

The ML H&SA:
Enriching our
schools through
celebration,
volunteerism,
and fun!

Mountain Lakes Home & School Association Winter 2024 Newsletter

Hello Mountain Lakes District Community! We are pleased and excited to share with you a summary of the winter activities of the **Mountain Lakes Home & School Association**, made possible because of our Board, our members, and our volunteers.

Our visionary H&SA Board and many dedicated volunteers have been working tirelessly to continue the ML H&SA's mission to enrich our schools through over 60 programs per year, and celebration, volunteerism, and fun!

Don't forget!! Our **H&SA Members** have access to the Mountain Lakes Family School District Directory, now available online through the **Membership Toolkit website and app** [download from the *Apple* or *Google Play* stores]. The Membership Toolkit app allows members access to all Directory information at their fingertips! There is still time to join to access all the details you will need for playdates and parties in the summer!

Our **fundraising efforts** are going all year so that we raise the funds we need to produce memorable and fun programs for our students and teachers!

H&SA Members contribute to the over 60 activities per year that our kids remember. There is still time to contribute to help 'fuel the fun' for all of our memorable Spring programs!

There is still time to
contribute to help
'fuel the fun'!

Click here:
<https://mlschools.membershiptoolkit.com>

We need
you!!

Interested in volunteering with us?
Contact our Nominations Chair, Patty Bordoni, at:
bordonifamily3@gmail.com





Warming up the Winter chill with fun and memorable programming throughout the ML District!

Our **Wildwood, Briarcliff, and MLHS School Chairs**, who organize our school volunteers, have supported lots of fun activities this winter! At Wildwood, we sponsored the February Family Fun Night with "Meatball the Magician" and Valentine's Day class parties. At Briarcliff, we organized the 8th Grade Dance with the theme, "Black, White, and Bling". At all schools, we held Principal Advisory Committee meetings with the Principals to increase communication between the school administration and our district families.

Our **H&SA Parents Appreciating Teachers and Staff (PATS)** team set up a St. Patrick's Day themed snack surprise in all of our schools to share some luck and joy with our teachers and staff!

Our **Wildwood Cultural Arts** team works with the teachers and administration to develop and produce cultural arts programming that enhance the curriculum. To fund these programs, we hosted two Paint-a-Block fundraisers in January and March, and sponsored the "Bash the Trash" event for 3rd and 4th graders, teaching about recycling through music!

Our **Nominations** committee worked together to propose the 2024-2025 H&SA Board slate. You can find the proposed slate in Virtual Backpack and on our website!

Our **Scholarship** committee launched the H&SA Scholarship application in January. **Applications are due on May 15th**. Last year, we awarded over \$12,000 in scholarship funds.

The **H&SA Programming** team held our winter **Coffee Talk** with our Administrative Team, Mr. Fetherman and Ms. Ciresi, in February in the MLHS Media Center, to learn about the important 'happenings' in the district.

We also continued the **Wingman Program** in all schools in collaboration with the District by sponsoring training for new Wingman Leaders at all schools. The Wingman Program supports youth in the development of social and emotional skills like compassion, empathy and inclusivity.

Our **Marketing and Communications** team has been working on a new public awareness campaign to help raise understanding of the H&SA activities. Check out the **Did You Know?** series launching on our social media in April!

We look forward to more celebrations and fun in the Spring, including Teacher Appreciation, awarding the H&SA Scholarships, end of year parties, grade dances, and graduation celebrations!

Contact us! mlhsaboard@gmail.com
<https://mlschools.membershiptoolkit.com/hsalandingpage>

