

**Briarcliff Elementary PTA Meeting
June 5, 2018**

Attendees: Sheila Cain, Mimosa Hines, Deanna Hart, Craig Shapiro, Betsy Betsacon, Elysia Prendergast-Jones, Paule Myre-Bisaillon, Anne Diriligen, Daniela Worden, Sagrina Serrano, Linda Turner, Marilyn Shapiro, Jacquelyn White, Denise Klimas, Cara Williams, martha Hinds, Amy Dexheimer, Marian Ingham, Ebony Montgomery, Ashley Stockbridge, Gregory Stockbridge, Stephanie Henry, Meg Schroeder, Gayle Manzer, Russ Kahn, Joy Garretson, Ashleigh Bowling, Ann Richter

Staff: Stephanie Raiford, Beverly Benton, Donna Allen, Theresa Howard, Carol Huggins, Dawn Haney

Meeting Called to Order: 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

Ms. Cain welcomed everyone to, and thanked everyone for attending, our final meeting of the 2017-18 year. Prizes will be awarded!

II. The Minutes for the May 1, 2018 meeting were approved.

III. Presentation of Slate of PTA Board Nominees and Election

Ms. Myre-Bisaillon presented the following slate of PTA Officer nominees, and solicited additional nominees from the floor (with no one additional being nominated).

President:	Sheila Cain
Vice-President:	Mimosa Hines
Treasurer:	Deanna Hart/Crystal Holladay
Secretary:	Amber Tingle

Motion to approve the slate; seconded; passed, without dissent.

IV. Vote on allocation of funds to Briarcliff's Music Special/Ms. Brooks

Ms. Cain explained the need to vote on funding items for Briarcliff's Music Special/Ms. Brooks. Specifically, Ms. Brooks has requested funding for:

Interactive Now - Supplemental SMARTboard activities for hands on learning
Total set of 10 = \$279 (\$29.95 each)

SMART Rhythms - Comprehensive collection of rhythm activities for SMARTboard

Total = \$57

Portable Roll Up Keyboards - 61 standard keys (with raised black keys), build in speakers, drum kit, and many more features.

\$99 per keyboard *Ideally, I would like to have 1 keyboard for every 2-3 students. With some classes at almost 30 kids, 15 would be ideal, and 10 would be good

15 keyboards = \$1485.00 and 10 keyboards = \$990.00 TOTAL

Deluxe Folding music stands (for handbells) \$15.95 each (8 would be ideal)

8 music stands = \$127.60

Jazz for Young People - Interactive Software to use with SMARTboard

Total = \$85.00

Ukuleles (the little mini guitars) \$39 each if you buy 12 or more

Class set would be 15-20

Total = \$585-\$780 (depending on how many you get)

Ukuleles Teacher Guide Book

Total = \$35.00

The request totals approximately \$2,900.

Instruments will be purchased over the summer so that they are ready for the students at the start of the next school year.

Ms. Hart clarified that the PTA intends to provide special funding for Briarcliff Specials by rotating through the specials.

Ms. Raiford mentioned that the PTA held off last year for this funding. The selection of musical instruments is, in part, intended to provide equity as to students' access outside of school to various instruments.

Ms. Klimas asked if, based on the note regarding music stands, Ms. Brooks was considering classroom instruction regarding handbells. Ms. Raiford confirmed that Ms. Brooks already is teaching handbell to students.

Motion to approve the funding; seconded; passed, without dissent.

V. Vote on PTA Membership Fee Increase from \$6 to \$8

Ms. Hines explained that yearly dues have been \$6.00 for several years and break down as follows:

\$2.25 goes to the National PTA

\$1.75 goes to the North Carolina PTA

\$2.00 goes to the Briarcliff PTA

Raising the yearly dues to \$8.00 will result in \$4.00 going to Briarcliff PTA, and will leave Briarcliff within the spectrum of yearly dues for other local school PTAs, e.g., Farmington Woods is \$10.00 and Cary Elementary is \$6.

Amy Dexheimer suggested raising it to \$10.00. Ms. Hines explained that raising it above \$8 had been discussed and, due to the high percentage of free/reduced lunch students, it was determined that raising it to \$10.00 may dissuade some parents from joining. Of course, donations in any amount are accepted, including paying \$10.00 for dues even if the dues are only \$8.00.

Motion to increase the 2018-19 PTA membership dues from \$6 to \$8; seconded; passed, without dissent.

VI. Vote to fund Battle of the Books again for 2018-19 to allow for the purchase of books over the summer break

Ms. Allen presented information regarding the Briarcliff Battle of the Books program, which has been funded by PTA for several years. Ten books are selected, and each participant must read at least 5. The interest in the program and the ultimate competition can be very intense. Ms. Allen uses an online program to assist with the program, which is discounted if paid in August (necessitating funding approval now).

Ms. Raiford noted that books purchased for the Battle of the Books program ultimately will go into circulation for all Briarcliff students.

Motion to approve funding in advance of the usual \$600.00 to Ms. Allen; seconded; passed, without dissent.

VII. Officer & Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Hart presented information through May 24, 2018. The PTA has approximately \$28,000 in its bank account. The goal is to maintain a \$15,000 balance. The \$10,000 grant to Briarcliff for the new playground project was an unusual expenditure, resulting in a negative budget for this year, which was approved earlier in the school year because there were additional funds from prior years that allowed the PTA to provide these funds for the new playground. Spring Fling did better than projected (\$2k above projected), which helped reduce the budget deficit. There are still a number of expenses that must be paid, primarily teacher grants. Accounting will be closed out at end of June and Ms. Hart will provide a final update. Over the summer the PTA Board will work to create a full budget for the 2018-19 school year. The full budget for 2018-19 will be voted on at the beginning of the school year (typically in early- to mid-September).

Additionally, there are common expenses over the summer, which must be voted on now to ensure that the funds are available when needed prior to the approval of next year's budget.

Insurance:	\$350
Operations/Administration:	\$500
Students' Agendas:	\$1,000 (the PTA usually get much of this back through donations specifically for these Agendas)
Principal's Fund:	\$1,000
Back to School events:	\$750 (Meet the Teacher, Open House, etc.)
Total:	\$3,600

Motion to approve allocation of these funds for use over the summer (which will be approved again in next year's budget); seconded, passed, without dissent.

Prizes!

Briarcliff PTA First Son Eli Cain drew names --

Trader Joe's gift cards: Anne Richter and Sagrina Serrano

Chocolate Fondue Fountain: Gail Manzer

Nominations:

Open Positions for 2018-19:

Nominations: Takes the lead recruiting members to fill open positions (with the help of all members actively involved in the PTA).

Fall Fest: Abra Rearte has volunteered for one of two co-chair positions. It cannot be done alone. Eventually, there will be a team of volunteers to help the two co-chairs...but two co-chairs are needed.

Art by Me: Students complete artwork on a special paper during their art class with Ms. Dale, they are submitted to ArtByMe, and parents/family can purchase magnets, keychains, potholders, stickers, and other items with their child's artwork on them. No one volunteered for the 2017-18 school year, and so Briarcliff students were left without this creative, fun, and hands-on fundraiser.

Grounds: Mses. Raiford and Benton have been notified by some church groups of their interest in helping. The PTA needs a volunteer to be the liaison between the PTA and Ms. Raiford.

Filled Positions for 2018-19:

Book Fair, Hospitality, Spring Fling, Spirit Wear, Spirit Nights, Spirit Booth (but would like to have one additional volunteer), Garden, GoPlaySave, Fun Run, Advocacy, Cultural Arts, Audit, and Membership.

Principal's Report: Ms. Raiford thanked the volunteers that helped with the recent testing days, both those volunteering in person and those that provided snacks for the staff. Briarcliff cannot do this without volunteers, and the staff appreciate everyone that helped.

Ms. Raiford reported that \$2,300 was recently raised for books for Briarcliff students. Those books will be purchased and then donated to K-3 students.

Briarcliff will have some renovations over the summer -- just outside the media center and near carpool. The lounge will also be ripped up. Volunteers are needed on Tuesday, June 12 (at approximately 10am) to box up and remove items in the lounge; then in July to help put the room back together.

Next year parents will receive a lot of information regarding Briarcliff being a Title I school, which provides additional funding to Briarcliff. There will be a committee to determine what to do with the additional funds (programs to bring on campus, partnering with the PTA, etc.), and Briarcliff is seeking volunteers to participate in that process.

Ms. Raiford thanked the PTA for all that it did over this past school year.

VIII. Honoring Exiting PTA Parents

Ms. Cain noted that several parents will not be returning next year. She described how welcomed she felt when she came to Briarcliff and how valuable everyone is, whether through active volunteering, providing input at meetings, volunteering behind the scenes, or through donations. Mses. Cain and Hines presented certificates of appreciation and chocolates to the following parents, whom have been active in the PTA over the last several years:

Alicia Angell
Ashleigh Bowling
Denise Kilmas
Dan Madding
Elysia Prendergast
Craig Shapiro

Meeting adjourned: 7:43pm