llbBrennan Middle School

Brennan Organization of Parents

May 9, 2017

Officers in attendance: Laurie Brasil, Deb Lacourse, Lourie Sarcione, Mary Morris

Attending: Fred Souza, Kelly Chouinard, Lucy Pacheco, Ana Nicholson, B. Mooney, Kerry McLaughlin, Melissa Fogg, Lisa Ramos

Meeting called to order 6:04 p.m.

Principal’s Report:

* Dr. Souza welcomed all to the BOP meeting. Dr. Souza had all introduce themselves to the group.
* Faculty and staff thank the BOP for the Staff Appreciation Week festivities.
* May 11 @ 6:30 there is a meeting at Studley Elementary School regarding the proposal for the new high school. Potentially the current Grade 6 would be the first to graduate from the new facility.
* Discussion took place regarding attendance at the BOP meetings. Should Facebook Live be utilized for future PTO meetings? The next meeting (June) will be a pilot. Potentially students could be involved in the set up.
* Dr. Sousa thanked the BOP for the wreath sent to the family of an eighth grade student whose mother passed away. Laurie Brasil, without funding from the BOP, designed and provided the wreath. Special thanks to Laurie.
* Dr. Sousa would like to continue support for this particular family going forward, possibly food drive, donations, etc.
* There is also another Brennan Family going through a very tough time. One of their toddler children was recently diagnosed with leukemia. Dr. Sousa would like to provide a variety of items (store & gas gift cards, donations, etc.) to demonstrate community support.
* The next BOP meeting is scheduled for June 13. The current 4th grade families will be attending an open house. It was requested the BOP welcome the families and provide general information regarding the PTO.
* MCAS was discussed. Massachusetts has the highest education in the country. If it were a country, it would rank in the top five worldwide.
* Dr. Sousa discussed his vision to have additional chrome books or other devices available to students. This would allow for MCS to be taken online and include technology in the day to day education of students. Even if he can only get 12 devices per grade, the teachers could plan their lessons accordingly. There is also a possibility parents could purchase devices via the schools, at cost, thereby guaranteeing the devices are compatible with the school and the technologist could assist as needed.
* There is a district wide goal for a one to one device for all students in grades 5-9.
* Fine Arts Night will be May 25
* *Annie* will be performed June 8/9
* Dinner Night- Hong Kong Treasures- June 5
* Grade 8 Lock-In May 26 from 4-8. Cost is $5.00
* Graduation change: Grade 8 will now have a formal move up ceremony. Grades 5-7 will have informal ceremonies in their clusters (parents will not be invited). The purpose of the change is to recognize the significance of the transition from middle to high school.

President’s Report:

The floor was turned over to Laurie Brasil.

* There was discussion of having a formal presentation on the topic of bulling held in the fall. Chris Poulos is a motivational speaker. If the other middle schools would also like him to present, there would be a discounted rate. There are currently no funds specifically designated for a special assembly. A motion was presented, seconded and approved. $1000.00 (tentatively more if needed) will be budgeted.
* Volunteer recognition dinner to be held for all Attleboro PTOs. BMS will be the first hosting site. The hope is to rotate the hosting location. The first annual volunteer recognition night will be June 15.
* The Treasurer’s Report was reviewed. Motion to accept was passed.
* The April Minutes were reviewed. Motion to accept was passed.
* Color Run new date- May 24. It will be held immediately after school. $15.00 per runner, white tee shirt and food provided.
* The BOP Bylaws have been posted to Facebook. A vote to accept took place. There were nine votes to accept and one abstained. The Bylaws are in effect as of May 9, 2017.
* Honor Roll ice cream social will be chaired by Kerry McLaughlin. The date is TBD.
* Book Fair May 19-25

Open Discussion

* Better communication with families. The BOP will contribute to the weekly “Bulldog Blast”
* Website development
* Getting a PayPal account- this should be investigated.
* Develop a calendar with all annual events and what is required for each.
* The abbreviation BOP may be confusing to some. Should PTO be used instead? One concern is checks- all checks need to be made out to BOP.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Morris