

BBMS PTA Executive Board Minutes

October 14, 2009

Present:

Principal Ms. Carolyn Jameson and Vice Principal Nan Brown

Teachers: Ms. Michele D.W., Ms. Debbie Waeger, Mr. John Davis, Ms. Anne Schaefer

PTA board members: Tiffany Wendt, Joanne Hackman, Kathy Green, Beth Webster, Trina Thames

PTA Committee Chairs: Sandra Miller, Donna Sudbrook, Jenn Hawes

Parents: Elaine Friedman, Kathy Daisy

President's Report, Tiffany Wendt

-Oct. 29th 7:00-PTA workshop on sharing best practices. Faulkner Ridge

-Nov. 2-PTACHC will be having coat drive. Want to put out message to parent's to donate and Donna Sudbrook or Trina Thames can deliver to the meeting.

-Book drive. Will talk about next time

-HC Drug Free-Middle school representatives. To look for a representative to get information to distribute to parent's at our school

-Notice from front office for guidelines for office uses. Will be posted on the website.

-Bullying Prevention Program-would like 2 reps from each grade and 2 PTA reps. Lavonne Delattiboudere will be a representative. Yvette Rooks will chair the positive climate committee.

-Integrated Approach update: How do we help kids who need to bridge gap? Howard High has national honor society students who help kids after school. Tiffany contacted them to ask if we can use their help. Can we use some of their kids maybe once per week. Ms. Jameson said we did have some kids come over last year. Contact at HHS said kids who need service hours and some who don't necessarily need them are interested. Tues and Thurs are academic intervention program days so that would be best. Also, Howard High basketball students go to Phelp's Luck Elem to help kids 2 days per month. Can we connect with another high school? Tiffany to talk to a contact tomorrow about this.

-Some teachers have asked about parent volunteers. Need parents to help with some projects at their home. Tiffany has a list of teachers and what is needed and this has been given to Amy Schroeder, PTA volunteer committee chair to contact volunteers.

-Tiffany sent thank you letters to Linda Wise and other board members for coming to talk to BBMS parents last month about Integrated Approach. She mentioned that the list of questions the PTA sent to

the board to be answered at the meeting was not addressed. Linda Wise sent back 2 page letter answering all questions we had. This will be posted on PTA web site.

1st Vice President's Report-Joanne Hackman

PTA Membership Update:

Your local PTA would like to inform the BBMS community that we have an enrollment of 678 students this year. Based on the number of parents with children enrolled in BBMS, we thought it would be helpful to share that we have 290 of our parent population enrolled in their local PTA this year. If you have not enrolled please consider doing so. If you have already done so, we would like to thank all of you for your help and support in reaching students, teacher and administration goals.

Direct Donations Update:

Thanks on behalf of the students, teachers, administration and PTA executive board for your interest and support!! As many of you are aware, BBMS kicked-off something new this year called "Direct Donations" in an attempt to eliminate the door to door fundraisers. This year our fundraiser program needed to net \$12,000 to help the BBMS PTA meet budget requirements. As of today we are very pleased to announce that we have reached 94% of our goal by collecting \$ 11, 296 thus far. We are only \$1,054 short of reaching our budget. If we do not reach our target we will need to bring back some fundraisers to make up the difference. So, if you still have an interest in dropping off a direct donation, please do so no later than October 30th.

Treasurer's Report-Kathy Green

-290 PTA members. Budgeted for 300. Direct donations \$11,296.00 and budget for \$12,000. May be able to make up shortage by small fundraiser later in school year.

Principal's Report-Carolyn Jameson

-New reading assessment for our kids this year in Howard County Schools. Schools deciding if this will be given during regular assessment schedule or quarterly. If like other assessments then will be week of Nov. 12th. If quarterly, done around Nov. 20th. All students to take this assessment.

-Core Interventions: Looking at plans over past couple of weeks. Social Studies team met with coordinator and math team met with coordinator. English meeting Oct. 20. One reading teacher per grade will teach MSA strategies/tests from MSA book during core. Student's in music, band and orchestra will be able to use the books since not in a core group. Can send book home with them and have parent's work with them. Booklet previously paid by activity fee and glad PTA can help with this. Math decided one teacher per grade level will do intense interventions (8-10 kids) . Will target kids during core time. Other kids getting instruction also but still deciding what type. Other core rotations will look at organization, test taking, enrichment activities. Still being planned.

-Principal's meeting around the county: Schools receiving intense letters and emails from parent's about a variety of issues. Need to follow Howard County civility guidelines but make sure parent/teacher communication is there.

-Elementary and middle school civility problem in the morning at BBMS. Drop off time getting difficult when elementary school before care dropping off when our kids are getting off our buses. Parents from IES haven't been cooperative. Need to get message out that we want our kids safe and to be dropped off safely. If a BBMS parent is dropping off their child, should be dropping off out back of our school. Ms. Jameson asking for everyone's cooperation.

-Ms. Germroth has sent 8th grade parent's letters for high school registration.

-New bullying policy for the county. Program has role playing for kids which they like. Lot of resources but county hasn't given the money to implement the program. May need help from PTA. Money tight in county now. Sandra Miller, PTA family and student events committee chairperson asked about grant writing. Are there any parent's who can help with this?? Someone to send a letter out.

-PTA sponsored dance tomorrow night Oct. 15th. Plenty of parent volunteers. Signed up

-No school Friday for MD state teachers association. Some staff to attend the meeting and some to work here at school.

-Nov 5th first quarter ends. Nov. 6th no school. Nov.17 report cards

-Nov. 23 Breakfast of Champions. Details to follow. Honor assemblies will be different from last year. Everyone in morning since 3 hr early dismissal. Suggested by Elaine Friedman, parent to send reminder about assembly the day before if possible. Ms. Jameson agreed. Said county is trying to cut back on emails but will see what she can do.

-7th grade test Dec. 1 and 2. MD Measure of Student Technology. Tests proficiency and knowledge. This is taken in Reading Classes. MD Measure of School Administrators Technology and Teachers on Nov. 6th. Practice test for students and teachers to be sent out. Student, administrator and teacher test all the same.

-BBMS food pantry for our kids. Ms. Jameson reported that more and more kids are coming to school without breakfast. Need to consider Wellness Policy when giving students donated food. Social Studies teacher Ms. DW said someone suggested a day where kids bring an extra snack that they can donate.

Teachers Reports

6th Grade: Ms. Weager reports 6th graders made good transition. Outdoor Ed. May 19-21

7th Grade: Ms. DW reports 3 field trips. Aquarium, Medieval Times, Patapsco Park. Trying fundraisers to offset costs of field trips. Chick Fil-A fundraiser tonight. Sold shark shirts. Attempting another

restaurant night. Buses are big expense. Have asked for direct donations. Lot of volunteers for aquarium. Service Project: Teaming up with Grassroots . Someone coming out to teach kids about homelessness. Can we tie Barnes and Noble night into this to get donations for the program???

8th Grade: Ms. Shaefer reports they are planning NYC trip. Have date for end of year festivities to Centennial Park, dance, team shirt. 8th graders will design and students will vote in reading class. Lot of interest but not many turned in. Kathy Green, treasurer asked about Genesee Valley trip. This isn't going to happen because of changes in beginning of year with Integrated Approach being so time consuming with the teachers.

Related Arts-Mr. Davis reports a new teacher for music(Ms. Buchanan). Ms. Bowling on long term family leave.

- PBIS fun day Oct. 30th to be run by Mr. Emery, P.E. teacher. Encourage kids to sign up. 75 scholar dollars to choose an activity this week. Each week the amount goes down. Everyone will participate. Lot of different activities. Awarding kids for doing right thing for the school. Big interest by 8th graders to use scholar dollars to get their spot in the activity that they want.

-Nov 20th Turkey Trot/Fall Fling Day-Route the Runs in the morning. Parents can volunteer to work or run the course. Fall Fling activities in afternoon. Canned food drive week before for Caring and Sharing for Howard County.

-Able to get 1,000 plastic bags from Giant to give to kids to take PE uniforms home.

Committee Reports:

CAC Chair Report-Donna Sudbrook- Bellow Springs Watch DOG kickoff program. 120 dad's with their kids attended. Program works with 1 dad per day takes off from work, gets detailed itinerary for what to do that day. Need to find out if interest is there for our dads and then figure out how to schedule and coordinate. Need to figure out where in the school would be most useful. Unsure of who will do this. Ms. Brown, BBMS VP said some dad's have come to have lunch with their kids and help out so there may be some interest.

Hospitality Chair, Jenn Hawes- November conference dinner for teachers. Need to find a date. Maybe Monday before Thanksgiving. Need to get list of names from Amy Schroeder, Volunteer chairperson about who has volunteered to help with hospitality.

Volunteers/STARS-Chairperson not in attendance. STARS still needs parents.

PALS-Chairperson not in attendance

Cultural Arts/Reflections-Chairperson not in attendance

Special Events Chair Sandra Miller- Dance tomorrow. Web leaders will be there to help.

-Barnes and Noble night. Orioles want \$300 for player to come out. They reduced it to \$250 but will not do this. Filled out application for Blast player. Gail Miller-Myers, 2nd VP has contact who knows someone from TERPS who may be able to come. Fundraisers-have raised \$50 from Costco and Giant. M&T has sponsorship funds available and Sandy has requested \$6500. Wachovia also

Website Chair Andrea Miller-Website has 3 new sections on it. Reimbursement, school request and 550 form. Letterhead also on it. Started news and announcement section but nothing on it yet.

PTACHC Delegate Trina Thames Report- At recent delegate meeting, Patricia Gordon said cutting back in budget about 10%. Feels it may not be in classroom.

-HC public school system recycle program. We can help by scheduling events in school when other things are going on to cut back on janitorial, other expenses.

-Coat Drive-gently used or new. Need help in sorting. Representative from State of MD came to the meeting and they are looking for Treasurer.

Minutes typed and submitted by Treasurer Beth Webster