

**BBMS PTA Board of Director's Minutes**  
**March 14, 2012**

**Present:**

**Administration and teachers:** Carolyn Jameson, Nan Brown, Phyllis Perkins, Deana Abrams, Mrs. Byron

**PTA members:** Yvette Hayes, Edwina Britt, Trina Thames, Nutan Mathur, Donna Sudbrook, Meena Amin, Katrina Noonan, Shannon Sann, Pat Coury, Lisa Schwartz, Sheri Gobell, Phillis Pallin, Dean Abrams, Bob Seipel, Lorri Holda, Kristen Detwiler, Christine Maynard

**Meeting Items**

**PTA report**

The president called the meeting to order at 6:35 P.M. The minutes were read for the February 8th PTA meeting. Donna made a motion to accept the meeting notes as is and Trina seconded the motion.

**President's Report**

Yvette noted that the Board of Education candidates will be on TV on March 23 and 25. April 3<sup>rd</sup> is Election Day. Healthy Food in Our School is tomorrow. Yvette handed out fliers.

**The Treasurer's Report**

As of today, the adjusted cash is \$1889.27. Savings is \$6182.62. Deposits were \$1537.00. Adjusted cash is \$9608.89. Commitments total \$9215.00. All commitments that have been promised can be made. A \$1500 reserve is required.

**Fundraising**

Trina talked about Family Skate Night scheduled for Sat., March 24 from 4:30 P.M. until 6:30 P.M. Admission is \$8 and skate rental is \$4. Teachers can skate for free. Trina will have numbers from the AT&T fundraiser by the end of the week. She will also follow up with Billy about the written form for skate night. Yvette will put a blurb in the newsletter. The Magazine Fundraiser and Hershey sale was extended until the end of the month. Yvette is looking into a Red Robin or Uno's Fundraiser.

**SIT/PTAC**

Donna gave a SIT overview. There was a review of Goal 1 data which is that every child will meet rigorous academic standards. Goal 2 data is for a safe and nurturing environment. Goal 1 speaks of the percentage of students on honor roll. The goal is that by June 2012, 90% proficient or advanced in reading; 85% proficient or advanced in math. 98% of GT students should be proficient. Students who are below grade level have many resources and interventions such as Study Island. Also, there is the math seminar and First in Math and Odyssey. For goal 2, by June 2012, number of office referrals will decrease. 50 percent of notes for absences are not excused. Work cannot be made up if absence is unexcused. Donna will write up the requirements for absences to be excused. Yvette will put it in the newsletter. Discipline data is also reviewed. Data is looked at quarter by quarter. There was a big rise in referrals for 1<sup>st</sup> quarter in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The administration looked at how PBIS could be used.

**Social Committee**

All performances are set for Cultural Night. There will be a meeting with the Peer Leaders in March. The Girls on the Run Organization would like to show an educational film called Misrepresentation

which discusses self-esteem. They would like to show it at Howard High School, but would like to use Bonnie Branch as an alternative on May 20 from 7-9. This event is being funded through the Women's Giving Circle. Mary made a motion to have the Bonnie Branch PTA sponsor the showing of the movie if Howard High falls through. The motion was seconded.

The planning for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance is underway. Five themes have been proposed for the students to vote on.

### **Parents for Positive Change**

Shannon announced that a PPW worker would be attending and presenting at the May 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. There were several questions directed at the teachers about the selection of student of the month. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade team discussed how they use the character traits pride, respect, integrity and determination. They choose 2 boys and 2 girls. All 15 teachers have to agree with the choices and the teachers try to balance with race and ethnicity. The administration noted that all teams use the same character traits to determine the Student of the Month. There was a question about staff visibility. Mrs. Jameson stated that she and the staff are very visible and work very hard every day to ensure that our children are in a safe and nurturing environment. Many questions were asked about the fire. Mrs. Jameson noted that the investigation is still underway and as soon as there is closure, communication will be sent out. Per Katrina, the Goal 2 Survey can still be filled out and data will be given to the school to help with the SIT committee.

### **Other Items**

Edwina Britt announced that the Nominating Committee is still forming. Please contact Edwina if you are interested. Pat Coury was announced as a PTAC volunteer. Mary made a motion that she be made the PTAC representative for the rest of the year. Edwina seconded the motion and Pat is now officially the second PTAC delegate.

### **School Report**

#### **Administration**

Mrs. Brown - MSA Math testing is finished. They are getting ready for MSA Reading next Tues/Weds. Attendance was excellent for the MSA Math testing (March 13-14). Overall, only 10 students were absent and in 8th grade only 1 child was absent. There is an MSA celebration on March 21<sup>st</sup>. There are still slots that need to be taken. Per Donna, she will pick up the items from your doorstep. Mrs. Brown thanked the PTA and said they could not do it without the parents. The students earn scholar dollars for perfect attendance. They can spend the dollars on several activities. Mrs. Jameson announced that an email about the fire went out on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Lt. Saunders and Detective Roberts are still investigating at this time. The staff was interviewed. There is a juvenile fire class that a student can take if found guilty. Mrs. Jameson told the parents that information is still being taken and that everything they have now is "hearsay". Mrs. Jameson noted that the school is involved in the investigation. She also said that the Fire Department had talked to students and that the students had written statements. She stated that all policies have been followed. Investigators have all the logs and all the students on the logs were interviewed. A question came up about what the students had been told about the fire. Mrs. Jameson agreed to speak with the team leaders to find the best way to talk to the students about the fire. Mr. Gruzelski has returned. Mrs. Bendetto is in for Mrs. Courtney. A student assistant has retired and a contract has already been

offered. A Para educator is also leaving. Bonnie Branch is on the list to receive another portable for the 2012/2013 school year. It has been busy with the new schedule. A Pre-staffing meeting is on Monday. They are thankful that the elementary schools are giving data on the 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Class recommendations for next year will be sent out with 4<sup>th</sup> quarter interims. It is much earlier than before and changes can be made sooner. There will be 50 minute classes and 7 periods. If student is not in orchestra or band they will be in a language or math seminar. Some will take reading modules. If the student is on or above grade level, they must take 2 modules. PE is every other day. All students will take Health and Fine Arts. Seventh graders must take FAX for financial literacy. The Career unit that was once in Reading is now one of the modules. All classes will be graded. Sixth grade student Michelle Bdo received the commemorative pen and certification for Carson Scholar. Eighth grader Jacob Boyer was also nominated. The Black Saga State Competition will be held on Saturday. There were questions about behavior and percentages of students who are receiving office referrals in relation to the total population. Mrs. Brown noted that the school policy has to be followed for redirecting behavior and adding support. It was stated that 8 students had 3 or more office referrals and that many of the students have a Behavioral Intervention Plan or Individual Student Plan. Two students recently left to go to an alternative school. The number of Para educators is based on the population.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

#### **Mrs. Byron - 6th grade report**

Awaiting approval of fundraiser (assume for Outdoor Education) from Central Office. "Grow Ups" (Tonya Sigalas' suggestion) .... seedlings for herbs, etc. Outdoor Education Parent Info meeting went very well.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Phyllis Perkins - 8th grade report

New York Trip – April 25

8th grade Picnic - May 30, 10am, catered with DJ, slight fee to be determined

8th grade Farewell Celebration - June 1 at Howard High

### **PBIS**

The next PBIS Fun Day is March 30 (1/2 day of school)

The PTA meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

### **Old Action Items**

-Determine amount that the PTA can contribute towards the New York field trip for students who have a financial need

-Determine the amount if any that can be contributed to Study Island

-A Budget Review Committee needs to be formed for March

### **New Action Items**

-Donna will write up requirements for absences and Yvette will distribute the information in the newsletter

-Yvette will come up with Restaurant Night dates for Red Robin and/or Uno's