Guth HSA Meeting Notes

October 14, 2026 | Guth Library | 6:30–7:30 p.m.

DRAFT • For review and approval

School updates

May Meeting Minutes were approved

Title I presentation

Connie Smeland reviewed reading and math support. Students are grouped by need using multiple measures, including teacher feedback and assessment results. Families receive written notification when their child receives support.

- WIN (What I Need) time provides a daily 30-minute block for support without missing core instruction. Title I funds support staff, instructional materials and family engagement opportunities.
- Strong reading and math growth was reported. Families were encouraged to read with their children, communicate with teachers, attend school events and complete the Title I feedback survey by QR code or on paper.

Principal updates

- Fifth-grade students are helping paint school murals. A design sketch is displayed in the building.
- Students completed seven neuroscience lessons about how their brains and bodies respond to stress and excitement. Related lessons are being incorporated into the school's Takes PRIDE themes.
- Screener results will be sent home Monday, October 19. Mr. Smith explained that beginning-of-year results may show more red and yellow; families with questions should contact their child's teacher.

Treasurer report and budget

- Proposed annual expense budget: $49,235. A motion by Katy Renee and seconded by Amanda Q., followed by a vote and approved.
- The budget covers field trips, classroom and special-area teacher allocations, and other HSA expenses. Most teacher allocations are $100; some were reduced to $75 based on prior use.
- A $360 annual website and fundraising-platform expense was added. The Westgate family previously covered this cost.
- Checking balance as of September 30: $46,681.68. CD balance: $15,589.68. Exact balances are carried forward from the written treasurer figures.
- The CD renewed for seven months at 3.40% APY, with an April 5, 2027 maturity date listed in the written report. The previously voted $10,000 addition was not made at rollover. CD funds are earmarked for playground improvements.

Committee and event updates

Social media and website

Katy Rene is coordinating Facebook and website updates. Can submit event information and suggestions in advance for posting by either emailing GuthHSA@gmail.com or sending message on Guth HSA Facebook page.

Fall Fest

The September 25 event sold 345 tickets and earned $799.25 in profit. This is Joanne Grossbach's final year leading Fall Fest; a replacement lead is needed.

Race for Education

The race is on October 23. Volunteer requests will be sent on SignupGenius and will include water stations, lap-card punching, shirt preparation, and other shifts available. Shirts are expected to arrive and be distributed during race week. The fundraising goal is $28,000; the written notes list approximately $22,000 raised, with a possible higher total list of $2600. The principal's sundae activity was discussed and will occur during the Halloween parade on 10/30.

School store

The October 9 store brought in approximately $500 and used a new location outside the gym. New supplies were purchased. The next store is November 13. Discussion focused on shopping bags, student supervision and having students return purchases to classrooms before going outside. Joanne will look into inexpensive bags or leftovers. Additional volunteers are welcome; coordination with Amy Fleetman and Laura Slingsby will be confirmed.

Guth Nights Out and Dine and Donates

No HSA outings are currently scheduled. Suggestions included bowling, roller skating, ice skating and local gaming or arcade activities. Members may send ideas to the GuthHSA@gmail.com.

St. Stephen's volunteers are holding a separate fundraiser at The Perk on October 26, 5–9 p.m., to help ensure every child receives a book at the book fair. Raffles and an HSA raffle-basket contribution were discussed.

Perk gift cards and Spirit Wear

Amanda Brockman and Melissa Hoffman are coordinating both fundraisers. The Perk was contacted about gift-card timing; holiday delivery is the goal. Cards are purchased at face value, with a percentage returned to the HSA. Kampus Klothes was contacted about updated spirit-wear items and logos, with pickup around conferences targeted if timing allows.

Hospitality

A new lead was needed for conference meals, teacher appreciation activities, etc. for all hospitality events

Rachel Castiglia offered to help and will be connected with the outgoing coordinator.

Yearbook

Amber Brown will take over the lead from Lydia Ramer-Hunter. The fifth-grade cover contest is underway; deadline 10/27/26. Families may send photos throughout the year to guthyearbook@gmail.com. A shared folder is available for teacher uploads, and Amber has contacted the Jostens representative.

Upcoming events and projects

Gifts Galore

Gifts Galore is December 3, 2026, from 5:30–7:30 p.m. Alisha Samuelson is coordinating the student holiday shopping event. Santa arrangements are pending, and the Key Club has been contacted.

Square One

Square One is the spring art fundraiser; artwork is ready to be checked against class lists. Written notes list March 1, 2027 as the submission deadline.

Family Bingo

Family Bingo is February 19, 2027, from 6–8 p.m. in the high school cafeteria, with a February 26 snow date. A lead was needed to coordinate planning and event logistics. Courtney White offered to lead this event. Grade levels contribute themed prizes, and community donations support raffle baskets. Jessica Parker will check for potential donations through Race for Education contacts. Donation requests should begin before year-end, and facility access and setup arrangements should be confirmed in advance.

Dance

The school dance is April 16, 2027, rain or shine. Jess Parker is gathering theme suggestions for a student vote and theme-reveal videos. The dance is for all grade levels and is held in the gym.

Fifth Grade Committee

Lisa Gill and Joanne Grossbach coordinate fifth-grade celebration planning; no additional specific updates at this time.

Playground and grounds

Playground replacement needs, including the broken monkey bars and fire-truck equipment, were discussed. Katy Rene will follow up with Naomi Coll about grant opportunities. Jim offered to look for a playground contact and help source affordable or donated trees and shrubs. Shade trees near the second- and third-grade classrooms and a possible fifth-grade tree donation were suggested; no final plan was discussed yet.

Additional fundraising idea

Members discussed a “Tats for Teachers” temporary-tattoo fundraiser. This was an idea for further consideration.

Follow up before finalizing

- Confirm the Race for Education total
- Confirm the corrected yearbook cover-contest deadline.
- Continue recruiting lead for Fall Fest.

Next meeting

Wednesday, November 11, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. in the Guth Library. Members were encouraged to return and bring a friend.