

Briarcliff Elementary PTA

MEETING MINUTES

Dec 14, 2021

1. Call to Order

Meg Schroeder called to the meeting to order the at 7:05 pm on 12.14.21 on our Google Meet. Approximately 30 people were in attendance.

2. Approve Minutes from Last Meeting

Katie Patrick made a motion to approve the minutes from November, Daniela Worden seconded the motion

3. President's Remarks

—Mrs. Nelson is asking if the PTA can fund the renewal of BrainPop for the kids. Out of 24 teachers polled, 23 said they use it and would like it renewed. It would be \$1300 for a 12 month subscription. Michelle Craig made a motion to approve this purchase; Daniela Worden seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

—There will be no meeting in January

—Ms. Seibel has been invited to attend the Teacher of the Year banquet; can the PTA fund this cost of the tickets? We get four; the Principal and AP usually attend as well. James Brown made a motion to approve the \$212 for this; Betsy Betsacon seconded, and it was unanimously passed.

—A discussion was had on the best way to receive PTA communications. Email, TalkingPoints, and Facebook were mentioned. Meg Schroeder is evaluating the best ways to reach out.

—Carpool Sign: does anyone want to assume the creative duties of keeping this up to date. Meg Schroeder and Mimosa Hines have been doing it but would like help. Katie Patrick volunteered her 5th grade class. Mimosa/Meg will provide direction to her and the students will update it after the break

—A discussion was had on if we could rent out the carpool sign for birthday greetings, shoutouts, etc. Most people loved this idea, just need to flesh out the details. Someone mentioned constructed 1-2 doghouses and renting out the roofs for personalization? Could be a creative fundraising project. Would need someone to construct them. Maybe a 5th grade legacy project? Discussion tabled for now.

—Meg Schroeder presented an idea about having parents volunteers assigned to each grade level, sort of like classroom parents. That way, when a classroom/grade needs something, there is a point person who can communicate their need to the PTA (or whomever). She opened the floor for discussion: We could ask 1-2 parents to volunteer for each grade level; parents would take care of the details, teachers could communicate out needs via Talking Points. Someone asked why we can't just have a parent directory/contact book? Could we send out something and ask interested parents to opt in? Nelson suggested we look sending out a permission form in January. Ms. Perry's class sent out a google form for sharing info to parents—this template could be shared. Send email to Nelson to remind her in January about permission form.

4. Hospitality (Krystle Nelson, Lindsay Campbell)

—Holiday Luncheon is this Thursday; all is set and planned, volunteers are in place. We will help provide teacher coverage so all teachers can have a chance to get their

food and treats. Mrs. Nelson said an additional treat had been donated for the morning.
—On January 14, a rolling treat cart will be provided to teachers.

5. **Spirit Nights (Krystle Nelson)**

—Next one is Wed, January 12, from 5-8 pm at TIJUANA FLATS

6. **Treasurer's Report (Mike Schroeder)**

—Shared latest numbers, we have an ending balance of approx. \$41,000

—Fundraiser brought in \$11,537.39

—If anyone wants to donate more to help us reach the \$12,000 mark, please do so!

—Mr. Schroeder can send out tax receipts to anyone who requests it

—There was a short discussion about switching banks because of fees and customer service concerns

7. **Advocacy (Michelle Craig)**

—Thanks so much to everyone who has been advocating for teacher/staff raises. BES showed a lot of support at the last School Board Meeting

—There were some wins—not everything we were asking for—but more bonuses, pay increases at the county level, etc. Still need more advocacy at the state level with County Commissioners.

—Please continue to wear RED for ED on Wednesdays to show your support.

—Mrs. Craig suggested making special Red for Ed t-shirts that are specific to Briarcliff. Let's table that discussion until February.

—Mrs. Schroeder acknowledged the wonderful job Mrs. Craig has been doing as our advocacy chair. Huge accolades to you, Mrs. Craig!

8. **Book Fair (Jacquelyn White)**

—We had a very successful book fair, thank you to all the volunteers who helped make it happen! We made the most proceeds ever!, but because the point of this book fair was the put more books in our library and in kids' hands, this is not a fundraiser event. All the proceeds, plus a little more, will be turned over to Mrs. Soder to order more books!

—We had identified about 70 kids who needed support (thanks to Mrs. Sledge), and funded books for them, This is why there is not a profit.

—We sold \$12,031 in books, chose to receive 50% of that in scholastic dollars for Mrs. Soder to use.

—The preview days really helped kids to get their wish lists together; Some used ewallets this year—any extras from that were converted into gift cards. Mrs. White was wondering if the teachers liked the ewallets, as opposed to wish lists?

—We can have another book fair in May; will need to meet with Mrs. Nelson to discuss dates. Could do a BOGO fair, or some other variation to change things up. Mrs. Hines asked if we normally do 2 book fairs a year; the answer was we have in the past, but we also have not always done it. We will address this again later in the year.

9. **Fundraising (Kestrel McCorkle, Mimosa Hines)**

—Our goal was \$10,000, and we made \$11,537.39! Thank you for all your support!!!

—The letters sent out to big companies did not seem to be a success at all; its possible someone donated from this effort, but put it under their name instead.

—Mrs. Hines did the raffle drawings live using a random number generator. Winners are listed below and will be contacted ASAP to discuss prize pickup:

- \$25 Food Lion gift cards: Jose Amaya, Darlene Hoyt-Monbeck, Manpreet Bgaich
- \$50 Science Safari gift cards: Leslie McCorkle, Lee Pruette
- \$300 Visa card/Umstead card: Joseph Filazzola
- Cut-the-Carpool-Line Parking Spot: Cassidy Turner

Congrats to all the winners! Please look out for an email from Amy Dexheimer to claim your prize!

10. **Principal's Report (Mrs. Nelson)**

- Shout out to all staff for a wonderful start to the 2021-22 school year!
- Thank you to everyone who sent in cards and gift cards for all the staff!!!
- She thinks parent volunteers will be allowed to start coming in January; will wait and see what this Omicron variant looks like in the new year
- Field trips are planned to start back in January
- She had 21 students sign up for the Mako Covid pool testing effort (weekly testing in the school)

11. **Closing**

Meg Schroeder adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.