**Byrd School HSA Meeting Minutes**

**January 22, 2018**

**8:45 a.m.**

**Approve Minutes from 11/16/17:**

Motion to approve minutes: Jessie Lipson

Second: Sara Mazin

**Treasurer’s Report**

* Checking – $52,222.00
* Savings - $10,838.61

**Board of Education Report**

* New Board members have been sworn in
* Working on budget for next year
  + There is 2% cap for budget increases year over year
* Tomorrow is next public meeting (1/23)
  + Discussing referendum for AC and other needs
* Byrd School
  + Mat for our playground -- have been trying to get this resolved
  + Property of school falls under Buildings and Grounds
  + Byrd bought the library smart board from HSA funds while other schools received the board from the BOE

**Dr. Weber’s Report**

* Principal’s Advisory committee – randomly selected 5th grade students
  + Serve as eyes and ears to improve school climate
  + Met with them yesterday; 8 kids, 4 boys and 4 girls, a mix of the two classes
  + Ideas about the playground – suggested swings but can’t have them (don’t have room, could only have 2 if they had them); also have suggestions for lower part of the playground
* Lunch activities have started for K-2, with parent volunteers
* Next Tuesday – whole school meets with artist, Cliff Mendelson, for Day in Clay. He will meet with everyone to discuss sculpture and art, and then he will meet with 3rd and 4th grade to make masks
* Schoology, replaces School Fusion
  + All teachers are on Schoology now
  + Rich Santos in technology is who to contact to get online
  + Does not affect Genesis
* PARCC – have not met participation target
  + It is parents’ decision whether to have their kids do it
  + Encouraging parents not to opt them out because they will have to take standardized tests through college; this is good practice
  + April 16-20, all three grades testing at same time, grades 3-5; make-ups are the following week
  + Tests start at 9am; kids have enough time to take the test
  + NJ took science assessment out of 4th grade and into 5th grade; this is a computer-based PARCC-like test, 5th graders taking it in May
* Byrd school report card for last year (they come out a year later)
  + Based on PARCC scores
  + Room for improvement in “chronic absenteeism”
  + When analyzed PARCC scores, discovered “data analysis and measurement” as area of weakness across the board from K-5; now on Fridays, have incorporated more work on this (weather graphs, charting how many kids like x vs. y, etc.)
  + Math needs to go into “math facts”; Everyday Math doesn’t do this
  + We have been using Everyday Math for ~10 years

**HSA Mission**

* The focus is on our children first, that is why we are all here
* Review of 2017 what HSA has accomplished:
  + Father/Daughter dance
  + Circus
  + 4th of July parade
  + Outdoor equipment for playground
  + School supplies program
  + Point of service system eliminating checks
  + Bagels/Merve’s for early dismissal days
  + Harlem Wizards
  + Changed Byrd Broadway
* Ideas for future
  + New sign in front of school
  + STEM activities for lunchtime activities
  + Work on renovating the outside
  + Putting a suggestion box out
* Members asked to volunteer favorite memories
  + Spring Market: gives opportunity for each child to do something they are passionate about
  + Celebration of 100th anniversary of Byrd school, 3 years ago; great community building
  + Movie Night and Field Day; incorporating parents/families
  + Harlem Wizards: looking for volunteers/chairs; this is a substantial fundraiser

**Committee Reports**

* Hot cocoa day – bought urns
* Bagel Day
* Pizza Day
* Lunchtime activities – outside as long as not windy and dry
* Byrd Broadway going well
* Mother/son dance on 2/9

**New Business**

* Family game night 2/23
* Bingo 3/9 – postponed/cancelled
* Book fair 3/14 setup, running March 15th and 16th
  + Theme is “Paws for Books”, dogs
  + Can donate books to the Library
  + Led by Sharon Scarpelli, Libby Deely, Sofia Chang
* Nominations
  + HSA Executive Board nomination submissions due to Nicole Hayward by 3/1
  + Discussion about process for nominating/electing new board members
  + Have to be at last meeting of the year to vote

Motion to adjourn: Nancy Bermack

Second: Sara Mazin