



Learning Knows No Bounds

Getting to Know Your School Board

Fall 2017

As the leaves on the trees begin to change, signaling the start of Fall, our students have completed their first quarter and our school year is in full swing. This inaugural newsletter represents what will be a quarterly update from me on the happenings and activity by your school board members. While board member Dave Ryan and I try to meet with staff several times a year, we hope this newsletter will be an additional helpful means of communication between the HAST community and the school board.

Some highlights of activity and participation of your school board since the close of the 2016-2017 school year in June include:

- Attendance at monthly board meetings (Our regular meetings are the 3rd Thursday of the month beginning at 4:00 P.M. and all meetings are open to the public.)
- The Personnel Committee met on several occasions to complete the annual evaluation of Dr. Egan. The committee also vetted and recommended three new board members: Student Daliz Suarez, Marty Wielgos, replacing Howard Cohen and Monica Rubio, replacing Sheldon Cutler. (The personnel committee is chaired by

Mark McLaughlin. Owana Miller and Janet Venecz also sit on this committee. I also attended those meetings.)

- The Finance Committee held their first meeting of the year and met with a group of HAST teachers regarding their HAST Compensation Model proposal. It was a long productive meeting and we look forward to working together as we start to formulate the 2018-2019 budget. (The finance committee is chaired by Heather Garay. Board Members Gus Lopez, Monica Rubio and Marty Wielgos also sit on this committee. I also attended this meeting.)**
- The Fundraising Committee is chaired by Dave Ryan and includes Board Members Lori Lambert, Owana Miller, Mira Projovic, Daliz Suarez and Anne Herbert. They have set the date for the 3rd Annual HAST Talent Show for Friday, April 20, 2018. Watch for further details on this great event.**
- Lori Lambert, Dave Ryan and I attended the Teacher Welcome Breakfast, and I was able to greet all the students on the first day of class. I think I made it to all classrooms that day!!**
- Gus Lopez, Anne Herbert, Lori Lambert and Mira Projovic attended various events at HAST including the Fall Open House, The Taste of HAST, Car Wash for the Soccer Team and 1st Quarter Parent Teacher conferences.**
- Mira Projovic and Janet Venecz made monetary donations for various HAST fundraisers.**
- I spoke with the 8th grade class on career day.**
- Dave Ryan and I have both has the opportunity to meet with Dr. Amy McCormack, the new President of Calumet College, regarding HAST and the renewal of our charter.**
- The School Board will once again host the HAST holiday social on Saturday, December 16th. Mark your calendars and watch for your formal invitation!**

Finally, while all of our activities have value, nothing is as important as the work you do every day. You are the heart and soul of HAST. You do the heavy lifting and hard work every day to make us great. I know I speak for all board members when I say that your hard

work is very much appreciated by the board, parents and most importantly by your students. The young lives you touch today will have ripple effects in the years to come. Your dedication is recognized in so many different ways but perhaps the most rewarding was the recent announcement of the HAST grade of B!!!! Like the proud parent of a student who brings home an impressive report card, the board is beaming with pride and congratulates you all on a job well done!!!

Kris Sakelaris

HAST Board President