



Meeting Minutes
7:00 pm, Monday, October 5, 2026

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. Co-Presidents Report:**
 - a. Open Positions & board openings for next year
 - i. Co-President
 - ii. Co-Treasurer
 - b. Sign Up Genius
 - i. All events for the year are active
 - c. Email Issues
 - i. Forwarding issues with our email system are making many emails bounce back. If you have emailed us and not gotten a reply, try to speak to any board member you find at school
 - d. Translation, social media, Virtual Backpack reminders
 - i. Remember to leave time for translation and format social media submissions properly
 - ii. Remember to be respectful of the webmaster and his time- leave time for requests. His only role is to maintain website operations.
 - e. HSA Demarest WhatsApp - QR codes are available to scan to join your grades what's app chat. Reviewed Community Guidelines which are also in each chat.
 - f. Field Day Class parents are asked to serve as moderators in their class chat
4th & 6th grade QR codes are switched
- IV. Treasurer's Report**
 - a. Account Balances:
 - a. LGCCC: \$2,641.44
 - b. Primary Checking: \$80,105.27
 - c. HSA Savings: \$25,617.36
 - d. Playground Savings: \$34,723.20
- V. Secretary's Report**
- VI. Board of Education Representative's Report- Kasey Dudley (stepped in for Mrs. Greene)**
 - a. Lunch applications went out. These need to be submitted each year, please return.
 - b. SEPAC meeting will be 10.6 at 6pm, virtually.
 - c. Hispanic Heritage month is being celebrated throughout the district
 - d. Sandy Hook "Start with Hello" week was celebrated throughout the district again
 - e. Back to School Night was well attended- thank you everyone for your involvement
 - f. October is Principal's Appreciation Month- we appreciate you, Mr. Sullivan!
 - g. Club Fair at BHM was a great success where students found their people
 - h. Safety guidelines for Halloween are on the BOE website
 - i. Next BOW meeting is 10.13.26
 - j. New school photo vendor this year was the result of complaints from parents and staff about last year's vendor
- VII. Principal's Report- Mr. Sullivan**
 - a. October is off to a great start at Demarest!
 - b. Today, we had our Elementary Superintendent Roundtable discussion, in which Superintendent Fleres met with representatives from across grades 4-6 to obtain



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feedback on how he can help Demarest. Our ABA students took a trip to Turtleback Zoo today and it was a great success! This was also the first day of our First Grade Dance Program. Thank you, HSA for sponsoring this wonderful opportunity.

- c. We look forward to some exciting events this month. On Friday, we will have our HSA-sponsored Roots of Puerto Rican Music Assembly for all grades. Schools will be closed on Monday for Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day. The Fall Social/Trunk or Treat will be on Friday, October 16 and the Pumpkin Patch will be on October 21.
- d. The Halloween Parade and Class Parties will be held on Friday, October 30th. I will send an email out regarding Halloween protocols and parade information.

VIII. Teacher's Report – Ms. Pontoriero

- a. Art
 - i. Art Show- May 12 at BMS. 1-6 grades from all 8 schools in the district
 - ii. As many 1-5 students as possible are featured. All 6th graders have at least 1 piece in the show
 - iii. Legacy Tile – students vote on student submitted designs. Winning design works with Ms. Pontoriero to create. All students sign and it goes in the cafeteria ceiling.
- b. Music
 - i. Winter Concert- 1st & 2nd grades, 5th & 6th grade chorus, and 6th grade band
 - 1. School performance 10am, Family performance 2pm
 - ii. Spring Concert- 3rd & 4th grades, 5th & 6th grade chorus, and 5th & 6th grade band
- c. K-Kids with Mrs. Klein
 - i. Begins Tuesday, 10.6.26 with 5th & 6th graders. Will meet on Tuesdays going forward
 - ii. Sock-tober is up and running
 - 1. Collecting new youth and adult socks to be donated to shelters
- d. Green Team- Mr. Fries & Mrs. Tierney
 - i. Continuing Trex Recycling Program
 - 1. Collecting clean, stretchy plastic film, plastic bags, bubble wrap, etc
 - 2. 250lbs in a quarter enters us to win prizes for the school
 - 3. Quarters are July-Sept. Oct-Dec, Jan-Mar, & Apr-June

IX. Committee Chairperson's Reports

- a. Pumpkin Patch- Wednesday 10/21, rain date of 10/22. Volunteer slots are up on sign up genius. An email will be sent to volunteers the week of the event with information needed for the event. Property Services is a local vendor (Broughton) who we procure pumpkins through.
- b. Class Parents: Class parent meeting was held tonight prior to the HSA meeting, all class parents who are approved, have received the email confirming their party and should have attended the meeting tonight.
 - i. 10.30 is the Halloween party. Email teachers to arrange time for the party and get approval on activities and snacks. Then submitted labels for all food for approval to the nurse
 - ii. Dues must be paid to remain eligible as class parent
- c. Kids Tricky Tray- 11.13- Friday evening in the gym
 - i. Flyer will be coming home soon. Donations are needed for prizes (approximately \$10 items). Gift cards are also welcome, cash too and the committee will shop. We are targeting 100 prizes. \$1 consolation prize items are also needed.



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- ii. Please bring donations to the main office. If it is wrapped in clear cellophane, it would be incredible
 - iii. Please keep in mind that prizes should be appropriate for our school population- children grades K-6. Not children older or younger than those in our school.
- d. Fall Social – 10.16.26
 - i. Candy Monsters are out! 2 in the main office and 1 in the library. We will be collecting candy from 10/5 - 10/16. Families should label all candy with teacher's name, so their class gets credit- class with the most donations gets an ice pop party. Last year additional candy had to be purchased by the HSA hopefully we can avoid that by getting enough donations (plus cider and snacks for sale).
 - ii. Volunteers needed- looking for about 10 more volunteers to set up a trunk or table. About 5 -10 more volunteers to assist with running the event.
 - iii. There will be costume and trunk contests
 - iv. Flyers came home today- 1 QR code to buy tickets, 1 to sign up to do a trunk. If you decorate your trunk you enter for free
 - v. Sensory items will be considered for ABA children
 - vi. Haunted Hallway and Scavenger Hunt
- e. Membership
 - i. 207 registered members of the HAS and counting!
- f. Spirit Wear
 - i. So far has made \$997 over 105 orders
- g. Sixth Grade
 - i. Membership: All 6th grade parents are encouraged to become members of the HSA. The benefits include: the class dance, T-shirt, yearbook breakfast, and class trip discount.
 - ii. Car Wash and Clothing Drive + Bengal Brews: Thank you to everyone that supported the Class of 2027 on Saturday, October 3rd. We raised \$1,865.15 on the car wash and Bengal Brews. The amount raised on the clothing drive is forthcoming.
 - iii. 6th Grade Hoodies: Hoodies are currently on sale through Wednesday, October 7th. They are priced at \$35 per sweatshirt. 6th grade families in need of assistance should contact Ms. Beesley.
 - iv. Yearbook Photos: The deadline is quickly approaching for submission of your photos. Submit to: Demarest6thgrade2027@gmail.com
 - v. October 20-One baby picture, Virtual learning and car wash pictures
 - vi. November 20-Group photos from any grade level from Demarest events
 - vii. Coming soon: 6th grade 50/50 raffle
- h. Community Service
 - i. **Assistance**-If you need financial assistance for sixth grade sweatshirt or any other needs, please reach out to Ms. Beesley at jbeesley@bloomfield.k12.nj. Assistance will be provided based on need and availability from the HSA Community Fund.
 - ii. **Halloween Costume Drive & Shop:** Thank you to Ally for giving the idea and helping to organize our first Halloween Costume drive and exchange. Many families took a lot of the costumes, but we also received some more. Get ready



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to shop for some FREE costumes on Thursday right after-school in the black top. We are working on another collection after Halloween.

- iii. **Gently Used Spirit Wear:** Start to look for your gently used spirit wear to donate for our upcoming spirit wear drive! Donations can be brought to the front office.

- i. **Mini Fundraising**

- i. Angelo's made \$150 last month
 - ii. No October fundraiser. November 5&6- Soar & Bounce will donate 20% of sales to us. Show flyer or social media post. December- Nothing Bundt Cakes. January- parents night out. April- Shoot Photography. May- Penny Wars

- j. **Basketball Grades 4-6**

- i. Registration is open through 10.30. Pay all through Cheddar Up and need to show insurance cards
 - ii. Games start in January and are on Saturdays.
 - iii. Coaches are needed- 4th grade girls & 5th grade boys teams are in jeopardy of being cancelled if we don't find a coach
 - iv. Teams over 20 people will be split into 2

- k. **Beautification**

- i. Beautification day 10.17 9am – 12pm to clean up the school as part of townwide clean up. Cleaning up garbage and weeding. Tools will be provided by the town

- l. **Programs**

- i. October- Puerto Rican parade and salsa lessons, November- Step Up, and Up and Stop Bullying, December- Astronomy or Magic. Open to Suggestions.

- m. **Pep Squad**

- i. Practice this Friday, 10.9
 - ii. Will dance at Fall Social & Halloween Parade- wear costumes
 - iii. Shirts, Jackets, and Bows are coming
 - iv. Need volunteers to help with handing out costumes, basketball pep rally assistance, during any practices, giving out candy at Fall Social, etc.

- n. **Fundraising**

- i. Purpose of this committee is to raise funds for all HSA programs and updating the playground. Attention will be paid to making it more ABA friendly.
 - ii. This spring will be the first Bengal Carnival & Food Truck Festival
 - 1. Volunteers are needed including vendors, planning, assisting at the event- ticket taking, face painting, music, etc. Anything you can contribute to make this event a success would help!

- o. **Community Kickball**

- i. \$84.75 vendors + \$27 snacks = \$111.75 total

X. Old Business

XI. New Business

XII. Announcements

- a. Make Up / Retake Day for School Photos is 11.11.26
 - b. November meeting will be a remote meeting. A zoom link will be sent out.

XIII. Adjournment



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DEMAREST
HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION



FOLLOW US!

STAY UPDATED ON UPCOMING EVENTS AND THE LATEST DEMAREST SCHOOL NEWS



FACEBOOK



WEBSITE



INSTAGRAM

SIGN UP GENIUS QR Code

For All Demarest Volunteering Opportunities

