

# East Hills Middle School

## Parent Association Meeting

September 6, 2023

### Call to Order & Introduction of Members:

- Present: Kelly Stewart, Monica Maldonado, Lori Cowell, Mary Fiorini, Asha Pathiyadath, Anil Krishnan, Jocelyn Vlach, Brie Chambers, Heidi Nagy, Taylor Alexander, Jessica Russell
- Call to Order: President Monica Maldonado called the meeting to order at 9:37am

### Principals Report:

- Mr. Horvath introduced himself as the Principal of the school and presented a brief recap of the first few days of school. He provided dates of upcoming events that can also be found in the East Hills Connection newsletter that is emailed weekly and on the school's website. October 5<sup>th</sup> will be an online learning day for East Hills students only as the staff will be taking part in Leader in Me training that day. He discussed the Charger Care closet which contains clothing, school supplies, and hygiene items for students in need. He introduced several members of the staff that were present.
- Ms. Cortes, Mr. Leon, Mrs. Limpar and Mrs. Morgan were all present. They are the Guidance Counselors of the school. They are easily accessible and welcome parents to reach out with any issues they might have.
- Dr. McDonald was introduced and provided information on the National Junior Honor Society. Information about this organization can be found under the Activities tab on the school website. She is also in charge of the daily announcements and is requesting 48 hours' notice for any information that we would like to be included in the announcements.
- Mrs. Dennis was introduced as the school librarian and technology specialist. The children do not visit the library regularly as a specialist class like they did in elementary school. They will occasionally go during ELA or avid readers are welcome to visit more frequently to check out books. She briefly explained the Go Guardian software that is on all the student's Chromebooks. If your student has any issues with their Chromebook, please refer them to go see Mrs. Dennis in the library in the morning for help.
- Officer Alestas was introduced as the School Resource Officer. He is an officer of the Bethlehem Police Department and has an office in the school and is there every day during school hours.
- Mrs. Braun was introduced as the Assistant Principal. She discussed the Schoology and Registration Gateway sites. She also addressed the digital signage around the school and how pictures of the kids are displayed throughout the year on these monitors. She is responsible for putting together the EHMS Connections Newsletter and will email it to parents weekly to help keep them informed. She also will occasionally post on X (formerly known as Twitter) but will also try to include the pictures in the newsletter for anyone that doesn't follow social media.
- Mr. Tannous is also an Assistant Principal of the school. He talked about the Framework of Citizenship that all students and parents were required to sign at the beginning of the year. He also discussed the Safe to Say Something program that the students were told about. He reminded everyone that the parent drop-off and pick-up is all to take place on Chester Road. Also, a reminder that breakfast is free for all students this year.

### President/VP/Treasurer/Committee Reports:

- President's Report –
  - Monica welcomed Lori Cowell as the new Secretary.
  - We raised about \$200 profit from The Cup fundraiser in May and about \$500 from the Freefall fundraiser last year. There will be another Freefall fundraiser on September 27, 2023. The goal is to do a small fundraiser like this every month, and we would welcome any suggestions or ideas.

- Vice President's Report – no updates
- Secretary's Report – no updates
- Membership Report – no updates
- Committee Reports –
  - Charger Challenge – This is the biggest fundraiser of the year. Last year the profit was \$13,311 and we are looking to make a profit of \$19,000 this year. It will be held on October 20<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of October 23<sup>rd</sup>. A request for volunteers and water donations will be sent out closer to the event.
  - Hospitality – Kelly Stewart will be creating a sign up for donations for the school dance.
  - East Hills Open House will be on September 7<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.
  - The Book Fair will open September 7<sup>th</sup> and will run through September 15<sup>th</sup>.

New Business:

- The proposed 2023-2024 EHMS Parent Association budget was reviewed.

Open Discussion:

- n/a

Meeting adjourned at 10:42 am

Next Meeting is October 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.