

Bowman PTA Board Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2019

Bowman Conference Room

7:00 PM Sign-In, Welcome, and Introductions

In attendance: Gary Van Deurse, Katie Quick, Val Machinist, Jenny Corduck, Martha Rogers, Beth Glick, Rebecca Fagan Gorospe, Chad Fallon, Lauren Avery, Anne Norman, Cindy Arens, Brandy Hartford, Courtney Lauriat, Lisa Premerlani, Taleen Gleeson

7:10 PM PTA Business

- Treasurers
 - We received thank you notes from front office staff for holiday gifts. These were passed around for all to see.
 - We recently received \$677 from the Box Tops program and are more than halfway to our \$1000 goal
 - BOKS-has spent a lot of money and does not have a corporate sponsor. In the past the program has covered its own expenses. Jenny Corduck's understanding is that Reebok kicks in money and Lexington Toyota has sponsored it in the past but has not responded this year. They have spent money on t-shirts, wrist bands, equipment, etc. but it is unclear how imperative these purchases are. It is a great program and Jenny Corduck will talk with them and put some parameters around spending. Jenny assumed part of grant was being paid towards school for sporting equipment, not t-shirts etc.
 - Fall bookfair income is still being finalized but we almost made goal in cash.
 - We received some unexpected donations in the form of three \$500 mini-grants from Harvard Pilgrim. Lisa will follow up with Harvard Pilgrim to see if they are targeted toward specific purchases. The grants are from company employee benefits and we will look into how we can advertise to parents that other companies might also do this.
 - We have reached our membership dollar goal
 - The largest chunks of money have been BOKS and 100 mile club (minigrant) and miscellaneous holiday gifts
 - Teacher stipend amount: With a decreased budget and increase in staff, we had to cut amounts back by \$25. Prefer not to do that if we don't have to. There is historical precedent with how amounts were set and we try to be as generous as can. Need to vote to keep amounts same as they were over the last several years. We do have the money to increase the budget. Discussion about changing

process in the future. Motion to increase budget for this year to give teachers same amount of money as in past years.

- Passport to the World
 - Planning is in full swing and there is lots of enthusiasm about the event.
 - Based on feedback from past events they are working on making the schedule more fluid. Food and booths will likely be from 5:00-7:00 with performances from 7:00-7:45.
 - Many staff and a few parents are involved in the planning. They would love more parent involvement. The next meeting is March 8. Reach out to Beth Glick if you are interested in helping. They are also hoping to get high school volunteers

- Teacher appreciation week
 - Planned for May 6-10
 - Monday-parent provided staff breakfast (PTA provides coffee)
 - Tuesday-tea bag with cookies
 - Wednesday-afternoon snack station
 - Thursday-potluck lunch
 - Friday-mints and goody bags

- PTO update
 - Gary Van Deurse has been looking into changing from a PTA to PTO. We currently spend \$1500/year to be part of PTA and we don't take advantage of programming or insurance. Most elementary schools in town have made this change. There are specific rules that need to be followed in order to leave. Gary Van Deurse and Lisa Premerlani will work on this next year. There is no rush because we just paid dues so have a year to work on it.

- Survey Info
 - We reviewed the responses to the survey that was recently sent out. 243 people responded and they were pretty evenly distributed among grades. 70% of respondents are PTA members
 - The majority of respondents said they would be most likely to attend a family friendly fundraiser as opposed to an auction
 - 76 % of respondents volunteer and 23 percent do not. Scheduling conflicts are the biggest barrier to volunteering
 - Suggestions were highlighted about possible PTA-sponsored events, publicity, volunteering, speakers etc.
 - Consensus that we need a small committee to plan a fall fun run and fundraiser. This could be a working PTA meeting where we try to elicit more volunteers and plan a new event.
 - Thank you to those who responded to the survey and offered meaningful suggestions. The feedback received is incredibly valuable.

8:30 PM Adjourn

Next PTA meetings:

- February 27, 2019
- March 20, 2019
- April 24, 2019
- May 22, 2019

Upcoming Events:

- Math Nights
- Science Fair