



Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026

7:00 pm

In person @ Hillcrest Academy

## HAHSA meeting

**Attendees:** Andrea Chountoumadis, Bianca Bankley, Brandie Turpin, Catherine Kapogiannatos, Christina Roumeliotis, Debbie Psilos, Elena Legatos, Evelyn Lounidakis, Jessica Jarrett, Karine De Andrade, Kassandra Theodorakopoulos, Katerina Georgalos, Katherine Morency-Jarvis, Liana Mentone, Liza Dodd, Maria Almeida, Maria Venieris, Niki Kallinteris, Roula Stathakis, Saherish Hussain, Sindu Gunaratnam, Susana Van der Veen, Tania Creswell, Tanya Barr

**Guests:** Mme. Amanda, Mme. Gosselin

**Absences:** Amy Sara, Elaine Dubé, Jessica Bornstein, Josie Milazzo, Kelly Krassakopoulos, Kosta Zambanis, Michael-Jordan Kriaris, Nicoletta Psihogios, Patrick Cristofaro, Petroula Giannios, Shannon Capstick, Stella Skouloudakis

### *Minutes*

|                                             |                                           |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Agenda item:</b> 1. <i>Call to Order</i> | <b>Presenter:</b> Catherine Kapogiannatos |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|

Catherine Kapogiannatos called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

|                                                  |                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Agenda item:</b> 2. <i>Approval of Agenda</i> | <b>Presenter:</b> Catherine Kapogiannatos |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|

Motion to **approve** the agenda by **Tania Creswell** and seconded by **Maria Almeida**. Passed **unanimously**.

The following modifications were made to the agenda:

- Treasurer's Report: Charitable Donation Receipt Policy postponed to April.
- Photo Representative Report: Added New Contract 2026–2027 and corresponding vote.
- TCBY Taste Test: Postponed to April.

|                                                                      |                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Agenda item:</b> 3. <i>Approval of Minutes – February 9, 2026</i> | <b>Presenter:</b> Catherine Kapogiannatos |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|

Motion to **approve** the February 2026 minutes by **Niki Kallinteris** and seconded by **Katherine Morency-Jarvis**. Passed **unanimously**.



# HILLCREST ACADEMY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HAHSA)

**Agenda item:** 4.1 *President's Report*

**Presenter:** Catherine Kapogiannatos  
Elena Legatos

- Remembrance Day (November 11th) bagpiper
  - It was discussed whether the school should rebook the same bagpiper for next year. Members agreed that a different bagpiper should be sought for next year's Remembrance Day event (confirmed by Mme Gosselin).
- Black History Month Guest Speaker
  - Members agreed to rebook the same Black History Month guest speaker for next year, ideally sometime in February, avoiding dates that may conflict with school events.
  - Discussion took place regarding providing an additional activity for younger students during Black History Month or around themes such as self-esteem, confidence-building, or anti-bullying.
- Yannick Bergeron Science Show
  - The Science Show was well received. A tentative booking was already made for Tuesday, April 13, 2027, due to limited availability.
  - Discussion to expand the event to include the whole school, with age-appropriate shows. Split young/older kids between morning and afternoon (held in one day).
  - As a quote for the full-school booking has not yet been received, the vote on cost was tabled until the next meeting.
- Winter Carnival Volunteers
  - The President thanked all volunteers who helped with the Winter Carnival. Appreciation was also extended to the student leaders, who worked very hard and represented the school well.
  - It was noted that Domino's generously donated pizza for the volunteers at no cost.
- After-School Committee
  - It was announced that Nikki has joined Liza on the after-school committee.
- TCBY Special Needs Fund
  - It was noted that approximately \$4,000 in TCBY profits is currently sitting in the account for the Special Needs Program. Discussion regarding possible purchases will continue with Mr. Lepine.

**Agenda item:** 4.2 *Principal's Report*

**Presenter:** Mme Gosselin

Mme Gosselin thanked HAHSA and volunteers for:

- The Science Show
- The Book Fair
- The Winter Carnival



# HILLCREST ACADEMY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HAHSA)

Special recognition was given to the student leadership team, who worked hard in preparation for the carnival and demonstrated confidence and responsibility throughout the event.

|                                            |                                           |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Agenda item:</b> 4.3 Treasurer's Report | <b>Presenter:</b> Catherine Kapogiannatos |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|

- Photography rebate cheque was received and deposited
- Mabel's Labels: \$209.24 profit received
- Pizza Day: Approximately \$11,972 raised to date, exceeding projections
- After-School Activities: First session brought in approximately \$8,676
- Athletics Merch: Approximately \$1,471 profit to date, with the second sale still ongoing

a) Schoolwide Equipment / Chairs

- It was clarified that the \$1,048 chair rental cost from the winter concert should be included under schoolwide equipment, alongside the previously approved \$4,305 chair purchase. After these allocations, approximately \$5,353 remains from the 2024-2025 carryover funds.

b) Music Department Support

- Mr. Cummings advised that some musical instruments require repair and/or replacement. Since music benefits the whole school, it was proposed that HAHSA contribute toward these expenses.

Motion to **approve** \$1,200 from the remaining carryover funds toward Mr. Cummings' instrument-related expense by **Maria Almeida** and seconded by **Sindu Gunaratnam**. Passed **unanimously**.

c) Graduation Donation

- A previous donation of \$1,500 for graduation was discussed. This amount is intended to cover the DJ, as in previous years. There may be an additional cost for black light rental depending on the final grad theme and setup.
- Action: Logistics for payment will be discussed further with Patrick.

d) Carryover / Placeholder for Next Year

- It was clarified that the negative line showing approximately \$4,490 reflects a placeholder of \$10,000 being reserved for next year, not an actual deficit.

|                                            |                                        |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Agenda item:</b> 4.4 QFHSA Rep's Report | <b>Presenter:</b> Andrea Chountoumadis |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|

- Monthly drop-in meetings continue to be available through QFHSA
- A round table will take place at Gardenvue on March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.
- Last year the Leadership Team won a QFHSA Pat Lewis Humanitarian Award. The leadership students won a gift card valued at approximately \$200, which was matched by HAHSA, to allocate towards a charity of their choice.



## HILLCREST ACADEMY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HAHSA)

- Awards and nomination deadlines were briefly reviewed. The nomination deadline for some awards is April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- The QFHSA annual banquet is May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Agenda item:** *4.5 Governing Board Rep's Report*

**Presenter:** Tanya Barr

- There was no Governing Board meeting, as the scheduled meeting had been cancelled.

**Agenda item:** *4.6 Parent Committee Rep's Report*

**Presenter:** Catherine Kapogiannatos

- No Parent Committee Representative this year. Item to be removed from the agenda going forward unless a rep is assigned.

**Agenda item:** *4.7 Communications' Report*

**Presenter:** Saherish Hussain

- No formal report. Communications were said to be going well.

**Agenda item:** *4.8 Fundraising Coordinator's Report*

**Presenter:** Tanya Barr

Big Box of Cards:

- The fundraiser is ongoing. Sales continue to come in, and another promotional push will be made before it ends.
- No delivery date. Pickup from 4:15PM to 6:00PM.

Silent Auction:

- The team has contacted many vendors and has secured between 30 and 40 donations/vendors so far.
- Members were encouraged to share any contacts who may be willing to donate, particularly for:
  - Sporting event tickets
  - Larger-ticket items
  - Family experiences
- The silent auction is planned for the last week of April, around April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Marble Run / "Marble Madness" interactive activity:

- Promotion has begun and sign-ups are starting to come in. Going to advertise once the after-school registration is done.
- The event will take place March 27<sup>th</sup> from 3:45PM to 5:30PM. There is a rental booked that evening, and so we need to be out by 6PM.

Principal for a Day Fundraiser:



## HILLCREST ACADEMY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HAHSA)

- Some entries have already been received, and additional promotion will continue closer to the event date.

### i) AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES REPORT

- Registration is ongoing.
- Programs already meeting minimum registration:
  - Science Explorers
  - Lego Engineering
  - Stagecraft (sold out)
  - Cooking (Tuesday)
- Programs at risk of cancellation due to low enrolment:
  - Dance
  - Chess
  - Reptizoo
- Where needed, students may be offered the option to switch into a program that has met the minimum.

### ii) ATHLETICS MERCHANDISE REPORT

Current profit is just under \$400 for the latest sale. Sales are lower than hoped, though there are still approximately three weeks remaining.

Discussion included:

- Better timing of sales.
- Displaying samples for try-on at school events.
- Using the Kindergarden orientation in May to promote items to new families.
- Considering an earlier July/August sale for back-to-school shopping.
- Possibly moving the second sale to January.

It was also suggested that a flyer be sent home to increase awareness among families who are not active on social media.

### iii) SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR REPORT

The Book Fair was reported to be very successful.

- Total sales: Approximately \$13,800.
- Scholastic rewards earned: Approximately \$6,100.

Books were also provided to:

- Support the classroom wish lists.
- Support families who could not afford purchases.



# HILLCREST ACADEMY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HAHSA)

Suggestions for next year included:

- Improving the visibility of teacher wish lists.
- Better coordinating layout with the used uniform sale.
- Promoting classroom wish lists more clearly in advance.

## iv) TCBY & PIZZA REPORT

Discussion took place about possible changes for next year, including:

- Moving away from one large upfront payment model.
- Offering different payment options (yearly, biannual, monthly).
- Adding a sorbet option for students with allergies or dietary restrictions.
- Proposed TCBY flavors were reviewed. The TCBY taste test was postponed until the April meeting, at which time members will sample options and determine the next steps.

It was also suggested that HAHSA prepare a more complete information package for new families, including:

- Pizza Day
- TCBY
- Athletics Merch
- Other HAHSA initiatives

## v) USED UNIFORM REPORT

- The most recent used uniform sale took place alongside the Scholastic Book Fair and brought in \$257 (the previous sale brought in \$435).
- No additional sale has yet been scheduled for this school year.

|                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Agenda item:</b> <i><b>4.9 Hospitality Committee Report</b></i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                        |
|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Presenter:</b> Andrea Chountoumadis |
|----------------------------------------|

- Thanks were extended to all volunteers who assisted during Staff Appreciation Week.

|                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Agenda item:</b> <i><b>4.10 Photo Representative Report</b></i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| <b>Presenter:</b> Maria Almeida |
|---------------------------------|

- Maria presented information from three photography providers for the 2026–2027 school year. Discussion included pricing, backgrounds, commission structures, digital options, and flexibility.

Motion to **approve** Angela Maiezza Photo as photographer for 2026–2027 by **Maria Almeida** and seconded by **Liza Dodd**. Passed with **3 abstentions**.

Motion to **approve** a green screen/digital background option for the 2026-2027 school photos by **Liza Dodd** and seconded by **Sindu Gunaratnam**. Passed **unanimously**.



## HILLCREST ACADEMY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HAHSA)

- Action: Maria will tentatively book Angela (2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September 2026) and continue discussions regarding background options.

**Agenda item:** *4.11 School Supply Report*

**Presenter:** Catherine Kapogiannatos

School Start (new vendor) is:

- Significantly cheaper on many items
- Offering online ordering and home/school delivery
- Expected to provide a stronger return overall because of lower prices and potentially greater participation.
- Teachers will also receive a 20% discount on the teacher catalogue.

**Agenda item:** *5.0 Special Reports*

**Presenter:** Elena Legatos

A) HAHSA Magnets

A company approached HAHSA about producing custom magnets with a QR code linking families to HAHSA resources, including:

- Website
- Fundraisers
- Facebook
- Instagram

The proposed magnets would be navy, rounded, and soft-edged.

Motion to **approve** \$200 to purchase 600 magnets by **Tania Creswell** and seconded by **Sindu Gunaratnam**. Passed **unanimously**.

**Agenda item:** *6.0 New Business*

**Presenter:** Catherine Kapogiannatos

A) Fun Day

- Planning is underway for Fun Day, scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Some activities have already been booked.
- Further details will be presented at a future meeting.

**Agenda item:** *7.0 Questions*

**Presenter:** Catherine Kapogiannatos

Kindergarten Graduation Question



## HILLCREST ACADEMY HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (HAHSA)

- A question was raised about whether kindergarten students have a graduation. It was explained that since students are remaining at the same school, a formal graduation is not typically held. However, kindergarten classes do mark the transition with their own year-end activities.

**Agenda item:** *8.0 Next Meeting*

**Presenter:** Catherine Kapogiannatos

- Following HAHSA meetings, dates reserved:
  - April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026
  - May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026
  - June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Agenda item:** *9.0 Adjournment*

**Presenter:** Catherine Kapogiannatos

**Catherine Kapogiannatos** motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 PM, **approved** by **Katherine Morency-Jarvis** seconded by **Roula Stathakis**. Passed **unanimously**.