



BEALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Beall PTA Meeting Minutes – February 7, 2013

Meeting was called to order by Tida Violante at 7pm

1. Approval of minutes from December 4th Meeting - Tida motioned to approve minutes, Rob seconded. Passed unanimously.

2. Reports of Officers, Boards, Standing Committees

*Beall PTA Online Survey - Tida summarized the online survey that went out to all Beall families. At the last Board Meeting it was decided that paper copies of Fridge Notes and the Dragon Dateline Newsletters would not be sent home in backpack mail but will be available for online download. Feedback from the survey was overwhelmingly positive from parents and staff.

*Staff Update (Deborah Lee) There was an assembly on Monday about African Folktales. There is an upcoming assembly in March called "Sandcastles" which is math based. Another assembly, Rojo, will be presented about bullying after Spring Break. These assemblies were funded mostly by the PTA.

There is a school Anthology in the works with a collection of all the students' writings. The PTA allocated \$1500 towards this project a few years ago.

Kindergarten Orientation is April 24, 25, 26. There is no school for current Kindergarten students on these days. There will be a SignUp Genius link sent out at the end of February for parent volunteers to work as greeters.

*School Update - (Elliot Alter) There may be a parent survey from the county coming in the mail. In March a random sampling of parents will be receiving this survey.

Grade level teams are working on their communication with home. Teachers are working on the class level newsletters being available online.

If any parents aren't receiving the Connect Ed calls or Website updates please let the school know.

(Mary Reed) 2nd grade GP testing families will receive test results at the end of the school year.

MSA testing for 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders begins March 4th. 3rd and 4th graders will be tested on March 4, 5, for reading, 8 and 11 for math. 5th graders will be tested March 6, 7 for reading, March 12 and 13 for math. March 14-19 are allotted for test make-ups.

* Fundraising (Meg Page)

Dawson's gave us almost \$1000 for their 5% Back Day.

Hair Cuttery upcoming fundraiser 20% of sales on February 21st.

Guiseppi's Dine Out with Ben & Jerry's this coming Tuesday February 12th. (Take out ok too, no flier needed)

Upcoming March Madness - March 22nd will be held at Richard Montgomery. There will be a raffle with an iPad Mini and a lot of other great prizes.

*Treasurer's Report - Rob Gibbs summarized the profit and loss budget for this year. So far we have brought in \$27,000 and we are about 9% ahead on revenue. Projected for the year is \$41,000. We are slightly behind on spending. This is to be a break-even budget, thus, the new Board should have around \$13,000 to begin the new year (on July 1, 2013) if the membership do not vote to spend it on something else.

3.Reports of Special Committees

*Nomination Committee composed of Rob Gibbs, Jen Martella & Deborah Lee. Nominations are scheduled for April and the election is scheduled for June. The bylaws state that the membership needs a 30-day notice for the candidates that have been nominated. Officers are not allowed to stay on for more that 2 consecutive years at any given elected Board position in accordance with the bylaws. Open positions include Treasurer, President, and VP of communications. The Board of Directors also include up to 2 MCCPTA delegates, a Membership Chairperson, a Fundraising Chairperson who are appointed by the Board.

4.Special Orders - none

5.Unfinished Business and General Orders

*Box Top Collection (Rob Ritter) Thank you to families and teachers for collecting Box Tops. They need to be packaged into plastic bags with 50 in each bag. Help is needed counting! If they can be turned in by the end of the month, they are worth 10cents each. Prizes will be given to the teachers with the most box tops.

*Science Expo - (Kay Newhouse) This year about 150 kids participated in the Expo. This is a 20% increase from last year. The only problem is that we are outgrowing the available space.

6. New Business

*Playground Equipment - a parent asked if there could be more balls available during recess. Mr. Alter's response is that the number of balls is a safety issue and that the para-educator who is supervising decided how many balls will be available on the playground so it won't turn out to be complete chaos.

*March Madness 3/22 Teams are filled and tickets are going on sale in March. The Coordinator is Doug Lunenfeld.

*Read-a-Thon (Amy West) - Three week long fun event to encourage kids to read more. Kids will set a personal goal and have a daily goal. There will also be a classroom goal and a school-wide goal. There will be prizes for individuals, and classes as well. This event will be held in May.

*Shoe Box Recycling - Fundraising for Sandy Relief. Tida proposed a project where the school collects old shoes that are sent to a company which pays for them by weigh. Tida suggested that the money collected be donated to the Red Cross for Hurricane Sandy relief. The shoes that are collected are sent overseas to be sold in markets. Tida motioned to go forward with this project and Rob seconded. Passed unanimously. Cathy Lease offered to help with this project.

*Tea with Mr. Alter 2/20 at 2pm

*Curriculum 2.0 Update - 4th and 5th grade teachers will begin training on Curriculum 2.0 this spring. 4th and 5th grade students will start to use this curriculum next fall. At the Jan 7th BOE meeting Dr. Star speaks about the math curriculum and how the changes will impact student learning and achievement. The PTA will be helping to pay for sub time for the teachers so that all of the teachers will be able to attend training.

"PARCC" assessment will be replacing MSA in 2014 in order to test the students on the new curriculum.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15. Next meeting is Thursday, April 4th.