

Approved

BCS PTSA Clearinghouse Meeting Minutes

November 5, 2015

Attendees: L. Duzan, S. Wright, N. Corum, J. Peterson, G. Moran, S. Adams, D. Davis, M. Morawski, A. Acey, S. Shenefelt, J. Prisciandaro, J. Hill

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Our PTSA Dollars at Work: John Prisciandaro/Engineering Technology

- Mr. Prisciandaro gave a presentation that highlighted a STEM unit for the eighth graders at BCS. Mr. Prisciandaro demonstrated how they investigate an alternative means of producing electricity with Kelvin Fuel Cell Racers. (PTSA donations assisted in the purchase of these fuel cell racers.)

The meeting minutes of October 1, 2015 were approved.

Principal's Report – M. Morawski

- Report cards go out on 11/9/15. Grades 5-8 are letter grades & can be accessed through PowerSchool. Grades 3&4 are standards based assessments and are sent home with the student.
- Parent/teacher conferences are 11/18, 11/19, and 11/20 (Math). Sign-ups have been sent out. Request to visit co-curricular teachers as well.
- Covington Road construction update: The end is in sight! Look for an e-mail with details.
- Bond update: The BPS School Board hired consultants (architecture, technology, etc.). Summer 2016 – new lockers for BCS & all schools will have a secure entry.
- The new Spanish teacher (filling Sra. Geisler's vacancy) will be announced in the 11/8 WAG.
- BEF Grants were mentioned: Garden on Wheels (Hydroponic System) & Salmon Project, both at in 3/4.

Co-Chairs' Reports – G. Moran, A. Acey

- \$150 was granted to the Wellness Committee for two nights of parent/child yoga at Born Yoga in Birmingham.
- \$225 was granted to the Lego Club (parent-led, not a Choice Hour)
- N. Corum moved to approve an additional \$62.98 (for a total of \$287.98) for the First Lego League (FLL); second by S. Adams. All present approved.
- Lego Robotics Clarification
 - a. There is a Choice Hour for Lego Robotics. This is instructed by J. Whitmar and is for 6-8th grade. They will participate in Robofest at Lawrence Tech in April.
 - b. There is a Lego Club (parent-led) for 3rd-5th graders. They should collect a "pay to play" fee.
- Legislation: MPTA
 - a. Open/Concealed Gun Carry in Schools
Michigan PTA has consistently advocated for gun free zones, gun safety and school safety and our positions have not changed. SB 442 attempts to address what has been described as a loophole in the current law which allows for the open carry of firearms in schools. We believe this legislation will not solve the problem, nor benefit the children in Michigan. For more information:
<http://www.michiganpta.org/?page=HotTopics>
 - b. Standardized Testing
 - c. It is being proposed that standardized testing be capped at 2% of class time.
 - capping and reducing overall classroom time spent doing standardized testing is a good thing.
 - Birmingham public schools already falls under that 2% mark.
 - reducing the amount of time for standardized testing is good and perhaps it needs to be more than 2% because it still seems as though our children spend quite a bit of time with standardized testing.<http://www.educationnews.org/education-policy-and-politics/obama-administration-proposes-limits-on-standardized-testing/>
- Birmingham Education Foundation (BEF) - Unabashed BASH is 2/6/16. Theme for basket donations is "Cook's Corner".
- BCS Turn's 20!
Volunteers are needed. Sign-up Genius is available: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090f4baaa828a64-bcsturns>

Good Humor ice cream, Fitz Hive, Dale Truding, and other former administrators present.

Treasurer's Report – S. Shenefelt & S. Adams

- Summary of Budget vs. Actuals was provided.
- Processing “Back to School” receipts (credit card)
- Acknowledged that we have 428 families in PTSA and staff members joining as well.

Committee Reports

3rd/4th Committee – No comments.

5th/6th Committee – No comments.

7th/8th Committee – No comments.

New Business

- Community Connections – BCS Open House is from 1-3PM on December 6, 2015. Volunteers are needed; sign-up is available. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0d4ca8a8238-bcsopen>
- Disability Awareness Workshop is January 27 & 28. Volunteers are needed!
<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4baead2ea13-disabilities>
- Auction Chair is still needed for the BCS Blast.

The meeting was adjourned at 8PM.

Handouts: BCS PTSA Clearinghouse Meeting Agenda for November 5, 2015, Unapproved BCS PTSA Clearinghouse Meeting Minutes for October 1, 2015, BCS PTSA CLEARINGHOUSE Budget VS. Actuals: FY2016 (JUL 2015-JUN 2016), Contact information for Senator Marty Knollenberg, Letter from Ruthann Jaquette, Michigan PTA President regarding SB442

Submitted by: Laura Duzan