

Banneker Elementary School PTO

Meeting Minutes

September 10, 2019 9:30am

Attendees: Tina Martin, Maureen Fulkerson, Dagmara Mathews, Kristin Phelps, Cy Acord, Susan Strong, Krista Magalhaes, Harry Bigley, Melanie Blankenship, Robert Carter

President's Report: Cy Acord

Fundraisers

- Forget it: Approximately \$2300 raised so far.
- Family Night and Auction - Well received in the past, but because the previously used venue, Otium Cellars, is up for sale no inexpensive/free alternative has been identified. Suggestions for new venues include Dirt Farm, Great Country Farms Cidery, Bear Chase, Greenhill, B Chord (Melanie will follow-up with Eric), Middleburg Community Center, and the Middleburg Training Center for a square dance theme.
- Turkey Trot - November 26th
- Read a Thon - Differently conceptualized than in the past so that the burden does not fall on teachers to run it.
- Spirit Wear - Orders are due September 25th.
- Election Day Bake Sale - Great fundraiser/outreach opportunity that draws money from the community. Because it has been extremely successful in the past - over \$1000 last year in 4 hours, the PTO is hoping to hold it at both Banneker and in Philomont at either the General Store or Community Center.
- Original Works - Students produce artwork and its printed on a variety of products which makes good gifts for family members..

Events

- Pastries for Parents 10/1 from 7:15AM-7:50AM - Parents/guardians are invited to have a breakfast pastry with their student. Donations have been requested from Harris Teeter and Giant. Giant declined. Susan will provide Cy with Dunkin' contact name.
- Middleburg Parade - Third grade designs float, PTO supports the event financially and by helping to collect candy donations.
- International Night - January 2020 potluck style
- Family Fun Fair - Timing and event planning TBD
- Talent Show - Spring
- Teacher Appreciation Week - May 2020. Current plan is to replicate the 2019 TAW unless different ideas/suggestions are made.
- Assemblies - Considering the Planetarium but will evaluate other options.
- Field Day - Supported with volunteers
- End of Year Picnic - Family potluck with possible inflatable.

Open volunteer positions

- Winter Family/International Night
- School Board Liaison - Krista Magalhaes
- Auction
- SEAC Representative
- MSAAC Representative
- Grant researcher/writer

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- Giving Tree Coordinator
- LEAP - now defunct, but Tina Martin will look into it.

Vice President's Report: Kelly Nash

Turkey Trot will be run the same as last year.

Secretary's Report: Meredith Gurdak

After School Enrichment - Sports Club will run for 8 weeks:

Grades 3-5 meet immediately following the school day on Mondays, on the following dates: September 16, 23, 30, October 7, 21, November 11, 18, 25. CURRENT ENROLLMENT: 12

Grades K-2 meet immediately following the school day on Wednesdays, from September 18, 25, October 2, 9, 23, 30, November 6, 13. CURRENT ENROLLMENT: 6

Mrs. Beach requested After School Art Club in the Fall November timeframe - Monday or Tuesday preferred.

Harry Bigley suggested that Kelly Nash conduct a parent/student Zumba class.

Treasurer's Report: Melanie Blankenship

STARTING BALANCE		\$13,120.52
DEPOSITS		
Date	For	Amount
9/4	Forget It Fundraiser	\$1,200.00
Total Deposits		\$1,200.00
ENDING BALANCE		\$14,320.52
Lowes Grant Balance		\$ 476.89
Family Fun Fair Balance		\$ 605.32
Scholarship		\$ 1,000.00
AVAILABLE BALANCE		\$13,238.31

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The 2019-2020 budget was reviewed and the following modifications were suggested:

- Allow each classroom teacher \$100 per class for Field Trips. The remainder would be covered by families. This would add a \$1000 line item to the budget. The PTO would continue to sponsor students as necessary.
- A parent has offered to sponsor the LVHS scholarship.
- Susan noted that the budget for the IXL/Reflex software covers only half of the price. The remainder is paid from the school's budget.
- Mr. Carter mentioned that the school is considering using different learning programs for 2019-2020 and that information on the new software programs will be available soon.
- A line item for \$100 was added for retirement gifts.

A complete budget is available on request.

The following Expense Requests were approved unanimously.

Description	Amount	Status	Notes
Camp High Road	\$350	Approved	\$10 per student x 35 students. Full cost is \$25/student. Parents will pay the difference.
Install TV in Lobby	\$721	Approved	
DARE T-Shirts	\$250	Approved	
Scholastic Subscriptions	\$843.88	Approved	
Donated Year Books (expense from spring 2019)	\$121	Approved	Extra yearbooks were purchased by Banneker for students who couldn't afford to purchase them last spring. The school is seeking reimbursement for the expense. Going forward, on order forms, parents will be asked if they would like to donate yearbooks.
Noise Cancelling Headphones	\$30	Approved	
First Grade Field Trip to Shenandoah Valley Discovery Museum	\$100	Approved	Original requests was for \$210. Per the revised budget, \$100 was approved. PTO will pay the \$50 deposit from the \$100 that was approved..
History Connects Skype Program	\$150	Approved	
Total	\$2565.88		

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Principal's Report: Robert Carter

New School Year:

- Smaller class sizes for 2019-2020.
- 190 students for this school year.

Newsletter went home on 9/9.

- Page 3 of newsletter highlights Diverse Libraries that expose students to content that they might not normally encounter in a traditional library setting. LCPS wanted books to reflect student population in school.
- Books are available in individual classroom libraries for students to select.
- Parent raised concerns about students being exposed to more mature themes at a younger age.
- Tina Martin suggested conducting an open house in the library that would allow parents to preview books.
- Mr. Carter can provide a list of books with a brief synopsis of each book.
- Neil Sliven is the appropriate contact for questions about the school library.
- Tina Martin - Have teachers been taught how to respond to diversity questions?
- Susan Strong - What about students who read at a higher level, and therefore are exposed to mature content in the libraries?
- Harry Bigley - Who drive this process and how can changes be suggested?

School Improvement:

- Money is being invested in the school.
- Curtains in MPR are being held by safety pins and are unsafe. \$10K to replace, but improvement has been pushed to a later date.
- New boilers installed over the summer.
- New serving line installed in cafeteria.
- Landscaping can be done by Wildwood or Abernathy and Spencer?

Staff and Family Liaison - Brenda Taylor

Room parent status

- Kindergarten - Susan Strong/Kristin Phelps for Allen
- Kindergarten - Rachel Haws for Brissing. Krista expressed interest in helping with Brissing's class.
- 1st - Chrissy Runyan for Hendershot
- 2nd - Katie Knox for Bossi
- 3rd - Dagmara expressed interest in helping with Ms. Lynch's class.

Monthly Teacher Appreciation in May will be similar to previous year.

Bus Driver Appreciation in October

Vendor Fundraising - Katie Knox

Spirit Night at Monks and Tipped Cow 9/17

Spirit Night at Chick Fil A 11/12

Box Tops Collection Program.

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- Paper cut-outs will no longer be accepted. Families must scan grocery receipts using the Box Top app.
- Cy said provided information on the app and its ease of use.
- Tina suggested that we submit receipts so they can be scanned.

Directory - Susan Strong

Directory currently has approximately 70 confirmed entries. New families were sent paper reminders and existing families were sent email reminders. All entries are due September 13th.

Odyssey of the Mind - Susan Strong

Western Loudoun County Information Session is tonight at 7:30 at Harmony MS.

Tina suggested showing a video to students to generate excitement.

Susan will send home registration forms late September and teams will be formed early October.

Original Works - Kristin Phelps

Will advertise earlier to include Bulletin Board in October with Alexis.

Advertise at Teacher Bingo.

Parent packets will be sent home 10/23.