

Minutes of the Beall Elementary School PTA General Membership Meeting
May 2, 2017

1. Call to Order - Meeting was called to order at 6:42 p.m. by PTA President Paula Tully, who confirmed that a quorum had been established, in accordance with the PTA's Bylaws.
2. Officer's Reports:
 - a. President - PTA President Paula Tully reminded the membership of the following upcoming events:
 1. Boundary Study for the new elementary school in the Richard Montgomery cluster ("RMES #5")
 - a. The Boundary Study Committee is scheduled to meet on May 3 to provide feedback on Options 5-8. A community meeting on the subject is scheduled for May 9 - this is the final scheduled meeting. Both of these meetings will be at College Gardens Elementary School from 7:00-9:00 p.m.
 - b. A number of options for the RMES #5 boundaries were discussed at a prior Beall Elementary School PTA General Meeting. Ms. Tully offered to continue the discussion with interested parties this evening, after the scheduled speaker had completed her presentation.
 2. This week is Staff Appreciation Week ("SAW"). Thanks to parents for volunteering and donating. For those planning to donate Target and Amazon gift cards for staff members, they are due to the front office by Thursday morning (May 4).
 3. Readathon begins this Friday, May 5.
 4. Food Truck & Family Reading Night will be held on May 11 from 5:00-8:00 p.m.
 - a. The Family Reading event is scheduled for 7:00.
 - b. We have a taco truck coming that will also have hamburgers and hot dogs. We also hope to have a pizza vendor.
 5. Dine out at Mellow Mushroom is scheduled for May 22.
 6. The End-of-the-Year Picnic is scheduled for June 2 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
 7. The final PTA Meeting of the year will be a volunteer celebration on June 6 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. Ms. Tully clarified that this is separate from the Volunteer Breakfast that Beall Elementary holds to thank those who volunteer for the school.
 - b. Vice President of Programs
 - i. Vice President of Programs Melissa Scales informed the membership that The Green Kids program conducted in conjunction with the Audubon Naturalist Society is continuing. As part of this program, students in all grade levels are receiving lessons about gardening, growing vegetables and/or related environmental issues.
 - ii. After school programs are starting to wrap up for the year. If anyone has any feedback regarding any of the programs, please contact Ms. Scales.
 - c. Vice President of Communications - No report
 - d. Treasurer
 - i. End-of-the-Year totals are coming in, and Treasurer Gotthard Szabo is in the process of comparing budgeted amounts versus the actual expenses and revenues.
 - ii. At this point, it appears that the PTA's revenues are approximately \$5,000 less than the budgeted amount. However, the actual expenses are about \$23,000 less than the budgeted amount. Although there are some anticipated expenses for the school year that have not yet been paid, the Treasurer expects the PTA's finances to be in good shape at the end of the year.
 - e. Secretary - No report

- f. Fundraising Report - PTA Silent Auction
 - i. The PTA Silent Auction held in April raised nearly \$6000.
 - ii. Silent Auction Chair Gabe Meyer is looking for ways to improve the event for next year. Ideas under consideration include moving the event off-site to attract more people. PTA members offered a number of suggestions for increasing attendance and participation in future.
 - g. MCCPTA Delegate's Report
 - i. MCCPTA Delegate Susan Gorant reported that MCCPTA elected and installed a new set of officers at the organization's meeting on April 25.
 - ii. Ms. Gorant noted that there had been recent reports in the media regarding financial irregularities involving MCCPTA funds. Although MCCPTA officers could not share details due to an ongoing police investigation, they assured delegates that they are cooperating fully with the Montgomery County Police Department. They also are working with the MCCPTA's insurance carrier to seek reimbursement of the missing funds. Additionally, a committee was convened to develop practices and procedures to help prevent financial irregularities in the future. Updates will be provided to member PTA organizations as new information becomes available.
3. Principal's Report
- a. Principal Elliot Alter conveyed staff members' thanks for Staff Appreciation Week events.
 - b. Mr. Alter reminded members that orientation for incoming kindergartners will take place on May 18, 19. Current kindergartners will not attend school on those dates. Mr. Alter noted that he expects to have six kindergarten teachers for the 2017-18 School Year.
4. Staff Representative Report
- a. Staff Representative Kathleen Cohan informed members that the Beall Elementary School Volunteer Breakfast will be in June. More information, including the exact date of the event, will be forthcoming.
 - b. Field Day will be on June 13 for all grades this year. Grades 3 to 5 will participate in the morning, and grades K-2 will participate in the afternoon. Mr. Healy is looking for parent volunteers. Volunteers will need to have completed the Montgomery County Public Schools ("MCPS") online volunteer training.
5. Standing Committee Report - Readathon
- a. Readathon Committee Chair Susan Gorant informed members that the 2017 Readathon would start on Friday, May 5 and would extend for three weeks. Parents should check students' Backpack Mail for weekly Readathon Logs to be used to track time students spend reading outside school hours. Ms. Gorant encouraged parents to encourage their children to **READ** and said that any Readathon-related questions should be directed to her.
6. New Business
- a. Election of PTA Executive Board for the 2017-2018 School Year
 - i. The Beall PTA Nominating Committee presented the following slate of nominees for Executive Board positions for the 2017-2018 School Year:
 - 1. President – Joshua Schnell
 - 2. VP Programs, Planning – Jonathan Schwalbe
 - 3. VP Communications – Monica Berger
 - 4. Treasurer – Gotthard Szabo
 - 5. Secretary – Liza Ford

- ii. Susan Gorant entered a motion to approve the slate as presented. Motion was seconded by Juliana Lutwin. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
 - iii. The new Board officially takes over on July 1, 2017. Congratulations were offered to all incoming Board members.
 - b. Members were informed that the City of Rockville will be holding a community meeting on Wednesday, May 17 at 6:30 p.m. regarding the planned rehabilitation of the Carr Avenue water storage tank, located a short distance from the school.
 - i. The project is expected to begin in June and take about six months.
 - ii. The meeting will be held at the tank site. If the weather is inclement, it will be held in the Beall Elementary School All-Purpose Room.
7. Speaker - The PTA welcomed its scheduled speaker, Fatima Nasco from the Parent Encouragement Program ("PEP"), who presented a program on Positive Discipline.
8. Unfinished Business - Discussion regarding RMES #5
 - i. PTA President Paula Tully and members of the PTA discussed options for the RMES #5 boundaries to be discussed at the Boundary Study Committee meeting on May 3.
 - ii. What's Next
 1. A meeting will be held on May 3 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at College Gardens Elementary School so that members of the Boundary Study Committee can provide feedback on final options. Paula Tully and Mike Kohut are Beall's representatives on this committee. Although community members are welcome to attend, they may do so as observers, as this meeting is intended for committee members.
 2. An additional meeting intended for community members will be held on May 9 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at College Gardens Elementary School.
 3. Recommendations and position papers will be presented to the Board of Education by May 19. Beall parents are invited to provide their input / feedback on RMES # 5 boundary study issues to Paula Tully and Mike Kohut and to let them know if they are interested in helping to craft the position paper to be submitted on behalf of the Beall community.
 4. The MCPS Superintendent's recommendations will be presented to the Board of Education in October.
 5. The Board of Education is expected to provide their decision in November.
 - a. Ms. Tully encouraged PTA members to continue to voice their thoughts until the Board of Education has rendered their decision.
 - b. She noted that the boundary decisions will impact families even if their children do not change schools.
 6. The new school, which has yet to be named, is scheduled to open in September 2018.
9. Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned by PTA President Paula Tully.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J Gorant

Approved by the Beall Elementary School PTA General Membership on October 3, 2017