

BBMS PTA General Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2012

Present:

Administration and teachers: Carolyn Jameson, Nan Brown, Dawn Wrenn, Kara Nanni, Nancy Duke, Shawna Chesser

PTA members: Yvette Hayes, Mary Nicklin, Edwina Britt, Gaye Stokes, Nutan Mathur, Lori Magoon

Meeting Items

PTA report

The president called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. The minutes were quietly read and approved with the one correction of the New York field trip date being changed to April 25th instead of April 28th. There is currently \$5,757.11 in checking and \$6,182.73 in savings. There is an item in transit (not in Quickbooks) of \$861.80. The adjusted balance is \$12,603.70. Mary and Yvette went through each line item of the budget. Yvette will talk to 6th, 7th and 8th grade team leaders to find out the expectations for their budget items. There was a \$1,000 shortfall for the Direct Donations. We are waiting for income like Box tops and Spirit wear sales were lower than expected. There was also an invoice from last year that was not paid for approximately \$700. There is \$900 that is readily available that is not being used. Planning is underway for Cultural Night. Edwina and Meena met with the teachers. Mr. Rainey agreed to have the 6th grade Chorus sing an Israeli Song at the optional concert. The 7th and 8th grade Chorus will sing a Spanish piece. This should help increase turnout. Cultural Night is planned for April 18th. There were some questions about the Watchdog Program because of recent incidents at school. Yvette said there was no Chair and there would be no Watchdogs program this year. There were questions about the Volunteer list and if the people on the list for Watchdogs had been contacted. There were 4 entries in the Reflections program. We will know in a few weeks if any of them will be advancing further. The Poetry Slam group will be meeting this Thursday for 4 Thursdays until the program which will be held on Friday, February 3rd. There will be music during intermission and former Bonnie Branch students will say a group poem.

School report

Administration

Mrs. Jameson announced that there will be 4 student interns until May. There is 1 from Howard Community College Rouse Scholars program who will be working with the 6th grade team. The school has some great long term substitutes who are very effective. She discussed the motivational speech given by Dr. Fowlin. The students were mesmerized and asked when he is coming back. Dr. Fowlin did not want to broadcast the presentation; he wanted the students to be present so he could answer questions. He talked about how we all wear masks. The school would like to put the motivational speaker in the budget for every other year. Mrs. Jameson also wanted to thank the chair of STARS and all the STARS families. She also noted the upcoming Board of Education meeting on January 12th. The 8th graders have already had their meeting at their prospective high schools. The administration met with them to share that anyone who has an office referral or an "E" will not be able to participate in Fun Day activities. Teachers will have lessons prepared for any students who do not make the Fun Day requirements. Two weeks before the MSA, study skills lessons will be given in testing groups. One week before the test, a one hour delay practice test will be given and teachers will go over the answers. The four day test will be given the following week. Based on participating in the testing activities, students will be eligible to earn special MSA Scholar dollars. The

administration is looking for someone to work on the MSA Celebration which mostly consists of Chairing the Signup Genie. Afterschool programs have started again. STEM starts on January 25th with Mr. Nobis and Mr. Ensor. The SciFi Club with Mr. Sharbaugh starts on January 18th. There is also a Running Club with Mrs. Byron. School is closed on January 16th. On January 20, school closes 3 hours early and the Spelling Bee will be held. School is closed on January 23rd. Report cards will be issued on January 30th. The Poetry Slam is February 3rd and PickATime also starts on February 3rd. The Johns Hopkins Peabody Concert that is sponsored by the LINKS will be on February 19th.

6th Grade

The 6th grade currently has a Cookie Dough fundraiser going on. Mrs. Wrenn announced that the Black Saga County Competition is coming up in May. She requested some money for ribbons for the students. Yvette noted that there is a Recognition Fund that they should be able to use.

7th Grade

The students did a fantastic job with the service learning project. They collected winter items such as gloves, hats and blankets and participation was tremendous. There was a wrapping party for the hygiene items, gift cards and toys. The teachers personally delivered the items. The 7th grade team just had a Chic Filet fundraiser. It is the last one of the school year and the proceeds go towards the Medieval Times field trip. Based on the amount raised for the fundraiser, the money will be taken right off the top to lower the price of the field trip for the students.

8th Grade

There was a reduction in the price of the New York field trip of \$25. A note was sent home today about the \$25 refund. Parents have the option of receiving a refund or donating the \$25 to other students who have financial hardship. The 8th grade team is looking for 8th grade parents who are willing to give the 8th grade dance at the end of the year.

Related Arts

Mrs. Chesser and Mrs. Williams are prepping for Empty Bowls. It was stated that there is a Related Arts Budget and Mrs. Chesser will communicate with the other Related Arts teachers.

The PTA meeting was adjourned at 8:07 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
- Trina will continue to look into the AT&T Mobile Fundraiser
- Determine the amount if any that can be contributed to Study Island

New Action Items

- The Administration is looking for a volunteer to coordinate the MSA Celebration (Sign-up Genie)
- The Eighth Grade team is looking for volunteers to coordinate the end of the year Eighth Grade Dance