

**DRAFT - Bradley Hills Elementary School
PTA General Membership Meeting
March 2, 2021**

March 2 Meeting - In Attendance: Molly Wilson, Jen Villani, Carolyn Figoten, Veronica Velez-Burgess, Bridget Gray, Laurel Keating, Katie Iversen, Kate Linde-Kogan, Anne Sherman, Karen Caroscio, Jordana Paul, Joanna Marsh, EunHee Cho, Dave Filbeck, Jack xx, Meghan Gallo, Juliet Hoopes, Victoria Pike, Elizabeth Haile, Hilary Johnson, John Scruggs, Julie Mirman, Aly xx, Lauren Mezrahi, Jenn Hahn, Annie xx, Anna Barbone, Cindy xx, Asher Weiner, Melissa L., Anna Broome, Kit Leininger, John Wynn, Christina Wynn, Stephanie Stein, Samantha Langel, Becky Trent, Jenni Weinstein, Jeremy Figoten, Feng Luo, Sarah Cudahy, Amy Elliot, Leo Sun, Allen Albert, Sanida Halebic, Charlotte Dixon, Sarah Djamshidi, Lucy Merkley, Alexander Choudry, Maggie Langer

Molly called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Anne Sherman moved to approve the Jan. 5, 2021 general membership meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

Molly moved to approve nominating committee members, Carolyn Figoten, Anne Sherman and Kate Linde-Kogan. The motion was unanimously approved.

Jen went over revisions to the descriptions of some of the board of directors positions, including splitting the Enrichment Board position into 2 positions - one covering school programs and the other community programs. Jen moved to approve the new board position descriptions. The motion was unanimously approved.

Principal Caroscio Report

- They are working hard to get school ready for students arrival
- Mrs. Caroscio shared a presentation about possible changes coming to the MCPS math curriculum and how to recover some of the loss of learning in math that has occurred due to the pandemic and virtual learning. MCPS is proposing a new path for math, the implication being that there will no longer be compacted math offered in 4th and 5th grade (Math 4/5 offered in 4th grade, and Math 5/6 offered in 5th grade). The Board of Education will vote on this plan at their March 11 meeting. There was some discussion during the meeting about this possibility and further questions and discussion should be sent to the PTA president email address.
- Travel restrictions for in-person learning: Family will need to attest weekly to participate in in-person learning and MCPS has just recently sent out information about travel. MCPS says that travel outside of the immediate area, by students or immediate family members, will require a 14 calendar day quarantine upon return. Students can still participate virtually during quarantine.
- BCDC is offering aftercare for k-2 when students return to in-person learning. They do not currently have the staff for more kids (older grades).
- Lunch and wellness break is being fleshed out. Having enough staff to cover the school's student supervision needs is an issue. 4th and 5th graders will be allowed to use the cafeteria but k-3 will eat in their classrooms. Right now students will likely be sitting in their classroom for most of the lunch and wellness break, again due to staffing needs.
- MCPS has not put out a calendar for the 2021-2022 school year.

Ms. Paul

She has heard from colleagues and it seems there has been good progress on teachers getting vaccinated.

Membership (Dave Filbeck):

Directories were put in the mail last week and have either arrived or will soon.

Enrichment (Veronica Velez-Burgess)

- The Cultural Arts Assembly's Latin-American dance and music group program in late Feb. was very well attended - more than 100 students.
- The next EYB Whale Pods will be on March 9 and 10
- Wellness Week will be postponed to later in the year with all that's going on in March
- Read-a-Thon: Students read over 200,000 minutes for the Read-a-Thon
- Community Service: BHES families donated over \$3,000 worth of Giant grocery cards to families in need at our sister school, Weller Road Elementary School; Next community service project will involve planning a clothing drive for the Children's Inn at NIH.

Volunteer Chair (Joanna Marsh)

Joanna thanked all of the room parents putting together Valentine's Day parties for the classes.

Budget (Kate Linde-Kogan)

January income was \$7,732 (most due to Read-A-Thon), expense was \$2,989.

YTD - surplus is \$14,574

Kate said if anyone has expenses please send them in to her ASAP.

Jen mentioned that the PTA is selling BHES kid and adult sized face masks and to check out the website. Six more days to purchase.

Anne shared that the next big school event will be the Virtual Variety Show on Thursday, March 11, starting at 7pm. Jamie Bresnick and Fallon Zonarich are putting together more than 30 acts along with a 5th grade song and emcees. We're partnering with Medium Rare to do a take-out dinner fundraiser prior to the show.

MCCPTA/Cluster (Laurel Keating, Anne Reid):

- Laurel said that the Green team has put bins outside K classroom doors to collect recyclables that are more difficult to recycle.
- There will be an MCCPTA town hall meeting March 3 to discuss curriculum and proposed changes to the high school graduation requirements.

Laurel Keating, Anne Reid and Molly Wilson gave a presentation detailing the debate surrounding the presence of School Resource Officers (SROs) at county high schools. The MCCPTA will be presenting their position on the issue to the Board of Education and has asked cluster reps to get feedback from their local PTA membership. There is a system-wide assessment going on regarding the topic, looking at the data over recent years, and how it's impacting students across the county. If the bill that has been brought forth is passed by the BOE and County Council it would prohibit assigning SROs at county high schools.

The presentation included SRO arrest data, new proposed MCCPTA SRO resolutions to be voted on, questions that some community members have posed, the impact on students and the community of the school to prison pipeline, and examples of support and opposition to the resolutions. There was some discussion among membership about the impact and options of keeping or prohibiting the SRO program. Finally, the membership took a vote on each of the 6 Questions presented by the MCCPTA.

Question 1 got 10 Yes / 5 No

Question 2 got 14 Yes / 1 No

Question 3 - 6 were unanimous with 12 Yes / 0 No

Laurel and Anne will share the findings with the MCCPTA at the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.