



Congratulations Class of 2018

Spring 2018

By time this newsletter reaches you, we will have already celebrated another graduating class from HAST. Each graduation at HAST is unique, as it is student lead and directed. This year's theme was the past, the present and the future. I was tasked with the "future" portion of the program. While the space here does not allow me to share all that I said, I will share with you now the closing portion of my remarks.

"Louise Joy Brown was the first of more than six and half million and counting...She was the end result of technology in a petri dish...She was the first test tube baby to be born. Her birth forty years ago was the direct result of someone imagining the unattainable and then working years to make that vision into a reality. While I cannot predict specifically what your future will hold, I can say with reasonable certainty that you will witness many firsts in your lifetime. I believe HAST has prepared you well for the 21st Century and I cannot wait to see you dream what today seems impossible and then turn that dream into a reality. Tonight you walked into HAST for the last time as a student here, and shortly you will leave as a high school graduate and start your first chapter of your own unique future. Celebrate your accomplishments with your friends and family tonight and then tomorrow begin to fill the world around you with your knowledge, creativity and heart! You are the shining beacon of trailblazers that will lead us all into the future. Congratulations Class of 2018!"

Some highlights of activity and participation of your school board members since the Winter newsletter 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 Finance Committee has held several meetings and has worked with the HAST Compensation Committee to finalize the HAST Compensation Model that was approved by the full board as part of the 2018-2019 school budget. In addition, the full board has approved a new stipend plan as well as a Sick Day Contract Amendment. Kudos to the HAST Compensation Committee for all of their hard work as well as the school board members who serve on the Finance Committee. (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 these meetings.)**

- The Fundraising Committee is chaired by Dave Ryan and includes Board Members Lori Lambert, Owana Miller, Mira Projovic, Daliz Suarez and Anne Herbert. The committee worked tirelessly on the tailgate cookout held prior to the 3rd Annual HAST Talent Show held on Friday, April 20, 2018. I am happy to report that with the exception of only 1 board member, the entire board attended our tailgate cookout. Our school board attorney, Kevin Smith was also in attendance. Our profit, with donations and sponsorships, was over \$4,000.00.
- The Personnel Committee has received the survey monkey results and will be scheduling a meeting with Dr. Egan for his annual evaluation. (The Personnel Committee is chaired by Janet Venecz. Africa Tarver and Owana Miller are also committee members).
- As the school year closes, our Student Board Member, Daliz Suarez will be leaving the board as her term ends. We thank her for her service this year and wish her the best as she begins college.
- Marty Wielgos and I represented the Board at the 6th grade lottery drawing in February.
- Marty Wielgos continues to work with Eric Speer to raise funds for our athletic department.
- Heather Garay, Dave Ryan, Janet Venecz, Mira Projovic and I all made monetary donations to HAST this Spring.
- Marty Wielgos, Africa Tarver, Lori Lambert, Janet Venecz and I all attended the PLTW presentation by senior students.
- I again organized the Indiana Court of Appeals live oral argument that took place at HAST on March 19th.
- Ann Herbert, Gus Lopez, Lori Lambert, Mira Projovic, Owana Miller, Marty Wielgos all attended the high school graduation ceremony.
- Heather Garay assisted with the procedural requirements of placing HAST banners on Hohman Avenue.
- Mira Projovic attended the HAST prom and intern dinner.
- On April 17th, Gus Lopez attended the My School Choice Community Engagement Event.
- Dave Ryan, Dr. Egan and I met with Patrick Maloney, CEO for Franciscan Alliance Hospital to discuss possible partnerships.

- Dr. Egan and I meet with Kelly from Arcelor Mittal to discuss the grant HAST received and the expansion of the PLTW program to the middle school.

As you can see, we have all had a pretty busy Spring! Our Board will continue to work through the summer as we plan to have several work sessions to begin to think about when or if we should move toward HAST 2.0. We will examine what we think we do well, where we think we can improve and what we want HAST to look like in the future. Dr. Egan has already held an opening dialogue with all staff and he will share your thoughts with the Board this summer. HAST 2.0 is a work in progress and this summer will only be the first steps in attempting to envision what our future might look like. There will be numerous opportunities for all stakeholders to contribute towards what will likely be a lengthy process before any decisions and/or conclusions will be reached. I know I speak for the entire Board when I say we value your input and look forward to continuing to work with you. Together we can accomplish great things for HAST. Have a wonderful summer!!!

Kris Sakelaris

HAST Board President