

Pathway Parents - PTO Minutes

February 3, 2016

Attendees: Jill Minter, Douglas Minter, Anne Coughlin, Amanda Heiney, and Michelle Thomas

1. Review of last month's PTO Meeting minutes and tonight's agenda

- The minutes were confirmed and approved.
- The agenda was also confirmed.

2. Fundraising Reports

- Treasurer's report (Michelle Thomson)- No new information available.
- Grocery Cards and SCRIP Gift Cards (Douglas Minter)- No new information available. The checks come around this time of month and last month was a report on 2 months of earnings.
- Other – BoxTops have brought in \$118.70 as of today. Note that this money goes directly to the school, not the PTO.

3. Pathway School News (Michelle Thomas)

- New Students - New high school student: Rose Coughlin joined on February 1st.
- Accreditation – National Commission on Exceptional Schools will visit BPS after 5:30 pm on Feb. 18th to present a certificate for pending accreditation. Meeting is open and PTO President should attend.
- 2016-17 School Year: Michelle introduced a final draft of the 2016-17 school calendar. She is trying to readjust the calendar to balance out the number of days in each semester. Therefore, there will only be 195 school days and she will offer each current family one free Optional Learning Week next year to make up the 5 day difference in the normal school year.
- Construction Update: Next school work day will be February 20th. The focus will be on the Home Ec room with a goal to finish it by the return from Spring Break.
- Michelle asked if the PTO will remind everyone various ways parent volunteers can support the school.

4. Report Outs and Updates

- BPS Work Day, January 23rd – This was a successful work day with over 10 people attending and 30 hours of work put in.
- Field Trip to Denver Art Museum - January Optional Learning Week – This was a successful trip and the Art teacher plans to schedule one again later this spring.
- Criteria and decision process for PTO funds – January PTO meeting – It was confirmed that there was consensus on the process for fund requests from the school. Please see January minutes.

5. Action Items

- BPS field day with National Sports Center Metro Program – Jill is researching this opportunity for later in the spring.
- Therapy dog visits for reading – This is still in progress.
- BPS Home Economics/Music Room – Michelle Thomas will have a detailed funding request for the PTO in March for a vote by the PTO.
- New Science Curriculum - Amanda Heiney requested \$2400 for the CPO science curriculum. This amount exceeds the current PTO budget. While the PTO approved \$250 last month for purchase of some materials, Amanda spoke with the rep about the materials and said we would save over 50% by purchasing the whole kit in one shot. The PTO discussed fundraising ideas for purchasing this curriculum and decided to create a direct mailing for families to share with family and friends. Michelle Thomas will draft the letter and Jill minter will review it. The goal is to have this completed and in the hands of families within 2 weeks.
- Amanda Heiney and Sean Thomas are the Grant writing team from the advisory board and Amanda informed the PTO that funding requests are difficult since the school is for profit and organizations won't likely fund the PTO if it is just for pass through to the school.

6. Upcoming BPS Activities and Events

- February Optional Learning Week activities – indoor climbing and zip line, 2 hang out days at school, an art museum visit, and a visit to the aquarium.
- BPS Family Day – Bowling at Chippers – February, 12th come at 12 noon to eat with kids at school and then bowling around 12:30 – 2:00

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- Student art show – To be done at one of the local libraries. Jill is working with Janice Warriner on this. Date still TBD.

7. Community Bulletin Board Activities and Events

- Jill and Douglas Minter would like to remind families that there are several great winter adaptive sports programs in Colorado. Ask Jill, Douglas and/or Laura Minter about their experiences.
 - ***Ignite Adaptive Sports***, Eldora, <http://www.igniteadaptivesports.org>
 - ***National Sports Center for the Disabled***, Winter Park, <http://www.nscd.org>
 - ***Stars Program***, Steamboat, <http://www.steamboatstars.com>