

BCS PTSA Clearinghouse Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2012

Attendees: B. Neel, E. Robbins, T. Rea, S. Roberts, D. Cryberg, N. Corum, D. Brown, A. Smith, S. Hansen, B. Moises, K. Rofick, P. Chinn, R. Bishop, R. Joseph, D. Jensen, H. Sherman, T. Valentine, C. Motlagh, S. Motlagh, K. Mastrangelo, K. Barnas, J. Moilanen, L. Damman, L. Kennedy, T. Arpasi, M. Frenkel,

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Nerad, BPS Superintendent was our guest speaker and reviewed his three-month transitions plan. He then addressed questions from the meeting attendees.

The General meeting was called to order at 2:00pm.

Minutes from 9/20/2012 were distributed.

Principal's Report P. Chinn

Partners in Learning – R. Joseph spoke about the Sustainability in Business Project, developed by the 5/6 Joseph/Roberts Team 2011/2012 school year. The Joseph/Roberts project was one of 75 submitted to Microsoft Corporation's competition. The Sustainability in Business Project was chosen as one of 10 winners. Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Roberts will travel to Prague in November to represent BCS.

MEAP's Two days of testing left, Tuesday and Wednesday next week. The stress level is low.

7/8 Block Schedule The 7/8 classes are using the block schedule for 4 days of the week and one day as a traditional day.

Character Connections The classes have been held for 3 weeks. The classes are to update a Wiki weekly. Surveys will be taken in the spring, by parents, faculty, and students.

7/8 You Matter Project with Engage Update given by R. Bishop

Parking Lot R. Bishop

An attendant has been hired for morning and afternoon to monitor drop-off and pickup. Our number one priority is keeping the children safe. Reserved parking spaces that were won via the Blast Auction are reserved 24 hours a day and not to be used at any time by others.

Co-Chairs Report: B. Neel/E. Robbins/T. Rea

Thank you to S. Ciemniecki and T. Arpasi for sending out the Promise to Participate volunteer preference information to each of the committee heads.

The Ice Cream Social was a success, thank-you to N. Corum, B. Moises and Proud Dads.

Volunteer opportunities still open:

- Reflections co-chair: S. Kaplan has volunteered to be one of the co-chairs.
- Webmasters
- Media Center is still in need of volunteers to help out in the Media Center on a regular basis.
- 8th Grade Graduation: 8th grade parent volunteer needed
- E-Bugle volunteer needed to help C. Motlagh

Spirit Wear was sold during Registration and at the Ice Cream Social. Sales are now complete. Looking for someone to head up Spirit Wear going forward.

Reminder: In regard to check requests, please make sure to fill them out completely and accurately to make sure that they can be processed in a timely fashion.

E. Robbins reported on her review of various online sign up programs and recommends that Sign-up Genius be used as a standard volunteer sign-up for BCS PTSA.

B.Neel reported that allocations of the unspent funds remaining in the 2011/2012 BCS PTSA Clearinghouse budget have now been approved and distributed.

Treasurer's Report : L. Damman

Treasurer will rectify the individuals who have paid for Forensics and Science Olympiad but are not participating, and also follow up with individuals who are participating but have not paid.

Additional Business: Section revised per 11/8/12 meeting (revised item bold)

L. Kennedy presented a request for \$1223 contingency funding to be set aside out of the Unplanned Fund budget for incremental licenses of Accelerated Reader. This would be accessed on an "as needed" basis for students who want to use AR as part of the "Wild about Reading" program being developed by B. Clark and the media center. A motion was made by **C. Motlagh** to take a vote in regard to funding Accelerated Reader. K. Barnas seconded the motion.

C. Motlagh requested a restatement of the motion in favor of the funding to include the caveat that any future funding of this be based on data that supports that this program resulted in incremental reading.

E. Robbins asked that there not be a vote, or to vote against this motion, because additional funding of AR had already been denied by the budget committee and because the request doesn't meet the definition of "unplanned expense".

Vote taken, Nine – “AYE” and Three “NAY”. Motion passed*

Meeting adjourned 3:25.

Next Meeting

November 8, 7 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Roberts

* **Addendum to Minutes:** Section revised per 11/8/12 meeting (revised items bold)

On October 22, 2012 **an email correction sent out (see below)** to all who attended the October 11th meeting regarding the vote that had taken place to support AR Contingency funding.

To all PTSA members in attendance at the October 11th PTSA Meeting,

I would like to reach out to everyone and bring to your attention a situation that has occurred regarding the vote that was taken for contingency AR funding.

As you recall, a motion was placed to vote to approve the setting aside of contingency funds out of the Unplanned Funds budget to support additional Accelerated Reading licenses that may be requested for use in a reading program being developed by Barbara Clark called "Wild about Reading". Unfortunately two things happened: first, this motion and vote took place before the details of the program had been presented or approved by administration. We cannot bring to a vote the funding of programs that are not already approved by the Principals. Secondly, we did not follow Roberts Rules for motion and discussion procedure, or the protocol set forth in our by-laws regarding how to vote on the use of Unplanned funds, which requires that any amount over \$500 must be discussed, posted on the website, and then voted upon in the next PTSA meeting. This vote was taken prematurely. Because this was an unprecedented situation, we did not realize that we were handling this inappropriately. I apologize for the confusion, but at this point in time, the vote taken stands invalid.

Please know that Patricia and Barbara are still working on the development of an incremental reading program. Once this program is finalized and approved, Patricia and Barbara are of course welcome to come back to the PTSA to request additional funding if necessary. We will make sure that the appropriate steps under our guidelines are followed.

Bear with us, we all learn from new situations that arise, as we have with this one.

Sincerely,
Brier Neel- PTSA Co-Chair