

## **Beechwood Knoll Elementary PTO February 2022 General Meeting Minutes**

**Date, Time, Location:** Monday, February 7th, 2022 Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Meeting called to order by:** Co-Chair Kristin Campbell at 6:32 pm

**Secretary's report:** Given by Erin Geoghegan, Secretary. Motion to approve December meeting minutes. Motion approved.

**Principal's Report:** Given by Principal Janet Loftus (JL) and Assistant Principal Marisa Forrester (MF)

- MF discussed winter testing. In the midst of getting winter data to see how students are growing through the year and how to get students progressing through the Spring. Any questions about reports, please contact your child's teacher. On MAP reports, it's nice to see child's individual growth and seeing their achievement growth (from Fall to Winter).
- New section in monthly newsletter entitled, "Supporting your child at home." This new section provided tips for grades 3, 4 and 5 Math Team this month.
- ACCESS testing for English learner students wrapping up this week
- MCAS testing this Spring. April and May. As soon as dates are scheduled, parents will be notified.
- Lunar New Year parade was a success. Kindergarteners paraded through the school, was a very nice celebration.
- Valentine's Day this month. No food to be distributed or shared throughout the classrooms. Special snacks for your child is ok.
- Jump Rope for Heart. Thanks to Ms. Fran for bringing it into our classrooms. Students will be participating in their physical education classroom. Please have students wear red on their physical education day.
- Extended ed: session two is starting in a couple of weeks. Thanks to teachers who offer these programs. Email will be sent for sign-up. Programs start the week after February vacation and wrap-up the week before April vacation.
- JL discussed MAP testing results: the growth and gains since September are great, some are exceeding their expectations. School Committee was thrilled, pushed BKS improvement plan through.
- In addition to Lunar New Year and Valentine's Day, we are celebrating Black History month.
- No longer performing contract tracing. If your child has signed-up for pool testing and you want them to be done, call Mrs. Cerrone, or send an email.
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers want to meet with Ms. Loftus to discuss end of year activities. JL meeting with 5<sup>th</sup> grade teaching team this Wednesday. Will be reviewing what was done pre-COVID and during COVID. Hopes that by Spring, we will be back to normal in terms of Spring activities. Will have a 5<sup>th</sup> grade parent meeting to finalize plans for activities.
- Discussed driving and parking during start and end times at school. Asked parents to be careful when leaving and be careful when dropping off older children.
- Asked to have PTO notes sent to JL for translation.

- JL was asked to step in as Principal of Lincoln-Hancock. Was there as AP before coming to BKS. Principal resigned and JL was asked by Superintendent to fill-in through rest of school year. Expressed appreciation for support she has been given during four years at BKS. Has agreed to go until June. Will continue to be in contact with MF, who will be taking over at BKS in the interim. JL unsure what her role will be next year. She has only agreed to be Lincoln-Hancock Principal through June.
- Ms. B, current media teacher, taking over for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teaching duties.
- Coro Shiner asking how the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teaching responsibilities were communicated to students. During restorative justice discussion and Math class was when MF shared with her students that JL was going to another school and as a result, MF would be taking over principal duties. Informed students that Ms. B would be taking over for MF.

**Treasurer's Report: Given by Co-Treasurers Cori Shiner (CS) and Justine Corte (JS)**

- JS advised that currently there is a balance of \$14,202.35 (after Scholastic checks have been cashed). Balance reflected on balance sheet was \$20,995.09
- Kristin Campbell (KC) discussed that \$125 from account must go to BabyCakes for cupcake kit fundraiser.
- KC asked what school made on Book Fair. JS responded that BKS made roughly \$4500. Over \$5,000 when taking into account credit card purchases.

**President's Report: Given by Co-Presidents Kristin Campbell (KC) and Katie Sampson (KS)**

- KC has had conversations with Robin Franceschini (RF) about hosting a Fun Run at BKS. Has talked to several PTOs (Squantum, Merrymount, Southwest Middle School) and has determined that 99 Pledges is the best company to use for facilitating the Fun Run. They take the least amount out of profits. Does not charge platform fee, but does take Paypal fee. Next step is providing a date and a roster to the company.
- Discussed restaurant fundraisers, such as Brick & Beam. KC considering contacting them to establish a fundraiser night.
- Someone asked during the chat if we could do the Penguin Pizza pizza kit fundraiser. KC responded that that was something offered by the restaurant during COVID as a way to maintain business, but it's not available now.
- KC has had people asking her about Fall Festival. Most want it to return. A Fall Festival cannot happen without a Fall Festival Committee. Suggested posting a sign-up sheet on the Facebook PTO page to gauge interest of committee volunteers. Somewhat late to start planning now, so KC suggested a soft Fall Festival – i.e. gear it towards the BKS community rather than the wider Quincy community.
- Katie Sampson suggested a Balducci's Restaurant Night fundraiser. Sweet Frog and 16C both suggested as possible fundraisers as well.
- Discussed when to host Fun Run: School day vs. weekend. JL recommended a school day b/c students are busy with activities on weekends.
- KC asked about International Night. JL said she can bring it up during next principal's meeting. Will need to find out if schools will be permitted to have parents inside the buildings.

**City-wide Report: Given by City-wide Representative Katelyn Guimaraes (KG)**

- Since last PTO meeting, there have been 3 City-wide PTO meetings. KH discussed Superintendent's Leadership team discussing DEI incidents at Quincy high and Point webster. They reviewed what happened, how students were disciplined, what steps Quincy will be taking to resolve these issues and to work together. Goals in place that are being discussed among all Quincy Public Schools.
- Covid restrictions were discussed at following meeting.
- City-wide PTO discussed how individual PTOs can thank school nurses. Suggested that individual PTOs brainstorm of ways to show gratitude towards school nurses.
- Discussed having translators for PTO meetings.
- KC asked if anyone had ideas for how to thank Nurse Cerrone, to contact her.
- Cori Shiner asked if PTO could agree on an amount to spend on a gift/gift basket for Nurse Cerrone. CS suggested \$250, KC agreed. Motion to approve \$250 for gift for Nurse Cerrone Motion approved.
- KC suggested that during next PTO meeting, the group discusses how to thank teachers during Teacher's Appreciation Week in May.
- Katie Sampson suggested a Field Day at the end of the year for the students. KC asked RF when it historically took place. RF confirmed that past field Days took place towards end of June.
- RF mentioned that tomorrow is biggest day at BKS – 2022 Winter Olympics. Kids can wear anything red, white and blue or country they love.
- Tara Kennedy asking about Kindergarten playground playdate for incoming Kindergarten. Offered to drop a flier and host it. JL offered to pass out fliers during Kindergarten screening in May.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:45 pm

**Meeting notes compiled by:** Erin Geoghegan, PTO secretary

**Next PTO Meeting:** Monday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm