

Mendham Township Home and School Association
2008-2009
Programs/Fundraisers

Back to School Luncheon

The HSA provides a tasty and fun luncheon for the teachers, administrators, bus drivers, custodians and staff to kickoff the new school year. Organization begins in the summer to prepare for this wonderful event. All our wonderful parent volunteers help make this growing event successful.

First Week of School Greeters

As your children get off the bus the first week of school, a group of parent volunteers are there to help guide them and get them to their new classrooms.

Room Parents and Grade Parents

Interested parents volunteer to be room parents and grade parents every year. These parents they are asked to be responsible for a multitude of tasks throughout the year. They organize parties, make phone calls, chaperone, make up the Strawberry Festival baskets, organize class gifts etc. It is a great way to be involved.

School Buddies

This program helps new families moving into our school district. Current students that are interested in becoming a buddy are matched with a new student when they enroll in our school. Our buddy program has been successful in helping familiarize new students with their new environment

Cultural Arts

This program provides our children with exposure to authors, musicians, plays and a variety of other cultural events funded through the generosity of the families in our community when they support our fundraisers. These performances enable the children to experience enjoyable and educational programs which enhance and supplement school curriculum.

Publicity

During the year there are many events that the children participate in. We love to get photos into the newspaper whenever we can. The children love seeing their pictures in the paper and on bulletin boards throughout the building.

Library Volunteers

Our parents volunteer to shelve, check in/out books and help our Librarian in various ways. The children love seeing their parents working in the library!

School Directory

Our School Directory provides a wonderful resource of names and numbers for families in our district. All registered H.S.A families receive an updated directory as a benefit of H.S.A membership. This publication includes class lists and has become an item you cannot live without.

Beautification Team

This talented group of parents works throughout the year to provide creative, seasonal and festive touches to the schools. Everyone notices, from the first time they enter the schools, the well maintained planters. That creativity overflows onto the bulletin boards and lobbies. The personal and creative touches are appreciated by all, especially by the children.

Parent Network

A program which provides a positive forum in which key topics are addressed to reflect parent questions, concerns or interests through a series of presentations by either teachers, administration, the child study team or outside consultants. It is also a wonderful opportunity for parents to assist each other in understanding the changes occurring in our children at each level through discussion and shared experiences.

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Technology Whiz

As we move toward a more automated environment in the H.S.A., people with expertise in Quicken, Excel, Access, Lotus Notes, and web postings help guide us through the technology.

Hospitality

We provide delicious snacks at our many meetings throughout the year. These items are donated by volunteers who have made our meetings special with their delicious items.

Gift Wrap

Every September, we hold our gift wrap sale. The proceeds from this fundraiser go directly to the Cultural Arts Program. You can buy enough gift wrap for the whole year and continue to purchase throughout the year. The H.S.A receives 50% of every purchase which then helps us provide our children with unique cultural events.

Box Tops and Soup Labels

We collect box tops and Campbell Soup Labels throughout the year. The money and gifts earned are used to fund/support the various programs our H.S.A implements to throughout the school year.

Book Fair

The H.S.A brings book fairs to both our Middle and Elementary School every year. Our committee arranges for a publishing company to provide a wide array of books that appeal to both children and parents. The fair is organized and staffed by parents and book purchases raise money that is used to purchase new books for our libraries, fund author visits to our schools, and generally support the libraries.

Table Top Luncheon

This event has become a fast favorite. Attendees enjoy a delicious meal, the company of friends and maybe even win an item or two. The invitation is open to come and decorate a table. Anyone can do it! The proceeds from this event are used to fund/support the various programs our H.S.A implements to throughout the school year.

Colonial Craft Day

This very special day is a wonderful experience for 4th graders. Everyone comes dressed in period costumes and participates in a full range of activities from the colonial era. This enhances the 4th grade curriculum of American History. This day is filled with history, games, crafts, and more.

Strawberry Festival

This wonderful, fun filled event is a great day for the children and their parents. Volunteers run the event that is filled with games, prizes, crafts, food, basket auction, along with hair and nail painting. The money raised from this event funds the classroom/school gifts we provide to the Middle and Elementary School each year.

Scholarship Committee

Every year, the H.S.A. recognizes outstanding 8th Grade students who attend the Middle School. These students are chosen by the teachers and the H.S.A. presents a savings bond to the recipients. We also provide 2 scholarships to graduating seniors from Mendham High School who have gone through the Mendham Township school district. This committee reviews applications in May and scholarships are awarded during the High School Graduation Ceremony.

School Toolbox

This program provides an attractive alternative to shopping for school supplies during the summer months. School Supply Order forms are distributed prior to the end of the school year. Parents simply return the form with payment and their children's supplies will be

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delivered before summer (Middle School) or will be waiting for them when they return to school in the Fall. School supply shopping could not get any easier.

Spring Musical

The Middle School would not be able to put on this spectacular production without the help of many parent volunteers. The efforts of all the parents involved are coordinated through by what is known in show biz as the "Front House Manager". The parent that takes on the role of the "House Manager" works closely with our very talented student actors, directors, school staff and parents to ensure the best possible show.

Get Out the Vote

The H.S.A plays an integral role in keeping our school community informed during School Budget and School Board Elections. Our goal is to increase voter awareness and participation. A communication strategy has been developed and creative programs are implemented to rally voters in our school community.

Teacher and Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Week

Our wonderful volunteers make this a special week for all teachers, administrators and staff. We provide "surprises" each morning and both schools have a delicious luncheon served to them as a thank you from the parents.

Sunshine Committee

This committee is run by volunteers who will make meals, bake items, drive people and help out whenever there is a family in our school community in need of our help.

Spirit Wear

Two to three times during the school year, logo clothing is **made available on-line for purchase**. **The Spirit Wear coordinator works with Leisure Sports to choose the items for each sale and has them** posted on the web page. In addition, the coordinator is responsible for sorting and distributing the items when they arrive. Spirit Wear is sold at cost, and is intended to be a "morale"-raiser rather than a "fund"-raiser.

Emergency Phone Chain

An emergency phone chain is in place in our elementary school. Room Parents assist our School Administrators by activating the phone chain and contact parents in case of an emergency that might occur during the school day.

Classroom/School Gifts

The H.S.A. uses money raised through our fundraisers to fulfill teacher requests for new items to supplement the curriculum each year. We also purchase items that are more specific to the schools' needs. Past examples of school gifts include the new playground equipment, gym mats, and trees for Kindergarten at the Elementary School, and the lighting and sound systems, soft seating for the Media Center, and Sport Court at the Middle School.

Welcome Packet

We provide a welcome packet to new families moving into the school district during the school year. We help acquaint new families with our school system and the H.S.A.

Various Fundraising

During the year we have a variety of other fundraisers. These fundraisers support our many programs and purchases for the school throughout the year, and generally have a specific purpose. The Buy-A-Brick program to help fund Bulldog Park at the Middle School is one example.