

BBMS PTA General Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2011

Present:

Administration and teachers: Carolyn Jameson, John Davis, Jennifer Manse, Irene Williams

PTA members: Yvette Hayes, Mary Nicklin, Maryann Cohea, Trina Thames, Donna Sudbrook, Edwina Britt, Meena Amin, Lori Magoon, Pamela Gray

Meeting Items

PTA report

The president called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M. Yvette announced that she has started sending out a PTA newsletter. It will come out on Monday each week. There was a reminder to give Yvette your shirt size for the PTA t-shirts. There is a busy calendar for November. American Education Week is all week long even though Tuesday is Bonnie Branch's designated day. Barnes and Noble Night will be from 6:30 until 8:30 next Wednesday. April 18th is the tentative date for Cultural Night. There was a correction to the previous month's minutes. Donna Sudbrook's name appeared twice. Libey should also be spelled Liby without the "E". The minutes from the last meeting were approved with those corrections. Mary Nicklin will be picking up the Barnes and Nobles posters. A Wish List went to the Media Center. B&N Night was announced on the morning announcements. Posters will also be going up. There will be an online code for online sales. There will also be a Guest Author, Orchestra Ensemble and a table for Mrs. Sharbaugh's students. There was information presented about the AT&T Mobile fundraiser. It can be used for additional phones for students for Christmas. Yvette asked that the information be passed to Trina for her to look into it. Reddy Duffy is coordinating the STARS program. Anyone interested in joining STARS should contact her. Meena announced that Movie Night was a success. \$104 was earned and there was great participation. Donna announced that she had met Bryan Muchkin at the Board of Education meeting and discussed Study Island. Students who access it at school can also access it at home. She would like to put the information out to the parents and ask them to contribute. Donna also said the letters and PTA cards would be distributed soon.

School report

Permission slips have been given out for the New York Field Trip. Students have an option to pay in 4 installments to total \$200. So far, twenty-five percent of the students have responded. John Davis from Health and PE talked about the Turkey Trot and Fall Fling. It promotes a healthy and drug free lifestyle. Students are encouraged to bring in canned foods. The cans go to the Howard County Food Bank. The goal is 2 cans from every student. There is a morning run and an Awards Ceremony in the afternoon. Volunteers are needed for the Fall Fling activity. Volunteers are also needed to stand along the course for the Run and serve in the afternoon. The food drive goes through next Friday. There is a Pei Wei fundraiser on November 15th to offset the Medieval Times Field Trip cost. Jennifer Manse from Student Services is starting a Peer Mediation Program. There is school wide Conflict Resolution during Shark Talk. There was also a Thank You note from the Wellness Committee for the snacks received. Mrs. Jameson talked about the Race to the Top.

Race to Top Report-Mrs. Jameson

Some of the changes will be a transition from a 9 period day to a 7 period day. Each class is 50 minutes instead of 47 minutes in order to meet Common Core Standards. The biggest concern is eliminating Reading as a class. Some of the current Reading teachers are certified in English. The school is looking at innovative ways to integrate reading across the curriculum. Students who are in need of intervention will still receive it in the form of Seminar. All interventions will still exist. Many teachers are trained in multiple areas. There are committees working on the new schedule. By 2020, the goal is for 100% of students to be proficient in English and Mathematics. Mr. Sharbaugh has already come up with writing a Writing Standards Manual using Common Core Curriculum. By 2014 MSA will be replaced by a new assessment tool. One question is whether MSM1 and MSM2 will be combined. The administration is considering the fitness needs of the students by trying to hold on to 10 minutes of recess. World language study would occur earlier. Reading will not be a stand-alone class. There is an option of French or Spanish in 6th grade. There will be no jobs lost, only reassignments. Seminars during Core will be graded. There was a question about new language teachers and if we will have enough time to effectively implement the new program. Mrs. Jameson noted that there is teacher input. She also said that there is much reading taught in English class. There will be integrated reading and some reading teachers would be teaching other classes. With the new schedule, a student who is receiving extra reading help cannot be in band, orchestra or chorus. The impact on music will need to be looked into. Implementation is planned for Fall of 2012 if approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Old Action Items

- Attempt to find a second PTA delegate and fill other open positions
- Determine amount that the PTA can contribute towards the New York field trip for students who have a financial need
- Donna will send out membership cards

New Action Items

- Trina will look into the AT&T Mobile Fundraiser