

Home and School Meeting

September 15, 2025

In attendance:

Heather Reid, Vanessa Powell, Hillary Peach, SM, Mike Malysewich, Kara Jessop, Mitch Orsatti, Melanie McPhee, Natalia Gonzalez, Fazleena Nizam, Renée Massia, Claire Webber, Hillary Newkirk, Benjamin Garden, Justin Bennett, Diana Moscu, Ronald Claydon, Jackie Wright, Laura Malysewich, Ziya Sastimoglu, Sibel Durson Sastimoglu, Mary Van Impe, Steve Shapka, Nicole Gaasenbeek, Daniel Cichon, Shankar Nauaratnam, Vasuki Shankar, Caitlin Burgess, Kristina Cote, Michael Bianchi, Nikol Piskuric, Jon Cannon, Alida Wilson, Lisa Feinberg, Allison Graham, Shirley Andrews, Jennifer Hogan (principal), Sara Alves (vice-principal)

HSA Agenda (Nikol)

1. What does HAS Do?
2. Vote on new executive
3. Questions for the administration
4. First planning meeting will be at 7:30, after the school council meeting

What is the HSA? (Nikol)

- Who are we?
 - 2024-2025 Outgoing Executive: Nikol (President), Kristina (Vice-President), Mike (Treasurer), Caitlin (Communications), Hillary (Secretary)
 - Members at large: all the parent volunteers who helped make HSA events and initiatives possible
- How does it work?
 - Ontario federation of Home and School Associations -> provides our insurance
 - Every member of the HAS contributes \$20
- We organize and run events
 - Chalk and talk
 - Pumpkin hike
 - Skate and bake
 - Farewell fair
 - Staff appreciation lunch
- We fundraise
 - Stickers
 - Popcorn
 - Spirit wear
- We donate school supplies and equipment
 - Outdoor equipment
 - The Food 4 Kids \$1000 food/freezer
 - Logs
 - Will be installing a climber in the big yard in Oct/Nov 2025, and a balance beam in the kinderpen with plans to work towards an additional climber
- We subsidize class trips, extracurriculars and school events:
 - Art gallery
 - Warplane Heritage Museum
 - Westdale Theatre
 - Grade 5 Grad Trip
 - Art club and mural club
 - Heritage events
- A big thank you to Dr. Alves and Ms. Hogan for working in partnership with us through everything we have been able to do!

2025-2026 Executive Positions (Nikol)- All positions elected by acclimation

- President- Heather Reid
- Vice-president- Vanessa Powell
- Communications- Renee Massia
- Secretary- Hillary Peach
- Treasurer- Sarah Irwin

Questions for Admin (Nikol)

- What fundraisers are you planning? Which days of the week will they run?
 - Pizza on Wednesday, Cookies on Thursday, Valentine's day dance
- Can the leadership club create a plan for taking care of outdoor equipment?
 - HSA provided outdoor equipment, and it disappeared quickly
 - Last year they were passionate about sustainability
- When are reorgs going to happen? 2-3 weeks then it will be staff BBQ and open house
- What are the priorities for fundraising this year? Will be meeting with staff to determine their priorities and then will present fundraising for last year at the first School Council Meeting
- Cookie day- can we move to school cash online? Students use it as a teachable moment- math and leadership, that is why they prioritize cash. Can always contact the admin if a student has forgotten their toonie.
- Where is the admin in the process of developing a school improvement plan for 2025-2026 and what is the best way the School Council can provide input and support to that plan? It began last Wednesday at the board office and will have another session this Wednesday coming looking at operations. Will be prepared to share it at the HSA/School Council meeting.
- On the website is there a flow chart for how to raise concerns, is this posted online? If not Kara can forward and we can have it posted
- Is there a way to post something on the website that if there is an emergency, how do we arrange contact? Admin can look into a notice, you are always welcome to contact them directly
- Is there any way to make the parent update embedded in the email vs an attachment? The current system they use will not let them, but they have tried and can continue to look for solutions. As an alternative can we use the school website calendar as a replacement for the calendar in the newsletter. Parents can subscribe to the school website calendar and it will send notifications.
- Aftercare programs are currently very limited to get into- there are schools in the area that subsidize programs after school (extracurriculars)- something we can look into? Something we can look at the logistics of.

Planning meeting Started (Nikol)

- New executive introduction

Move to approve minutes from May 12, 2025- Nikol moves to approve, second by Natalia

2024-2025 School Year Budget (Mike)

- Will be spending a large portion on the equipment, but this is the representative budget that you can present to OFHSA- can be changed by the new exec at any time, but we have to have something to presented to them

Fall Fundraisers (Nikol)

- Popcorn
 - Kristina has already contacted Kasey, Westdale theatre is happy to continue as last year
 - Which day of the week?
 - Biweekly, maybe Tuesday? Shirley's husband might be available to take over from Kristina- can confer with him on which days will work well
 - Discussed Mondays- holiday dates?
 - When to accept orders?
 - Cash Online has made it much easier

- When is the first popcorn day?
 - Will get information prepped so we can send to School Cash Online
- COBS bread
 - Jackie will continue to run this year- can run up to 4 times a year as new model is 12 loaves of bread in 3 months
 - Do we combine COBS and popcorn email into one? Make a single SchoolCash online request so people can pay at the same time. Will try and arrange to have everything sent out together.
- Card Box
 - Buy a box of cards for \$35 (assortment) and HAS makes \$11
 - Low involvement beyond organizing distribution
 - Is it a big ask from parents when we are already fundraising so much? Yes, but if we are looking to fund the other playground equipment we will need to continue to offer bigger fundraisers. They are always optional.
- Spirit Wear
 - Need to find a new supplier
 - When to run this?
 - Justin- coordinate with McMaster proportional- can get contacts

Next meeting: dates will be sent out by the new HSA after discussion with School Council- will we continue to hold together?