

# BSS PTO General Meeting Minutes

September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015

6:30-7:30pm

## 1. Administration Update

### a. General updates (Armstrong)

- i. Thank you to PTO for Back to School breakfast, gift cards for teachers
- ii. Thank you to volunteers who assisted in school first week
- iii. Smooth opening of the school year. Many programs have started (elem band/strings, middle school athletics)
- iv. Teachers have created goals for themselves and students
- v. *"Learning happens here"* is our school mantra; will be focusing on utilizing data to personalize instruction
- vi. Reminder to reach out to any administrator with any issues
- vii. Conferences Oct 8-9
- viii. Teachers and administrators appreciate volunteers who can support the PTO and the school

### b. Construction Update (Johnson)

- i. Working 3pm to 1am
- ii. Work in a secure area; closed off from students
- iii. Cleaned up each night in case students do need to pass through on a fire drill
- iv. Every 42-46 days a new phase starts (teachers rotate)
- v. Next switch around Thanksgiving

### c. Testing/Test Score Info (Schechter) (*See attachment*)

- i. Delaware – Smarter Balance testing rolled out last year for 3-8<sup>th</sup> grade students
- ii. Mailings have gone out and guide is available to help interpret results
- iii. BSS results posted in WNJ and DOE website BSS vs. District vs. State (% proficient – scored 3 or 4)
- iv. Keep in mind some of the concepts are new to students so important to compare BSS performance to district and state. Rigor was increased considerably compared to prior years.
- v. Utilizing classroom time to work on performance tasks (much different type of exam/assessment)
- vi. Proud that our students and teachers have met the challenge
- vii. DCAS testing will continue for grades 4 and 7 in Social Studies, and for grades 5 and 8 in Science

## 2. Board Member Update

### a. President-Noelle Maher

- i. Reinforce every little bit of help works; can match volunteer needs with time available (daytime/evenings/weekends)-contact us at [bsspto@gmail.com](mailto:bsspto@gmail.com)
- ii. Built proposed budget; gave teachers gift cards
- iii. Starting to organize fundraisers
- iv. School directory deadline October 1<sup>st</sup>

### b. Vice President-Kira McDonnell (Elementary) & Colleen Craft (Middle)

#### i. Elementary

1. Starting to build lines of communication with Elementary teachers
2. Sharing information re: different groups/clubs at BSS
3. Leading Yearbook; hoping to have 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders assist
4. Key events: Book Fair set up Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, fair runs from Oct 16<sup>th</sup> to Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> (will hold an event that evening, still looking for volunteers to help organize event)
5. Adding Bobcats in Business into directory – to connect our community (deadline October 1<sup>st</sup>)

- ii. Middle
  - 1. Working on 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade t-shirts
  - 2. Middle School social being planned Nov 13<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>
  - 3. Most of activity at the end of the year
- c. Secretary-Cindy Dikeman
  - i. Commitment to post minutes of general meetings within 1 week
- d. Director of Fundraising-Traci Murphy
  - i. BJ's Memberships (2x/year, Fall and Spring)
  - ii. Race for Education is now Bucks for Bobcats
    - 1. Will be associated with Spirit Week & Pep Rally
    - 2. Will culminate on Fri Nov 13<sup>th</sup> - celebrate success for raising Bucks for Bobcats
    - 3. Students will request contributions from friends and family
    - 4. No sales of anything - just request donations to school and all funds go directly to the school
    - 5. Will award prizes for both participation and school spirit
  - iii. Leave Winter Behind
    - 1. Big event, lots of assistance needed
    - 2. Huge success last year due to work put into committee and 100% teacher participation
  - iv. Original Artwork campaign (put your child's artwork on coffee cups, shirts, etc)
  - v. Affiliate fundraisers
    - 1. School Store/ Spirit Wear
    - 2. School Pictures
    - 3. Boxtops for Education
    - 4. Smile.amazon.com (select BSS PTO as a beneficiary)
    - 5. Target - through Take Back Education program (ends in May 2016)
  - vi. Book Fair (Elementary and Middle School)
    - 1. Signup genius to come soon
- e. Director of Committees-Alicia Alexander
  - i. Manage volunteers for committees
  - ii. Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> event - we have a committee planning, but we do need volunteers for the evening
  - iii. Middle School event - have some people to lead event but need additional volunteers
- f. Director of Communications-Brooke Balan
  - i. Cat Chat
  - ii. Facebook
  - iii. Website
  - iv. Email BSSPTO@gmail.com
- g. Teacher Liaisons-Deanna Bilecki (Elementary) & Megan Hagedorn (Middle)
  - i. Elementary -
    - 1. Thank you PTO for the new playground equipment in the tubs (for use on blacktop)
  - ii. Middle School
    - 1. Working on increasing teacher membership to the PTO
    - 2. Additional budget requests due by October 1st
- h. Treasurers-Nicole McKee & Kristen Salfas
  - i. Proposed Budget for 2015-2016
  - ii. Vote on Proposed Budget - passed by majority vote
  - iii. Additional budget requests will be accepted by October 1<sup>st</sup>, and amendments to budget will be reviewed at the next general meeting
  - iv. Current Spending in the 2015-2016 Year

3. New Business

- a. AR no longer supported by the district
  - i. Reading A to Z (Razzkids) for K-2 –
  - ii. Study Island for older kids
- b. Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup>; Guest Speaker: Prevent Child Abuse Delaware

Assessmen	SchoolName	TestGrade	sumLevel	Reading	Math	Pct_Read_Meet	Pct_Math_Meet
SBAC	Brandywine Springs School	3	School	2486	2468	79	74
SBAC	Brandywine Springs School	4	School	2522	2498	79	63
SBAC	Brandywine Springs School	5	School	2579	2561	85	70
SBAC	Brandywine Springs School	6	School	2566	2556	66	56
SBAC	Brandywine Springs School	7	School	2582	2580	65	56
SBAC	Brandywine Springs School	8	School	2577	2590	57	58
SBAC	District Total	3	District	2428	2422	50	46
SBAC	District Total	4	District	2462	2458	46	38
SBAC	District Total	5	District	2500	2485	51	34
SBAC	District Total	6	District	2521	2505	48	34
SBAC	District Total	7	District	2542	2535	49	41
SBAC	District Total	8	District	2553	2541	47	35
SBAC	Statewide	3	State	2438	2439	54	53
SBAC	Statewide	4	State	2477	2476	54	47
SBAC	Statewide	5	State	2509	2498	56	38
SBAC	Statewide	6	State	2524	2510	48	34
SBAC	Statewide	7	State	2547	2529	50	37
SBAC	Statewide	8	State	2559	2542	49	35