no grant money.

-Projected costs are through the architect and their experience. We can't go to bid because we don't have an approved referendum.

-If board approves the question, there will be a referendum. If it passes the architects start detail drawings. These drawings go out to bid on street for 30 days . Bids are all opened in front of contractors at the same time on the same day. The best(lowest) 3 bids are reviewed by

the architect and then sent to our attorney. We hire a construction management firm besides the contractor and architect and if there is conflict that management firm will mediate. The management firm will oversee the entire project as the administration and board are not qualified to do so and its too time consuming on top of their other work.

-LAN associates is the architect. EPIC was used last time as construction manager. The board interviews the construction management firms and insists the manager they hire be at the interview and at the job site daily.

-Projected done in Sept 2024 if everything moves ahead.

-Any unspent money goes back and reduces the taxpayer debt. Part of each budget is debt payment.

-In the last referendum we were able to use money left to pay down debt.

-10% contingency put in for soft costs and any unknowns.

-L. Aghelone asks if there is a priority list. Fishbein replies steam and forced hot air are big items. Fishbein reiterates that the debt service aid is significant. We want to be prepared in case of emergencies.

-M. Romero asks how comfortable we are with LAN associates. Fishbein says very comfortable because we used them last time. They are very familiar with our buildings. We spent 100's of thousands of dollars on asbestos abatement and one of the other bidders hadn't even had that in their bid. He believes there will be more asbestos abatement in this project.

-L. Henky wants to know why everyone wasn't invited to Orchard meeting about the Orchard field soil. She asks how would Dr. Yankus know if there was a cancer cluster or not? Fishbein says he was referring to students as they attended Orchard not a long term trial.

-Henky asks if we can test every school field? D. Fishbein is not sure that is necessary. Haves was remediated when they did construction. Orchard used to be a coal ash dump. We purchased it in the 1950's. In the late 1990's the DEP did testing and some of the ash was only 5 inches from the surface. The board was asked to make it 18 inches. They brought in clean sand to mix with it. In the past it was considered clean soil. In 2007, the board checked our soil for pesticides and herbicides and there was PAH's in the soil. D. Fishbein is thanked for his time and leaves the meeting.

D. Ryan gives the president's report. The HSA purchased a new tiger's costume. He looks like Tony the Tiger.

-Tickets for Shrek will be sold on Porchlight website and link will be on eNews. Tickets are open to all families.

-Buy Auction tickets now because they will go up in price next week.

-BINGO night is this Friday 7-8pm in the gym.

Dr. L gives the principal report.

-The Instrumental concert was great.

- Spirit day celebrated Ira Travell. We read a book about persistence "What Lou Couldn't do". - The spelling bee on the 4th but if snowing on the 5th of February for those in the Spelling Bee club.

-Kindergarten registration coming up on 4th and 6th after school.

-K report cards go out 2/11

-Tracy and Feully are back. Mrs. Elkins is pregnant.

-RPD is coming on 2/5. To talk about internet safety for 4th and 5th graders.

-D.Pfeiffer the new guidance counselor is working with every grade.

-J. Cerbasi is working with all teachers and student's on grammar.

-Football Friday is Friday 1/31, wear your football jerseys.

- Green Travell Initiative being headed by Christine Malloy and Yishane Lee.

-At our last meeting Stacie Poelstra talked about the district and showed a graphic that is everywhere now. And Travell staff will talk about values we hold for education at our next faculty meeting.

-VP's report. L. Anghelone lets everyone know that Kerry Kraisor will chair Mayfair with a full committee. They met this past week and she's rolling with it.
-License applications are in for men's night and auction.
-M.Romero is doing a double check with the board of ed that all of our liability insurance is correct.
-International Expo just had a deadline for countries to let us know who would be participating. 9 countries to perform. 30 boards. Deadline on 2/14 for cookbook info, passports. Assembly is Friday, march 20th. Prize of four seats and cookbook donated to the auction.

Treasury Report is given by C. Morbelli. The HSA is currently right on budget. Profit to date is about \$13-14,000. The Bake sale did really well.

Enrichment visit is coming up. Candace Fleming is coming next Friday.

J. Tesseyman updates on community pass sales. Bagel Day has 40 signed up for Bagel day on 2/7. , Men's Night has 2 but it just went live.
-J. Tesseyman asks what the group thinks about continuing to use Fairway for SCRIP as they have declared to be going out of business. The group seems to be in consensus that we find a replacement store and look into Stew Leonard's and Uncle Giuseppe's.

L. Henky relays that she has found an alternate fundraiser while soliciting for auction. H&R Block offers a program that if you do your taxes there they will give \$25 to the school . D. Ryan says she will follow up with this.

D. Ryan thanks all in attendance. The meeting concludes at 8:50 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kelly Nakasone