

HSL General Membership Meeting Minutes 9/17/2025

Attendees:

HSL Board Members: Lori Bignotti, Jen Kravitz, Alyssa Lehr, Kate Blitzstein, Rebecca Swords, Autumn Reed

HSL Members: Members in Attendance: 11

Meeting called to order by Alyssa Lehr at **7:04pm..**

Welcome:

- Alyssa welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Home & School League (HSL) Overview (Alyssa Lehr)

- Meetings will be every other month in the LES Library and we will typically have a guest speaker.
- Alyssa introduced the Home and School League Board Members.
- HSL is driven by volunteers and we're happy for any help you can give. Help can be in the form of supplies for parties, time with events, monetary donations, ideas, meeting attendance, etc. Any time/support you can give is appreciated.
- HSL provides events for staff and students, like assemblies, family fun events, book fairs, field trips, and so much more!
- Several committees need chairs or co-chairs due to current chairs aging out at the end of this school-year. Committees that need chairs/co-chairs are: Family Fun, Fundraising, Staff Appreciation, and Outdoor Classroom.
- In order to volunteer, you must complete your clearances through the school district. Clearances are good for 5 years and the district will notify you when they're expiring. Information for completing clearances can be found on the SFASD website at this link: <https://www.spring-ford.net/about-spring-ford/welcome-to-spring-ford/volunteer-information>. Any questions can be directed to the SFASD Volunteer Contact at 610-705-6083 or volunteerclearances@spring-ford.net.
- Please complete the HSL Survey to share your interest. Link to complete the survey has been included in the last few weekly emails.

May 2025 Minutes (Autumn Reed)

- A printout of the minutes from the last meeting, May 21, 2025, was handed out to each member in attendance.
- Minutes were reviewed, highlighting main topics discussed during that meeting.
- Kate Blitzstein motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Amy Caffarella.

Budget Review (Rebecca Swords)

- A printout of the budget was handed out to each member in attendance.
- Fiscal year runs July 1st - June 30th. Reviewed Income and Expenses that have occurred since July 1st.
- Income: Our first ever Family Fun Night fundraiser raised about \$1,200; our goal was \$1,500 so we are happy with this, especially since we had to spend around \$500 this first year to purchase games, etc.
- Expenses: A few noted expenses were the HSL Software, Student and Staff 2025-2026 T-Shirts, and Staff Appreciation Breakfast. Discussed money was donated to teachers to help decorate classrooms for the new school year.
- Explained we are currently at 53 paid HSL members with a goal of 100. It is \$20 per family and this donation greatly helps the HSL for the upcoming school year's events.
- Molly Storti motioned to approve the budget, seconded by Ashley Herr.

TAR form and Deposit Slip update and Vote

- Rebecca discussed the TAR form and Deposit Slip updates, explaining how we added mobile transfers as an option on both forms.
- HSL recently moved to Square as a payment method, as this is more transparent and easier to use than Venmo, cash, etc.
- Update was Approved by 5 current paid HSL members (Amy Caffarella, Jess Pierce, Ashley Herr, Molly Storti, and Stefanie Baker).

Committee Updates

- Basket Raffle (Alyssa Lehr): Emily Latshaw is the current chair. Basket raffle formerly was one of our largest fundraisers but as time has gone on, it has brought in less and less money due to many other organizations also holding basket raffles. We are looking at holding a different type of event in place of the basket raffle, such as adult trivia night or comedy night, where a smaller basket raffle would be included within another type of event. Considering March for this new event.
- Book Fair (Alyssa Lehr): Kristin Thomas, Aubrey Marvel, and Kristin Johnson are co-chairs. Fall Book Fair starts Monday, September 29 and runs through Wednesday, October 1. The Book Fair Family Night will be held on Monday, September 29th. Volunteers are needed to help run the Book Fair and the Signup Link can be found in the HSL weekly email.
- Dine Out Nights (Alyssa Lehr): Theresa Stewart is the current chair. As of right now, there are no upcoming dine outs for September or October, but we are working on adding some soon.
- Family Fun (Alyssa Lehr): Chair needed. Our first ever Family Fun Night seemed to be a hit and we plan on doing something similar next year. Other Family Fun events planned include a Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 18th and an End of Year Dance held in May. If anyone is interested in helping with these events, please reach out to a Board member.
- Fundraising (Autumn Reed): Autumn is the current chair but is looking for a co-chair. We are trying to do experiences as fundraisers this year rather than selling items. However, we do have new Spirit Wear items (which were shown at the meeting), such as a Limerick Minecraft shirt, a Limerick Era shirt, Limerick/Spring Ford blankets and hats, and a few Spring Ford ornaments are left. If anyone is interested in helping with fundraising, or if anyone has any fundraising ideas, please reach out to Autumn Reed at a.l.merrifield@gmail.com
- Holiday Shop (Alyssa Lehr): Alyssa and Emily Latshaw are the current chairs. Holiday Shop is scheduled for December 8-12. Very happy with the vendor we used last year and will use again this year. A new chairperson would be greatly appreciated.
- Kids Bingo (Alyssa Lehr): Susan is the current chair. A popular, free event for families that we do usually in both the winter and springtime. Dates have not been set yet for this year.
- Outdoor Classroom (Alyssa Lehr and Dr. Bignotti): We are currently looking for a chair. Dr. Bignotti explained the Staff Raffle which benefits the Outdoor Classroom; the Staff Raffle will run from Monday, October 13 and end Saturday, October 18th at our Trunk or Treat event. Staff raffle prizes this year will be "experiences", such as lunch with a staff member, science experiments with Dr. Bignotti, pancake breakfast, etc. A committee member showed interest in becoming Chair for this committee.
- School Store (Amy Caffarella): Amy explained how this year we are consolidating the School Store to once every other month. The first School Store is this Friday, September 19th. We have a beautiful new School Store cart! Volunteers are still needed and can find the signup link on the HSL weekly email.
- Staff Appreciation (Alyssa Lehr): We are currently looking for a chair. HSL supplied snacks and drinks for the first Staff Meeting in August, we supplied a Breakfast Cart for the staff the first week of school, and we will be donating dinner from Capriotti's to the staff in November during conferences. We also do a Staff Appreciation week in May.
- Yearbook (Kate Blitzstein): Kate is the current chair. We use yearbook sales as a fundraiser. 10% discount is available if you order before September 30.

Guest Speakers

Dr. Lori Bignotti, Principal at Limerick Elementary.

-Dr. Bignotti introduced the new staff members of LES:

Alice Kang, AM Kindergarten teacher, who will be going on maternity leave in October, and then Meaghan McLuckie will take over.

Brianna Lawson, FTS for 2nd Grade

Katie O'Callaghan, Full Day Kindergarten teacher

Reece Knasiak and Morgan Salazar, Instructional Assistants with Mrs. Storti's class

Krista Beitler, FTS for 3rd Grade

-Dr. Bignotti shared information about her past teaching career; she taught for 25 years (at Catholic, Private, and Public Schools), and has been principal at LES for the last 8 years.

-Per Dr. Bignotti, elementary school should be the best years of our children's lives, and if they are not for any reason, she would like you to reach out.

Mrs. Jen Kravitz, First Grade Teacher at LES and HSL Teacher Representative

-Mrs. Kravitz first thanked the HSL Board and HSL members, saying how much the entire LES staff appreciates all that we do.

-Mrs. Kravitz is in her 31st year in the Spring Ford school district.

Upcoming Events:

September 19th: School Store

September 23rd: No School

September 29th-October 1st: Fall Book Fair

September 29th: Fall Book Fair Family Night

October 2nd: No School

October 13th-18th: Staff Raffle Collected

October 18th: Outdoor Classroom Trunk or Treat

October 20th: No School

October 31st: Halloween Parade and Classroom Parties

November 4th: No School

November 12th: Next Home & School League Meeting

Call to Adjourn: Kate Blitzstein motioned, seconded by Ashley Herr.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:52pm.