

Beall Elementary School PTA Meeting

The general meeting of the Beall Elementary School PTA met on February 7, 2017 in the Beall ES Media Center.

The President Paula Tully called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Those present as verified via the attendance sheet are indicated at the close of this document.

Introductions were made by the president who also determined that there was a quorum to take decisions in the meeting.

1. Upcoming February PTA Sponsored Events-Dine out night planned for February 16th at Giuseppe's Pizza Pus from 5:30-8:30pm. The winter semi-formal dance is to be held on February 24th. DJ Angel has been confirmed, planning committee is working on getting an on-site photo booth. Potential for complimentary food. Volunteers are needed.

2. Upcoming March PTA Sponsored Events-Workshop planned for PTA meeting on March 7th titled "Raising I Can Kids". Meeting start time to be changed to 6:30 pm on events page and google calendar. Big March Event by way of March madness to be held on March 17th. Apologies offered as some parents were upset event was being held on St. Patrick's Day. Sixty-inch television donated as raffle prize by Global Children's Center. Volunteers needed to run concession stand.

3. April PTA Sponsored Events-Silent auction to be held on April 28th. Volunteers needed to procure donations. Question raised as to whether there was a mechanism in place to track businesses that have been approached to ensure there is no duplication. Confirmation received that Mara Miller has this information.

4. Officer nominations are coming up and many of the current board members have reached their tenured term. Query posed as to when the bylaws may be amended as the concern is that the tenure times are too short, especially in regards to the president's position. Proposed that allowed tenure times be increased to four years. Response by president, the bylaws may be amended every three years and must also be approved by the PTA on a state level. A nominating committee consisting of staff and parents must be identified and put in place by the end of February. The slate is to be presented at the April PTA general meeting and voting to occur in May. Question raised as to what positions would be vacant. Response was that it was likely that four of the five board positions would be open, though clarified that those who are eligible to remain in their positions had not been approached in this regard. The MCPTTA representatives, membership and fundraising positions have completed their terms. Clarification offered that current board or committee members may run for and switch to a different position. Counsel offered that if there were questions and/or interest in a specific position to contact the current position holder.

5. VP of Programs Report-Almost all of the winter activities have begun, with a few that begin in the next two weeks. Most classes will prorate the fee if you sign up late. Speakers for March

PTA Meeting-Raising I Can Kids and for May Meeting-Positive Discipline. Free onsite childcare available for both meetings. Question posed if there would be additional after school activities offered when the current classes end in March. Response was affirmative that there would be additional offerings. Compliments and positive feedback offered regarding the new vendor for the Spanish classes as well as for the variety of options.

6. VP of Communications-Nothing to report.

7. Draft minutes for the December and January PTA meetings were presented to the group and were approved.

8. Amazon Associates and Amazon Smile programs discussed by Karen Folkart and the difference between the two was explained. Disappointment expressed regarding Amazon Smiles as the benefits only seem to pertain to select purchases. We have earned approximately \$75.00 through the Amazon programs this school year thus far.

9. Yearbook-Reminder issued to place orders prior to the deadline of February 10th. Concerns verbalized regarding issues uploading photos to the dropbox account. Instructions given to e-mail photos to the gmail account at this time. Tyra Estwick to check in with yearbook coordinator Liza Ford regarding dropbox account issues.

10. Treasurer's Report-The PTA has approximately \$20,000 in the bank. Approximately fifty percent is not budgeted. After budget expenditures, we will have approximately \$13,000 left. Budget spending has increased, but revenue this year has been higher. Proposal raised to help make the lower playground safer. Ideas for expenditures welcomed.

11. Principal's Report-Mr. Alter reported that building services manager Mr. George Walker has accepted another position closer to home and the school is in the process of hiring someone. New communications system launched in place of Connect Ed for both phone and e-mail communications. The new system has the capability of auto-translating. Varying feedback regarding the Chinese translation. Plan to continue using it until feedback is predominantly negative. Counsel offered to notify the school if you are receiving communications in a language that is not your own. Accolades offered for Kay Newhouse for the Science Expo. Valentine's Day parties will be smaller than Halloween parties. Communicate with teachers regarding volunteer needs.

12. Dragon Men and Donuts-Awaiting dates for next event.

13. MCCPTA Delegates Report-At the last meeting advocacy priorities were voted in. These priorities align with our PTA. All encouraged to share concerns, if any, with Beall delegates.

14. Richard Montgomery Elementary School Five-Boundary studies begin at the end of the month. Report to be presented in May, outcome shared in October. All four elementary schools in the RM cluster will be included. Twinbrook E.S. is at 100% capacity, not over capacity so was not originally included. The list of meeting dates was not published. The first and last meetings are open to the community. All other meetings are for committee members only.

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Principals and assistant principals are not permitted to attend the meetings and MCPS staff are discouraged from attending.

15. Presentation by Lauren Simpson of the Audubon Naturalist Society regarding a new program to be incorporated into the curriculum at every grade level. Esta Franklin to be the lead teacher. Parental assistance will be needed throughout. Beall will be participating in the Green Kids program, which is a two-year partnership between Montgomery County Public Schools and the Audubon Naturalist Society. Lesson themes include composting, recycling, salad gardens, stream science, energy conservation, pollution prevention and habitat preservation. Two years toward getting Green School status, though they are working to expedite Beall over a 1 ½ year period. Years three to four are considered alumni at which time you are given a project. ANS assists in year five and six for green school recertification. Application process reviewed. The governor awards Green School status. We would apply for May 2018.

Next Meeting slated for Tuesday March 7, 2017

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyra Estwick, VP of Communications

PTA Attendance February 7, 2017

Paula Tully

Esta Franklin

Karen Folkart

Becky Grandin

Alejandro Cardemil

Kathleen Cohan

Monica Berger

Gotthard Szabo

Rachel Anderson

Sandra Britt

Karen Tulchinsky Cohen

Leon Ding

Susan Gorant

Tracy Sattarelli

Emily Pearce

Tracy Niebauer

Erika Pied

Ken Scales

Melissa Scales

Tyra Estwick

Megan Dankovich

Julianna Harris Panzer

Caitlin Olson