**Booth Hill School PTA General Meeting Minutes**

**10/25/2017 at 7:00pm; Media Center, Booth Hill School**

**Attendance:**

* Board Members: Lisa Commisky, Amelia Audette, Heather Barnett, Dawn Cuminotto
* Staff: Alison Cotter, Dana Pierce
* Parents: Alessandra Musso, Kristin Hyland, Kristine Ba, N. Arminof, Matt Espinoza, Bridgit Espinoza, Jaime Molgard, Jen Baglio, Sylwia Kozlowski, Stewart Tosh, Jessica Sokolowski, Sandy Lennon, Joanna Giamei-Cerniglia

**Proceedings:**

* Meeting called to order at 7:03pm by Lisa Commisky.
* **President’s Report:** presented by Lisa Commisky, PTA President.

-Lisa called attention to the Maker Space items bought for the Media Center and on display.

-Lisa discussed the PTA goals for this school year: what does the PTA want to fund.

- There is $6,000 in savings from 2016-2017, intended to fund the sun shade. It has been slow getting approval for the sun shade. PTA is looking for volunteers to help collaborate and research options (residential vs. commercial, company installation vs. do-it-yourself). Kristine Ba, parent, volunteered.

-The Lego Wall was discussed – placement in the Media Center, mobile wall options, etc.

-Book Fair funds will fund Media Center.

-Flexible seating was discussed. Mrs. Cotter has list from each grade level of what they have and what they want. A volunteer/chair is needed. It was asked whether grant money could be used. Each teacher has $100 to spend in their classroom.

-Mr. Pierce discussed budget concerns. In 2016-17, he was given a budget of $160,000. This year, he was given only $69,000. To get the year started, he spends $55,000. He is left with $12,000 for the year. He asked the PTA and Father’s Club for money to support One Book One School ($1,950), Roaring Readers ($1,309), and the laminating machine ($399 per laminate roll, 2 rolls needed). In addition, the Teacher’s Lounge needs help: furniture is breaking.

-Lisa mentioned that teachers are concerned about paper. Lisa reported that the CTPTA said paper needs to be funded by the Board of Education, not the PTA.

-A Curriculum Night will be held on reading or math. Date TBD.

-All field trips have been approved. Dr. Cialfi wants to ensure grade levels are consistent.

-Update on 1:1 Technology Program: the goal is for 1:1 device to be in place by January. Grades 5-8 will be able to bring home their devices. Dr. Cialfi reported that BHS is ahead with number of devices: there is a chrome cart in every 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classroom. In K, 1st, and 2nd, there will be 6 Ipads per classroom with chrome carts designated per grade level.

-Lisa asked all chairpersons to read the Chairperson Guidelines document. New position of Room Captain will be held by Laura Alibrandi. She will get the information out to all Room Moms.

-Lisa reminded parents that the Volunteer Form needs to be resubmitted every school year.

-Chair Benefits were discussed to encourage people to volunteer.

-All purchases must be tax free. This information is included in the Chairperson Guidelines.

-Lisa asked for volunteers on committees such as Beautification, Authors Week, Field Day, Hospitality, Message Board, Family Fun Night, Adult Night Out, and Staff Appreciation.

* **Treasurer’s Report:** presented by Dawn Cuminotto, PTA Treasurer.

-Budget was presented. Dawn mentioned that a few adjustments still need to be made.

-There was a discussion of Adult Night Out.

* **Principal’s Report:** presented by Dana Pierce, principal of BHS.

**-**Mr. Pierce thanks the PTA for the Back to School Breakfast for the staff and teachers.

**-**He discussed the Bullying Assembly, funded by the Father’s Club, that linked to the ROARS curriculum.

**-**He offered information on the Tristate Visitation (CT, NY, NJ) Committee. The focus was on writing and how BHS fosters critical thinking through writing. Visitors spent the day interviewing teachers, parents, students. BHS will get graded and a report will be sent to the BOE, which is assessing the Teacher’s College Writing Program in grades K-5, and how to implement it in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Heather Barnett, a parent, was interviewed.

**-**The student newspaper, newly started, was discussed. Fourteen 4th and 5th graders signed up. Mr. Pierce is looking for the first publication to be out in December. It is run by Mr. Pierce, Ms. Greco, and Mrs. Galow. Lisa Commisky asked if this could this be linked to the ASE Elementary News program?

* **Teacher Representative Updates:** presented by Mrs. Cotter.

-Thank you to the PTA for the breakfast at the beginning of the school year.

-All teachers received PTA membership forms.

-Book Fair wish lists were discussed.

-Teachers would like to know when, where, and how the Holiday Boutique will be run.

-Coat hooks are needed by some teachers.

* **Committee Updates**

-ASE has 141 enrolled students in 8 classes. 6 are brand new classes. Parent volunteers needed to run programs. Policies must be read by parents. (Dawn Cuminotto)

-Membership is at 93 families (27 joined online) and 21 faculty. An Eblast will go out to remind parents to join. (Jaime Molgard)

-Spirit wear is offering new hair ties for girls. Items will be sold at the Spooktacular, at the Book Fair’s evening hours, and at the Giggling Pig Paint Night. (Sylwia Kozlowski)

-The Book Fair will be November 8-10. This year’s profits will go to the Media Center and the Lego Wall. There is a 25% discount for teachers. Parents are reminded of the online sale. An Eblast for volunteers needs to go out. (Sylwia Kozlowski)

-The Spooktacular ticket sales are going well. There will be a 5th grade teacher’s trunk. (Lisa Commisky)

-School Supplies sold 136 kits for a profit of $246.31. Headphones are for sale as well. (Lisa Commisky)

-School Store update: it ran on Sept. 28-29 with a profit of $509.80. The next school store will be Nov. 30-Dec. 1. (Dawn Wood/e-mail)

-BHS Football Game Night was successful. (Lisa Commisky)

-Believe Kids Fall Fundraiser orders will be delivered next week. Eblast must be sent out regarding pickup. Total sales were $9,579; Total profits were $3,917. (Sandy Lennon)

-Donations will be needed for the Staff Holiday Luncheon.

-Box Tops is currently running a contest: the class that sends in the most Box Tops wins 2 night of no homework. Money last year went to the Media Center and the purchase of 10 Maker Space items. (Amelia Audette)

-The Pumpkin Run eblasts were sent out. Jessica asked about how best to reach people and get them interested in participating. Registration was up for the Kids Run. The Final Mile will be May 20th. (Jessica Sokolowski)

* **Additional Comments:**

-There was further discussion of working with the Father’s Club to get more information on the Sun shade project.

-There was also a proposal of possibly raising the teacher grants to $200. How would this money be used?

-Jamie Molgard asked how the PTA could get more people to volunteer.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57.