

**Bishop School PTO Meeting Minutes**  
**November 14, 2012**

- Jayme call to order
- Roll call
- Meeting minutes approved
- Principal's update
  - Online sign up for conferences although teacher's will facilitate times outside of sign up
  - New teacher evaluation system – to be implemented next year. Unioned and negotiated by teachers. In process. Important to know there are new tools in system to evaluate superintendents and principals as well. Make superintendents more visible in the schools.
  - Professional development day was November 6. Very tech heavy. Workshop around technology, special education, social and emotional work. Teachers had the option. Not enough iPad 101. Facilitated by Asst. Superintendent.
  - Right now fifth graders are using classroom responders (clickers) getting comfortable using them. 5<sup>th</sup> graders will be demonstrating clickers to the rest of the classroom.
  - Future iPad training in process – and Mark recognizes the need to be ongoing
  - Question concerning Ms. Bressler's class: mold, environmental hazard, everything was supposed to be okay; 2<sup>nd</sup> time around they found more mold under the kickboards and making new base cabinets. Getting into the walls and they found more tunneling. Water tests, replaced paneling with Mrs. Thom's room. Identified where animals are coming in. Cemented everything shut and in cased it all. Public facilities has reviewed the entire school.
  - MCAS discussion
    - In an effort to be totally transparent, Mark reviewed scores exactly the way he reviewed with teachers
    - Trying to get administrators to share what each of the schools are doing well – behave like a district and not as individual schools
    - One issue our students have faced: leaving questions unanswered, lose points
    - Also reviewed questions that the students graded poorly on – team reviews and determines how they can teach differently
    - Certain math delivery and instruction needs to change and be adjusted/professional development to look at math/geometry differently.

- Parent brought up the communication need between Ottoson and the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers
- Parent brought up good point that even though its important to look at the questions that we got wrong, it is critical to review the overall standards and make sure we are teaching to the test, i.e. what is it about numbers and operations that are causing the issues
- As of 2014, MCAS will go online.
- Overall, PPI – closing of gap between children with special needs and how school districts are meeting the needs of every child
- SGP – Student growth percentage, individual student growth and how they do each year. Expected percentage that each child is expected to meet – state is looking at this more closely.
- Mark reviewed how deeply the data can be translated and how they are working to determine how to cut data to review and learn from
- Reviewing children at both ends of the spectrum, special needs vs. higher enrichment
- Many questions were asked concerning how standardized test skills are taught
  - Mark assured parents that Bishop does prepare children with test taking skills
- Reviewed differentiating instruction – meeting the needs for every child to access curriculum at their level /Mark working with the teachers to ensure that the administration is giving the tools to teachers to be able to teach to students at various clusters and levels
- Teacher’s report
  - Report card mode
- Presidents’ report
  - Extremely busy month, \$7k in one month
  - Annual fund is almost half way there
  - One more push for the Annual Fund around the holidays
  - \$660 Bear Bucks have been distributed
  - Thrive coffee update – appeal to someone to help out and get the program running.
  - Enrichment
    - Mock election a success, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade in-depth on candidates
    - Grade level enrichment program for every grade booked. Working on whole school assembly for winter/spring

- Integrated theatre initiative in starting up in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade workshops. Each grade subsequent will perform during a den meeting. All student play in April. 3-5 kids will have regular rehearsals.,
- Younger kids will be in chorus/ensemble
- Survey monkey question – theatre program after school
- New book sale – week of December 17
- Reviewed Chick Singer night – November 17 – Jen Brogran to perform and money will go to theatre program
- Jayme
  - Awarded \$4k in grants, i.e. online, subscriptions, advance website development, teachers are using website to interact with classroom, classroom support, books k-2, TURC math reference books, funded many enrichment programs, funded Meals on Wheels
  - Overall, fill in a lot of gaps and aides.
  - New event, Volunteer Day – starting to talk to the teachers – January 26. Get the punchlist from the teachers – see who we can get donations from
  - 1<sup>st</sup> grade event – update next month on what is selected. January 4<sup>th</sup>
  - Brecky and Jayme met with Laura Chessin to discuss technology, plans have not been laid
  - A parent wants to do a fundraiser for Hurricane Sandy – school to school partnership, penpals at elementary schools. Kids to understand that NY kids are displaced – more information to follow
  - Health and Wellness Committee
    - More PTO sponsored activities after school
    - CDC 150 minutes of recommended exercise every day
    - Roblyn would like to have more ideas
    - Fit Girls is expanded to district
    - Something for boys
    - Safe Routes
      - Kara Madden and Jean Clark
  - Reviewed t-shirt for teachers
- All teachers have iPad apps - if you know of any apps, let them know
- Treasurer's update
  - Net ahead of budget

- Large chunk came from Thompson PTO
  - iPads came out of technology grant bucket
  - Books came out of teachers budget
- Fundraising Update
  - Think about holiday shopping
  - Box tops also have an online component with 200 retailers
- Calendar
  - December 6, Knights of Columbus
  - April, Skating party