

HSA General Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: Friday, April 4, 2025, 9am

Location: Central School All Purpose Room

Welcome

Superintendent's Report - Dr. Charleston

Dr. Charleston thanked everyone for the kind words upon his return from leave and shared the following updates:

- **Budget:**
 - The Board of Education will hold their public budget hearing at the May 4 meeting.
 - The budget includes a 3.88% tax increase, which is driven mainly by increases in health care costs and salary raises for staff.
 - The State of NJ provides 5% of funding for Glen Rock, and 95% comes from property taxes.
- **Capital and maintenance projects:**
 - The turf field renovation will start after graduation, and includes a new track and turf replacement; the press box will wait until next year.
 - We rebid to repair the stairs behind the high school, and accepted a bid; the project will start after graduation.
 - The district is in Year 2 of 3 years of sink replacements; we have only 2 left to do at Central.
 - We are in Year 2 of 3 years of repainting in the elementary schools, including the APR at Central.
- **Elementary class sectioning:**
 - The district will have 9 sections of Kindergarten (3 at Coleman and 2 each at Central, Hamilton, and Byrd).
 - The district has 160 kindergarteners registered so far, and we anticipate another 15-20. If we get more than 180, we'll add another section.
 - The district will have 9 sections of 1, 2 grades.
 - The district will have 10 sections of 3, 4, 5 grades.
- **Other topics:**
 - Dr. Charleston is hearing great things about the Mandarin class and teacher, from both staff and students.
 - "Give back day" (extra day off school since we did not use up all our snow days) – the Board will discuss this at the next meeting on April 7, and the decision will be announced by April 8. The proposal is that we will have the Friday before Memorial Day as an additional day with no school.

Principal's Report - Mrs. LaCroix

- **Upcoming dates:**
 - May 2: Spring concert
 - May 28: Kindergarten orientation
- **Space update:**
 - The Pre-K program is moving to space in the High School in Fall 2025.
 - Mrs. LaCroix is thinking about moving OT and PT to that space at Central; TBD.

- **Testing:**
 - State NJSLA (New Jersey Student Learning Assessments) testing is the week of May 12 for students in grades 3-5.
 - Mrs. LaCroix's letter went out via email today (4/4) with additional scheduling details. Contact the office if you did not receive it.
 - Testing will include 2 days of ELA testing and 3 days of math testing.
 - Testing starts first thing in the morning, so parents are encouraged to ensure their students are at school on time, well rested and fed so they can do their best work.
 - The tests are all computer based; kids are encouraged to practice typing, and there are resources available to assist at home.
- **Staffing** for next year: so far, we are not losing or gaining any staff.
- **Class placement for 2025-26:**
 - Class placement will begin after spring break.
 - Parents can expect an email from Mrs. LaCroix about class placement after spring break, giving information and the opportunity to ask any questions/provide any info about your child's placement.

Federated Secretary - Rebecca LoBello

- Please note, there is a **new date** for the next Federated meeting: Wednesday, May 21 at 9:30 at Byrd. (The original date was during NJSLA testing and had to be moved.)

Co-Presidents Central School HSA - Jenny Gartshteyn & Stephanie Chan

- Please note the **new date/time** for the last HSA General Meeting of the year: Thursday, June 5 at 7pm on Zoom
- **Committee Chair sign-ups** will open later this month (April) – keep an eye on the HSA Email Blast.
- **Open HSA Board positions** for next year:
 - Co-President
 - VP of Social
 - VP of Enrichment
 - VP of Communications
 - Secretary
 - The current board members are happy to meet/speak with you if you're interested to discuss what's involved! Email the individual board member or prescentralhsa@gmail.com if you're interested or would like to know more.

VP Communication – Kathy Yeung

- **International Night tickets:**
 - International Night tickets are currently sold out, but we will be re-opening sales this evening for 150 tickets.
 - Ambassadors, please reserve tickets for your family members – tickets are free, but reserving (buying) tickets will give us a head count and number of prizes to have available.
- **Field Day shirts** orders are available under the Sale tab until 4/11. There is no cost for these shirts – placing an order will ensure your child gets their preferred size.
- There is an **updated calendar** on [the HSA homepage](#), including some new dates.

Treasurer – Judy Choi

- There will be a Treasurer update at the next HSA meeting (final meeting of the year).

VP Enrichment – Jen Reinhold

- **Ongoing programs:**
 - Circus Week is coming to a close, with the 5th grade performance today.
 - Art Pop:
 - Jen has changed the process of distributing supplies to parent volunteers – bins are now available for volunteers pick up at Jen’s house, labeled and including all materials; when the class is over, parent volunteers can drop it off with Jen including any leftover materials.
 - This month’s Art Pop includes a display outside Mrs. Hahn’s room (near the front door) in a class case, displaying historical toys from the Historical Society.
- **Recent school-wide programs:**
 - STEM Fair - 80+ students!
 - Author Day - over 100 books!
 - Day in Clay (4th grade) – finished projects will be on display at the Art Show
- **Upcoming grade level programs:**
 - Grade 3 - Catapult: April 23
 - Grade 2 - Matter of Fact: April 29
 - Kindergarten - Weather Wizards: April 30
 - Grade 1 - Space, The Final Frontier: May 6
- **Upcoming school-wide programs:**
 - Teacher Appreciation Week: May 5-9
 - International Night: May 16
 - Art Show: May 28 – refreshments in the gym afterward, activities

VP Fundraising – Lindsay Forman

- **Upcoming events:**
 - Dine-to-Donate: mention Central School and they will donate a portion back to us:
 - Francesca's on Tuesday, April 22
 - Jalapeños on Tuesday, April 29
 - Mabel’s Labels available for all summer camp needs starting this Sunday, April 6 (buy on HSA website, receive 20% off, and the HSA gets a portion)
 - Potential Social/Fundraising combined event in June (TBD based on the company’s schedule) – more details forthcoming
- **Ongoing events:**
 - Spiritwear! Buy items for the summer!
 - Food Days - Pizza Day added to Thursday, April 24

VP Social/Hospitality – Danielle Fotopoulos

- **Past Events:**
 - Cupid's Chase: Free scavenger hunt in downtown Glen Rock
 - Embroidery Babes: Social/Fundraising joint event & mom's night out at Central School, it was a great event and thanks to all parents who participated
 - Family Bowling: Fun for the whole family! – annual event
- **Upcoming events:**
 - Central's very first International Night
 - May 16 (rain date May 21) in the evening outside at Central
 - Get your tickets in the blast this Sunday (150 tickets will be made available this evening)
 - Fun Fair is back on! Friday, June 6 at 6:30-8:30pm – tickets will be available in May
 - Another parent social/joint fundraising night out? Stay tuned!

Central Dance Committee update

- Flowers and booster sales end tonight (4/4)
- Room monitor signups come out on Sunday, 4/6 at 7pm
- Makeup photos will be on Monday, April 7 from 3:15-4pm at Image Art Studios
- A limited amount of additional tickets will go on sale on Monday, April 7

Class Parent Liaison - Kathryn Morris

- **Teacher Appreciation Week (May 5-9)**
 - Kathryn will email the class parents as we get closer with additional instructions
 - Breakfast will be on the first day, there will be a SignUp Genius sent out to volunteer
 - Hollywood VIP theme this year!
 - Info will go through the class parents and class parent liaisons, not in the HSA email blast, to keep the surprise for teachers
- **Reminder for Field Day t-shirts:**
 - Sign up online to get your kid's preferred size
 - Working on lunch arrangements

Q&A:

- **Photos at Field Day:**
 - A parent asked about ways to get additional photos of the students during Field Day beyond what is possible from the parents' viewing area.
 - Mrs. LaCroix offered that parent photographers could be permitted to take pictures for the yearbook, which would avoid the liability involved in accurately sorting out photos of students whose parents have given permission to share photos, vs. those who have not.
 - These permissions are also a factor in the photos we share in the HSA Email Blast, which cannot show students' faces unless parents give permission.