

# ARSHSA General Meeting

November 17, 2020

## MINUTES

### Attendees:

- **ARIS Staff:** Mr. Carey, Ms. Krempasky, Ms. Villano
- **Executive Board:** Mona Desai (President), Christina Gonzalez (Vice President), Sonia Patel (Treasurer), Tiffany Neal (Secretary), Yolanda Rosa (Member-at-Large)
- **ARSHSA Members:**

### Mr. Carey updates:

- New marking period started 11/16, report cards coming out 11/19
- Some new students in hybrid instruction
- Went through student photos with both hybrid and virtual, there will be a makeup date in early December
- Teachers doing a great job teaching both hybrid and virtual
- Clubs and activities: Brochure coming out in about a week as a preview, will include about 10 clubs, dates, flipgrid about each club with club advisor. Will create a standard time for signups, it's first-come-first-serve. Clubs will start in January. Trying to maximize how many students can be in a club. We keep each club to 15-20 students to be more close-knit.
- Still taking nominations for teacher/educator of the year
- In a normal year, we have "WIN time" for extra time at the end of the day, and once a month it was for SEL. We don't have it now but it seems like it's needed.

### Teachers:

#### **Ms. Krempasky: 5<sup>th</sup> grade math and science**

- Kids are doing the best they can, we are giving them grace as well
- "Second chance learning", if students are below a certain percentage I will give them a chance to come to a Google Meet after school to work on the problems they had trouble with, they can earn extra points to add to the original assessment
- I use breakout rooms to help kids feel more comfortable interacting in small groups. It has helped some of the quieter students gain more confidence.

- In math we used to have only one assessment at the end of each chapter, now we have multiple assessments (one per topic).
- We remind them that at 1:30, the actual school day isn't technically over. On a normal school day they would be in school until almost 4:00 and then still have more homework. This year, homework is mostly just overflow from classwork that doesn't get finished.

### **Ms. Villano: 6<sup>th</sup> grade literacy**

- As a parent and as a teacher, one of the opportunities is for your child to learn how to advocate for themselves. Ask your kids to reach out to the teacher if they need help.
- We're here to support the students and the parents
- Ask students what's working, what's not working
- Do students/parents see detailed results of assessments so they can see where they made mistakes? Depending on the assessment, we do review with students. If parents want to see it, reach out to teacher and ask.
- Every week I learn something different that my students need
- Tried an afternoon "social hour" and the kids loved it
- In literacy, we have a range of points per marking period. Certain assignments have certain amount of points for them.
- Tell students not to stress about grades on Genesis!
- We are all about social and emotional learning, but we do still have to teach the academics.
- We don't give a lot of homework. Homework is for practicing what they did in class (not new material).

Parent comment:

Teachers should be mindful of students who may not feel comfortable speaking up or interacting in a virtual environment. This year is harder because it started virtual without the opportunity to build relationships in person.

### **ARSHSA Updates**

- Review minutes from last meeting
- Staff grants: Teachers and staff can join ARSHSA and have the opportunity to apply for grants. We have already funded 2 teachers for up to \$100, we can fund 18 more.
- Miss Chocolate/Otis fundraiser: Thanks to committee leads Alison Skobo and Kathy Holmlund and to all parents who supported the sale!

- Book Fair: \$175 in sales so far. Runs through this Sunday Nov. 22. Please support the school! Fall Book Fair raises “Scholastic dollars” to purchase Scholastic magazines that teachers use frequently
- STEM Summit update: This year the event will be virtual. Please fill out the survey that was e-mailed home to share feedback about what type of event you would like to see.
- Logo Wear: flyer will be going out by next week. Gear will be available to purchase through Community Pass, orders will be due December 1. Goal is to have the gear before winter break, but supplier can’t guarantee due to COVID. We will have grab-and-go distribution.
- 5th grade t-shirts: Every year, ARSHSA gives every 5th grader a t-shirt. This year it is delayed but we are working on it. Once they come in, we will have “grab-and-go” distribution. Perhaps don’t include the “Top Ten” list on the back since many things on it are in question this year.
- Yearbooks: We are still looking at options. We won’t have photos of in-school activities like in past years, another option is to ask parents for photos from virtual learning.
- Budget update: We raised \$1,860 from memberships and \$800 from “Invest in Your Child”. Membership is still open! Spread the word. We currently have only 155 members (most years closer to 300).