



Bishop School PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: May 11, 2016

Minutes

- Welcome – Those present: Mark McAneny, Aly Lydon, Jean Clark, Lori Reck, Renata Thomas, Laura Fuller, Shannon Knuth, Heather Breslau, Rosemary Foster.
- Review and Approval of Minutes from April 2016 Meeting – Renata Thomas made motion to approve, Shannon Knuth seconded, unanimous approval.
- Principal's Update (Mark McAneny) Kindergarten (Fall 2016) parent orientation yesterday, thus far 64 students registered. June 9th kids will come in for story time and tour. Screenings will take place on 13th and 16th of June to aid with class placement. Kindergarten to start Fall at same time as other grades. For other grades fall 2016 placements are happening now. Next year anticipating large 5th and 2nd grades. PARCC went off with some minor technical glitches, but otherwise doing well. Survey was given to kids regarding opinions of pilot. 5th grade beginning to plan events for their recognition, group not going to Georges Island. Rosemary Foster asked – “do you know which specialists will be back next year?” Mark replied - Not yet because other schools adding new class sections. This summer parks department and DPW to regrade the parking lot and resurface blacktop to eliminate flooding.
- Teacher's Update (Aly Lydon) – In spite of rain, the chalk messages were great. Flowers from students were also wonderful. PARCC has been good, great to get over the jitters of the new format. 5th grade to have a presentation by Cindy Curran and Wendy Salvatore to cover the expected behavior in Arlington Schools as they transition to middle school.
- Co-President's Update (Rosemary Foster and Heather Breslau) – Heather Breslau – school grounds and garden cleanup and used goods collection were well attended and had lots of volunteers, coinciding electronics recycling not quite as successful. We need to revisit for next year. Some new PTO grants were approved for additional ELMO projector mounts and contributing to 5th grade class gift (new basketball hoops and backboards). 2nd grade grant for caterpillars was approved. Also PTO purchased an extra pallet of paper to complement the schools dwindling supply (APS budget cycle closed for year). PTO donated money to The Children's Room for the speaker at April meeting. PTO is working with Aly Lydon (5th grade teacher) to coordinate grade level teacher supply lists so that information will be available to families (on school and PTO website) before end of this current school year. Any additional teacher specific items can be added nearer to August. This may not apply to kindergarten.
- Room Parent Update (Katherine Reisz-Hanson) Read by Heather – Upcoming parent volunteer opportunities: Teacher Tea June 8th and Field Day June 3rd.
- Fundraising Update (Shannon Knuth) – Electronics recycling event not as profitable as in past. Only \$88 net was raised as opposed to \$1200 prior year. Maybe not something to be held yearly? How much electronic waste do families have to recycle every year? Tri-year event?
- Financial Update (Renata Thomas and Melina Salerno) Renata – play final ticket sales are in and we made several thousand dollars and intent was not to raise additional funds. Made some funds from used goods sale already.
- Bear Fair Update (Laura Fuller) – Fair is only 10 days away. Biggest need right now is for volunteers.