

10-25 South Elementary Home and School Meeting
October 14, 2025, 7:00pm-8:00pm
South Elementary Library

	Details
Opening Remarks	Annette welcomed everyone to the October 2025 Home and School Meeting. A sign in sheet was circulated. The meeting began at 7:01pm. Annette recognized Brooke Mulartrick for her work on the Walk-a-Thon
Teachers' Liaison Report	Mr. Trinkle noted the success of the Walk-a-Thon and shared that feedback from teachers was positive. Teachers requested that Kindergarteners go later in the day next time.
Principal's Report	<p>Mrs. O'Sullivan echoed the success of the Walk-a-Thon and commended the effort that went into planning. Interventions have started; teachers and students are digging into the iReady curriculum. Over the next few weeks, South will host puppy recess, William Penn Day, Library Author Visit, Career day, Class Fall celebrations and more.</p> <p>Mrs. O'Sullivan reviewed South's various parent communication tools and clarified the differences between ParentVue and ParentSquare. ParentVue is utilized for teacher placement, student scheduling, grades, attendance, documents, and communication. ParentSquare is the school's newest communication tool, and is used for newsletters, messaging, and translation. South has not issued a formal directive for teachers to utilize one tool over another at this time; teachers currently utilize the tool of their preference, though long term the goal will likely be to migrate to ParentSquare. ParentSquare features a newsfeed to help track updates and can also create communication groups. Mrs. O'Sullivan also noted that she does not receive notification of messages being sent through ParentVue. Conversely, emails also feed into ParentSquare, and parents can reply directly to ParentSquare messages via email.</p> <p>South staff also utilize standard Gmail. Gabby inquired about attendance; Mrs. O'Sullivan recommended continuing to utilize email for that.</p> <p>Annette inquired about Google classroom access. Mrs O'Sullivan explained that access is limited to children, but parents can oversee it by working with the child to monitor their account.</p> <p>A parent inquired about homeroom parent notifications; Annette clarified that updates will be coming via email, but parents do need to sign up for the list. A Sign-in sheet that was circulated also request email information, which will be cross referenced with homeroom parent distribution lists.</p> <p>Mrs.O'Sullivan shared an update on the outdoor classroom: the shade structure now up. The district's team is working on mulching and putting up a border. They are also working on assembling the furniture. South administration will be having more conversations with staff to discuss best way to utilize any remaining funds. Operations goal is to have the outdoor</p>

	classroom completed by the end of this week, with the potential for a ribbon cutting ceremony sometime thereafter.
Completed Business	<p>Annette reviewed completed business, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Handel’s Spirit Night raised \$150 ● Walk-a-Thon raised \$22,185.33 in donations. There are \$1,075.65 in transaction fees for the fundraising platform. Minus transaction fees, grand total comes to \$21,109.68. There are some additional costs associated with event planning which will be accounted for soon.
Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Honeygrow Spirit event will take place on 10/15/25, all day. ● Trunk or Treat will be 10/24/25 from 5:30-7:00pm ● Goodness Bowls Spirit Event is scheduled for 11/4/25 from 9am-1pm. ● South Kids Care will take place the week of 11/10/25. Students will receive a feather to decorate to send in for South Kids Care display. Funds collected will go to purchasing Target gift cards for underserved families in the community. H&S will need volunteers to help purchase Target gift cards. ● Urban Air spirit night will take place 12/4/25. ● South Dance is scheduled for 12/6/25 in HS Cafeteria ● Career Day is a school led initiative which will be held on 10/31/25. Parents that volunteered will receive a schedule within the next few days. In an effort to equitably distribute career speakers, the school may host an assembly rather than have individual classroom events.
Upcoming Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Trunk or Treat will take place on 10/24/25. Three ‘candy monsters’ have been constructed to collect candy donations. They will be placed near bus entrance, parent drop-off line, and lobby. Flyers went home yesterday and today. Families should register for a time block to attend. Trunk sign-ups are also on the flyer. H&S is planning to use the tunnel from the Walk-a-Thon. Cars will be arranged in a U shape for trunk or treating, then kids can vote on their favorite trunk at the end. H&S will supplement candy and non-candy handouts. Links will also be in H&S newsletter and South Spotlight. Mrs. O’Sullivan requested that donations be unopened. Parent inquired about peanut free/dietary restrictions. There will be several locations that are strictly peanut free. Allergy sensitive donations are welcome; requesting all donations be

	<p>pre-packaged and sealed. Mrs. O’Sullivan expressed gratitude for donations to fundraisers, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is no attendance fee for the Trunk or Treat. Annette noted that families have been generous with previous donations, so there may be future opportunities for H&S host events without an entrance fee. ● Chris shared information about Teal pumpkin initiative to provide allergy friendly handouts. ● Requesting volunteers to assist with Trunk or Treat. ● H&S issued a call for volunteers for Teacher Appreciation this spring. ● H&S will be putting together a South Directory. Planning to send out information for directory in November. Families will need to opt in to be included in the directory. A Google form will be used to collect information. Previously, the directory was in the form of a spreadsheet, though H&S is aiming to provide an updated format this year. ● Getting ready to launch yearbook sales. Prices will be consistent with last year. Families can order yearbooks or online. More information on placing orders forthcoming. ● The Yearbook committee is seeking classroom photographer volunteers for Kuhn, Stout and Witmer.
<p>Questions & Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Annette noted that the budget will need to be updated to allocate funds to support Trunk or Treat, though H&S is still working through details on that. ● H&S would also like to modify budget for teacher gift cards. These are typically gifted at the beginning of the year, but given the amount collected, H&S is hoping to increase the amount given to teachers. Last year, all teachers with a homeroom were gifted \$50 at the beginning of the year. H&S would also like to ensure that support staff also receive a gift card. Exact amounts TBD. ● Brooke provided Walk-a-thon update and thanked all volunteers, also acknowledging Community Music School, who not only sponsored the event but also lent speakers to help better project music for the event. ● Puppy recess will be taking place on 10/23/25. H&S anticipates needing 7 volunteers per recess; more information will be coming out on that in the coming days.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The tunnel, bubbles, jelly bands, and fun laps were some changes that were made this year based on feedback from last year to help improve the event. ● Surveys for tabletop discussion were circulated to provide an opportunity for feedback. ● Reminder to sign up for Box Tops October Challenge and check out the bonus offers ● District sent MLK survey, requesting feedback from families on MLK Day of Service event. Link in H&S newsletter and South Spotlight. ● Next H&S Meeting will be held on 11/11/25 at 7pm.
Meeting Adjournment	The meeting ended at 7:56m

Minutes recorded by Gabby Country Schultz

Attendees:

Annette Diehl
Shannon Nicaastro
Gabi Lopez
Gabby Country Schultz
Jessica Stevens
Rebecca Wagner
Katelyn Schubert
Alana Fatto
Brooke Mulartrick
Ashley Smith
Chris Louten
Carolina Giammarino
Meredith Spadaccino
Erin Spitko