

PTA Meeting Minutes September 13th

Introductions.... Went around room and introduced ourselves

- lots of new faces at meeting!!! 28 attendees

Mini –Grants: Betsy Wilkinson

- Budget is \$5000
 - Can be used for Professional Development, Reading Intervention, Math Intervention
- Exec Board Voted for yes to Minigrant request from Len Swanton's Intervention program Just Words, www.justwords.com
- Also have a minigrant request from 6 staff members for a professional development workshop. Cost is \$550 per person. Need to explore further and ask Dr. Anton for more information. This exceeds our minigrant budget for the year so need to decide how to help sponsor and for whom.

Grade Level Grants

- We also have a line item in the budget for grade level grants for totaling \$4500
- Teachers can request assistance from PTA as a grade, with purchasing educational materials for their classroom. Materials purchased will be used across that particular grade.

Also, If you're doing printing, we use Swifty in Arlington. It costs us less if you download their driver and order copies on line. When ordering, you need to say that the job is for the Bowman PTA and bill will be sent to Betsy.

Also, important to remind everyone, that anything going out in the backpacks needs Dr. Anton's approval.

To determine how many copies to make:

- refer to the FAMILY COUNT list (ask in office).
- Fliers need to be divided by class and brought to office for office staff to distribute. Copies should be done in black and white but can be on colored paper.
- Instructions for swifty on our website.

New Safe Routes to School Chair: Patricia Valda Luzio

- Anne Kubik mentioned that we need a plan for bikers to get to school....is there a biker lane or a way for bikes to be included in drop off.
- Also, Val Upham said she would like to spray paint bike racks.

Fall Fair: Moira Logan

October 2nd

- Moria gave a run down of all the different events....
- Sign up will be on-line... very easy to sign up this year!!!

Back to School Night

- Instead of asking each grade/class to bring a dish, drinks, etc.... we are using MySignup for parents to volunteer to bring different items.

Room Parent Meeting: Flo Donaghy for Cathy Swan

- 9:15 at Cathy Swan's house
- Classrooms still in need of room parents:
 - Mrs. Bennet
 - Ms. Selhub
 - Ms. Leveque
 - Ms. Pyskaty

Renovation Update: Jen Vogelzang

- Town meeting last year voted to cover the design costs for repairs at Bridge and Bowman
- Only difference between two schools is that Bowman needs new roof
- In the spring decision was to provide additional work, boilers, windows...new classrooms, redo administrative offices to better use the space and provide an additional small instructional classroom.
- Better security with new office...will have a window for staff to see who is coming in.
- Better air quality with partial cooling...reduces humidity levels during early fall and late spring/early summer
- Design estimate was \$19.3 million but now with the more complete design, cost has gone up to \$21 million. Part of the increase is also market conditions, increase in supplies, cost of materials. School committee will discuss again at Sept 20th meeting to decide how to keep everything in project but asked architects to further refine costs and fine ways to cut costs back. Windows are a question at this point...whether we need to replace all or not.
- There's a state funded program that may possibly help with funding for windows.
- Estabrook will have to be rebuilt as well. Will need a debt exclusion vote probably happening in January.
- September 27th First General PTA Meeting, Pat Goddard and Dr. Ash will attend to discuss renovation and surrounding issues and how to get this done...
- Some argue we should have new schools but we can't ask for \$90 million at this point. When Harrington and Fiske were rebuilt there was funding available from the state that doesn't exist anymore.
- If all goes well...renovations will start this summer and go for two years.

Website: Maura Fiske

- Explained how Chair People can update events. Guidelines are on website.
- Flo Donaghy is in charge of google PTA calendar
- Maura is in charge of content on website but she needs information from us.
- Once new school websites are up and running, our PTA website will link to Bowman School Website.
- Bowman PTA Letter Head is on Website to use for PTA letters to staff, vendor letters, etc....

Chess Lessons: Anne Kubik

- Matt Gardner, history teacher at LHS does this at Bridge and Estabrooke and would like to do it at Bowman too.
- Maybe divided by age group....
- Will probably get up and running in late fall.
- PTA will give a donation to LHS Chess Club

Trivia Bee: Jennifer Velis

- November 9
- Cary Hall
- \$325 per team to be in event

Building Usage Forms: Jennifer Velis and Flo Donaghy

- Any time you are holding an event in the building you need to fill out a building use form.
- Form is available on BowmanPTA.org
- Purpose is to let custodians know if you need tables, chairs, etc...and if building will need to be open after school hours.
- If you get a bill at home, you should send it to Betsy (treasurer) and she'll pay fee.

Recycling : Anneli Mynttinen

- Will talk to Dr. Anton and discuss how we can improve recycling at Bowman

Reminders:

- Parent Coffee, 9/16, 8:45, Bowman Library
- School Pictures 9/19