

# ARSHSA General Meeting - April 20, 2021

## MINUTES

### Attendees:

- **ARIS Staff:** Mr. Carey, Ms. Crowe, Ms. Cavaliere, Ms. Mendez, Ms. Scozzari
- **Executive Board:** Mona Desai (President), Christina Gonzalez (Vice President), Sonia Patel (Treasurer), Tiffany Neal (Secretary)
- **ARSHSA Members:** Anetta Marticek, Erin Kelly, P. Patel, Michele Amato, Melanie Chiodo, Ellen Edmonds, Patrick Szary, Tammy Phelan, Jodi Sachs

### Mr. Carey updates:

- We have welcomed back ~600 students in-person, including some new students who were previously all-virtual. ~500 students are still all-virtual.
- Soles4Souls: This is a student council initiative. Collecting lightly used shoes for donation, they can be re-soled and sent to developing countries, where residents resell the shoes to support their families. Collecting through May 10 in the foyer.
- Ed Camp: held several sessions, a chance to step back from purely academic work, connect around other areas of interest
- NJSLA state testing: No testing this spring; will likely happen in the early fall instead. How will this affect placement? NJSLA was a small factor in placement, so instead the other factors will be weighed more.
- REACH: If your child was in REACH in 4th grade, they will typically continue through 8th grade. If your child wasn't in REACH before ARIS, they look at students in 5th/6th to see if they should be in REACH.
- 5th grade families were invited to a livestream meeting April 29, with Mr. Carey and the district math and literacy supervisors, to explain plans for math and literacy placement. It will also be recorded.
- Dropoff and pickup can be busy, feel free to ask about how it works
- HMS orientation for 6th grade families: virtual presentation in late spring, hoping to have an open house at the end of summer

### Teachers:

#### Ms. Crowe (Grade 6 - Science)

- More students in school, feels more normal, students are excited to be there
- Staff is feeling more optimistic, enjoying having students in the classroom

### **Ms. Cavaliere (Special Ed)**

- Having more students in the building makes it feel more vibrant and like the Auten Road experience, very uplifting and positive
- Letting students go outside at break time
- For students who are staying virtual, it's cool to see the kids being masters of socializing and staying in touch even if they're still at home
- Kids have gotten the hang of making sure everyone feels included, even those doing virtual at home

### **ARIS Fun Day - Ms. Scozzari and Ms. Mendez**

- End of the year celebration for all ARIS students (tentative, still need final approval from superintendent)
- June 7-8 for 6th grade, June 10-11 for 5th grade (rain date the following week)
- Not quite a Carnival and not quite a Field Day
- Chance to connect, relax, and enjoy fun with classmates and teachers
- In-person: safe activities outside with music
- Virtual: Google Meet activities that students can choose (similar to Ed Camp)
- COVID-19 safety for in-person event:
  - About 80 students at a time on the field
  - Masks, social distancing
  - Equipment sanitized between groups
  - Hand sanitizer at each station and when rotating
- Will need 10-20 parent volunteers each day - coordinate with ARSHSA for parent volunteer signups
- Costs: requesting \$455 from ARSHSA for supplies
- Ideas for special activities for the virtual students?

### **ARSHSA Updates**

- ARIS Yearbook
  - Received 480 emails with photos! Sold 515+ yearbooks.
- Teacher Appreciation
  - Week of May 3 (not virtual Wednesday)
  - Plans might involve gift cards or grab-and-go meal
- Scholastic Book Fair
  - April 26 - May 9, look for email
- Logo Wear - Spring 2021
  - Orders are placed, stay tuned on delivery details

- Nominating Committee for ARSHSA Executive Board
  - Please see e-mail/FB for many open positions on the board, contact us with any questions
  - Open positions for many Committee Leads, especially HMS/ARIS discount card and Teacher Appreciation that need to be filled ASAP
- Dine In/Take Out: May 11-13 @ Super Sundaes, donating 20%. Working on a partnership in June with Simply Sweets
- Past Event Updates: Dine In/Take Out (March 16th @ Jersey Mike's/Smoothie King, April 17th @ The Landing)
- Budget
  - Expenses:
    - Installing another water bottle filling station in the front of building
    - 5 teacher grants this year
    - \$1,000 allocated to a 6th grade gift, similar to last year where we let 6th graders vote on a local nonprofit to donate as their class gift
  - Income:
    - Income of \$1,575 from Dine Outs so far! Thank you to Erin Kelly for organizing these great events
    - Continue to get new members, 195 members now (\$2,340 income)
    - \$1,109 in donations from "Invest in Your Child"
    - Spring Book Fair coming up next week, income will be taken as Scholastic dollars rather than cash
- Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 9, 2021 - APPROVED