



Bishop School PTO Meeting
Date & Time February 10, 2016, 7-9 pm
Location: Bishop School Library

Minutes

1. Welcome, Rosemary Foster

2. Review and approval of minutes

- Renata Thomas moved to approve; Jennifer Badua approved

3. PARCC overview: Dr. Laura Chesson (Assistant Superintendent) and Linda Hanson (Elementary Literacy Specialist)

- Please see full presentation and reference guide here:

<https://docs.google.com/a/arlington.k12.ma.us/presentation/d/1bpmnVDQynjs4E3Nz9fDIXvgRPj8AIP6Un2HXpY2N1Y/edit?usp=sharing>

https://drive.google.com/open?id=0B_h8abKvouaVRWpVWUVIYm1vOTNSQ2pCQlh0OGJuZEICaIQ4

- Bishop has been selected to pilot administration of the computer based PARCC test
- Grades 3, 4, and 5 will test PARCC between April 25 and June 6
- Schools administering PARCC will have their 2016 accountability and assistance level held harmless (the level will stay the same or improve from 2014, but will not decline).
- No consequences for students. For those concerned about the use of test scores to determine placing out of 6th grade math, 3rd and 4th grade results will be used for the assessment as well as teacher input.
- This is last year of MCAS
- "MCAS 2.0" will be heavily based on PARCC, but exactly what MCAS 2.0 is TBD
- All other elementary schools in town will administer PBT (paper based testing)
- Grade 5 at all schools will take paper science MCAS May 19-May 23 because PARCC has no science unit
- Principal makes up test schedule
- Tech plan: Bishop will have iPads with wired keyboards and stands. Must use supplied device due to security restrictions.
- Teachers were trained on devices on 2/9.
- Ottosson will also use same set up for 6th grade - Grades 7 and 8 will use Chrome books
- Test is downloaded and given locally through a caching server. Not direct internet wired. So will not hang. Limits tech issues.

- Not asking teachers to modify curriculum based on scope and sequence
- In April students will have practice tests
- Sample practice tests available (see presentation for URL)
- Accommodations available for students with IEPs, 504's, etc.
- Extended time for SPED, ELL and 504 students
- Total of 7 days of testing in a row (roughly one hour/ day)
- After it is available online teachers will work with students to prepare
- Bishop only has 4 iPad carts so a schedule for training will need to be established.

4. Principal's Update

- As of today, June 24th will be the last day of school because of 2 snow days
- School district website being revamped and therefore the Bishop portal from the district site will look a bit different
- We're about to roll out a new website for Bishop

5. Teachers' Update, Aly Lydon representing

- Report cards going home on the 11th of March, grades close March 4
- Nurse Donna taught puberty class to 5th grade today – boys and girls together

6. Presidents' Update, Rosemary Foster and Heather Breslau

- Thank you for Bishop Night Out – good turn out
- March 1 – Shop at Wilson Farm –and a % of your purchase amount will go back to Bishop
- Tuesdays in April - eat at NYAJ and a % of your bill will go back to Bishop
- Volunteer needs:
 - Bishop Clean Up and Electronics Recycling Day April 30 - 3rd grade coordinated-event, looking for two 3rd grade parents to co-lead
 - Garden volunteers
- Science Night – 2 weeks from today
 - Aly Lydon has worked with 5th graders. Every 5th grade student is involved somehow.
 - Need volunteers for demos – 45 min shifts. No need to be a scientist. Also need volunteers for set up and pizza sales and to help organize the kids for the egg drop
- Bishop School Pride Week – March 14-18
 - Centered around core values of the school; this year it's Respect
- Tomorrow we will be providing cookies for Valentines to teachers during lunch
- Teacher Appreciation week – April 11-15 - Got any ideas?
- Public Comment
 - There is a parent (not PTO) organized group within the Bishop community that is discussing the enrollment challenges issues in Arlington. Meeting on Feb 23rd - Focused on middle school
 - Contact Laura Fuller or Greg Christiana for more info and to join email group
- 8:50 pm: close