

## **PTA Meeting – Minutes**

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 | 7:00 - 8:30PM

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**In attendance:** Jenny Corduck, Beth Glick, Rebecca Fagan Gorospe, Anne Norman, Elaine Reed, Winnie Tsiang-Pong, Christine Chang, Brandy Hartford, Val Machinist, Joshua Curhan, Lauren Avery, Jackie Anderson, Lakshmi Ramanath, Natasha Zeb, Nayera Thabet, Radha Badani, Stephanie Ryan, Taleen Gleeson

### **7 PM – Welcome and Introductions**

#### **7:05 PM – PTA Business**

##### **PTA/O Positions**

- Co-President 2021/22 – Filled! Val Machinist and Brandy Hartford will be co-presidents along with Anne.
- Secretary 2021/22 - Filled! – Winnie Tsiang-Pong
- Co-Treasurers 2021/22 - Volunteers Needed
- VP Communications 2021/22 - Volunteer Needed
- VP Membership 2021/22 - Volunteer Needed
- There are other open positions that volunteers are still needed for. Additional communications will go out about these.

##### **Budget Update**

- Raffle Ticket Sales are under way.
- Have \$500 donation/match from last year that will go towards 5<sup>th</sup> grade activities this year. Donation was made last year but languished in office for a while because of COVID.
- Trying to wrap up all numbers for PTO transition.
- Will have a hard date to transition over accounts. If teachers wish to deposit reimbursable checks, it must be done by end of March. Jenny to help with reminders.

##### **Principal Update**

- Return to school, trying to preserve classrooms the way they are but may be changes. These things are out of Jenny's control, and we cannot allow people to choose based on teacher preference.
- Must fill out form by 3/12, 6pm if want to change model. Not many model shifts as of right now (RLA to Hybrid or vice-versa). Will not honor changes after that. Do not need to fill out form if no change.
- Jenny is one of two elementary principals on Community Input Team (CIT) for return to school, which drafted letter and change form.
- Next conversation is about middle schools, then high school after that.
- Will not be adding more teachers at Bowman to use empty classrooms and spread kids out. Need to make it work with what school has.
- Specials will still occur on a reduced schedule. Art and music will be virtual and the teacher will zoom into classroom. Kids will remain in their classroom. PE will be in person, as much as possible outside.
- Beth is retiring to move on to do work with kids at the preschool level, using musical and social worker talents. Searching to fill her position, have close to 50 applicants already.
  - Jenny and team have selected 20 candidates for first round zoom interviews. From that pool will narrow field down. Bowman staff will have a chance to meet final candidates, do not know if will include parents and/or students in process.
- Bowman is getting a solar "carport" to complement panels on roof (all schools are getting these). Entire back parking lot will be closed for construction which means

will need an alternative for buses to turn around. Going to be problematic. Start is April 7. This was out of the school's control.

- There is a draft calendar for next year, but nothing is finalized. Is on LPS website. End time will change for next year and will be 3:30. Dr. Hackett is leaning towards Fridays for half days but still TBD. School start time will be new later time.
  - First day of school right now is 8/31. Right now 6/18 is last day of school.
- Have any Bowman teachers gotten vaccinations yet? Only way admin would have knowledge is if they tell us. No requirement for staff to disclose this info. It is a personal choice to share. Union negotiated for teachers to have COVID personal day.

### **PTA/PTO Transition Update**

- There will be a special meeting and a vote on 5/25 at 8pm.
- We need a 2/3 quorum (13/18 exec board members) to pass. The vote is to close the PTA at the end of the school year and transition to a PTO.
- The Mass PTA is invited to come talk to us at this special meeting.
- Over the summer we will redo the website and any additional branding.

### **Community Service Update**

- Working this year as a "build" year to figure out what a good community service program looks like, and want to make sure it's relatable to kids. Trying to link service to social studies curriculum by grade.
- Goal is to implement in 21-22 school year, may need parent liaison by grade to assist.

### **Fundraising Update**

- Virtual Bingo / Class Basket Raffle – raffle date will be 4/15, baskets delivered to school this Friday.
- Need to figure out ticket sales and shutting down bank accounts for PTO transition (want to shut down accounts by the end of March).
- Kids Run Fundraiser – more vigorous PE can be outside, masked, 6 feet apart per Jenny/district. We may not be able to do the run in person as a result. Will find out more about it and share ASAP. Tentative date would be June 3 or 4.

### **Updates on Events**

- Passport to the World, second session is this week (3/11). First one went really well.
  - This week, four families will present on China, Russia, India, and Pakistan. Have more families who want to present than we can even accommodate.
  - There are four fifth-grade MCs who will introduce each group.
- Science Fair – last week, done really well! Presentations are all online.
- After-school special interest clubs – shout out to Jackie and Christine, these are going really well!
- Family Math Nights – went well and turned out to be similar to in person. Kids were very engaged. 48 families participated!
- Variety Show / Coffeehouse – will try to plan another one for May, variety show format.
- Bowman Writes – Cover contest with student judges. Kids working in classrooms to submit items through teachers for the internal content.
- Nurses Appreciation Day – COVID testing coordinating team doing this day, Jean Claffey will be recognized. Will assemble a gift from whole school community. PTA pitched-in for this.
- Crossing Guard appreciation day – happens in March, maybe we can do something for this? No firm plans as of now. Being organized by "Safe Routes to School." Maybe put something in broadside. Stephanie will do it for David.

**8:30 PM – Adjourn**

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**Upcoming Events:**

3/11/21 - Passport to the World Session 2

4/7/21 - PTA Meeting

4/8/21 - Passport to the World Session 3

4/15/21 - Virtual Bingo / Class Basket Raffle