

Bowman PTA Board Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2019

Bowman Library

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

Katie Quick, Rebecca Fagan Gorospe, Sarah Carter, Courtney Lauriat, Alison Stevens, Brandy Hartford, Cindy Arens, Lauren Avery, Karin Ornstein, Valerie Machinist, Anne Norman, Winnie Pong

Faculty: Jenny Corduck, Joshua Curhan

7:10 PM PTA Business

- Treasurers
 - Staff checks went out this week-staff is very appreciative
 - BOKS-have not heard anything about a sponsor update
 - Received check from Amazon Smile
 - Received grants from Harvard Pilgrim earmarked for third grade curriculum
 - Received \$200 from Dr. Bruce Bowman, who has a family connection to the school. We will send him Bowman swag and there was a suggestion for someone to write a paragraph in the Broadside about his donation and connection to the school
 - Still money in discretionary fund available if need arises this year
 - Upcoming expenses: science fair, spaghetti dinner, star student bears
 - Ms. Corduck received a \$400 donation from a 5th grade student which she collected for her birthday and wanted to have donated to Sagam

- Principal update
 - Redistrict update-being led by Dr. Kavanaugh. The new Hastings School is scheduled to be done in January 2020 but redistricting will be implemented fall 2020. Hastings will have 5 classes at every grade level.
 - Huge thank you for math night and science fair-both fabulous events and Ms. Corduck loved them both. Thank you to PTA for sponsoring them. There were some suggestions about science fair because of its popularity: extend over two hours or do it over two nights (K-2 and 3-5). Also a suggestion to email parents ahead of time so parents know exactly where they're going and envelopes are on the table to avoid the check-in line. Also think about having the scientists come at the beginning and then have kids wander around.
 - Composting-fabulous effort and going great. Thank you to volunteers coming in. Good feedback from SSPs and students. Upper grade students are pros, and lower grade students are learning quickly. Discussion starting in the district about an initiative to save untouched food.

- Coffee with the Counselors: Ms. Uzenski and Ms. Shavers will start doing a monthly series for parents. The first one will be on March 21 at 8:45 and the focus will be helping kids manage anxiety.
- Teacher reimbursement checks are so appreciated. Ms. Corduck is thinking about ways she can spend her money. She will order three more garment racks for lost and found. She has also submitted an LEF community school grant for flexible seating for classrooms, but she is committed to spending \$700 or \$800 that won't be covered in the grant if she receives it. She will use the PTA checks for this purchase.
- LEF-Courtney Lauriat will be the Bowman liaison for the LEF grants for grades 3-5. Still looking for someone to be the liaison for grades K-2.

8:15 PM Any other Business

- Survey Info-This month's Broadside will highlight the findings from the survey. Because of the length we will hold off on volunteer profiles until the April Broadside.
- PTO Update-Lisa spoke with our accountant who is willing to help us transition to becoming a PTO. His services will cost \$2000-\$3000 but will pay for itself within 2-3 years. The group agreed to hire him to help.
- K Orientation – The PTA will have a table again at orientation. Ms. Corduck is also planning a “New to Bowman” parent night in August and an event for new students the following morning with current fourth graders acting as tour guides. Screenings/orientations will be in May.
- Major fundraising event being planned for next year: Pancake breakfast paired with an auction in the gym. Details still being planned but we do have volunteers to run it. We are also considering a student run during the school day where kids get sponsored and funds benefit the PTA. Ms. Corduck believes there is huge value in PTA community events and that we need to be more transparent about the budget and need for fundraisers. One option for families to see value in PTA fundraising is for each grade-level to be given a budget to do a special enriching event specific to that grade-level.
- ACT-Alphabet Rockers band is coming at the end of April. They are a Grammy-award winning band from California and their music is all about social justice/standing up for yourself. There will be two performances at Bowman-one for lower grades and one for higher grades.
- Infrastructure trials for MCAS are upcoming in mid-March. Messaging around MCAS at elementary level will be minimal again this year in order to lower stress, and Ms. Corduck will send a message to parents reminding them of this.
- Spaghetti dinner- sold out in 36 hours and planning is going well
- Wilson farm day-upcoming on March 7
- Variety show-sign-up is live

8:30 PM Adjourn

Next PTA meetings:

- March 20, 2019

- April 24, 2019
- May 22, 2019

Upcoming Events:

- Spaghetti Dinner
- Wilson Farm Day
- Math Nights
- Variety Show
- Disco Bingo / Class Baskets