

September 24, 2018, 6:00 p.m. | [Meeting called to order by](#) Kela Rosario at 6:13 p.m.

In Attendance

Executive Board Members

- Kela Rosario, President
- Linwood Hudson, Vice President
- Robin Sanborn, Treasurer
- Elizabeth Shouse, Secretary

Special Guests

- Amanda Weidner, BMS Principal
- Michele Parker, Guidance
- Katie Conaway, Guidance
- Karen Jones, 6th Grade Teacher
- Officer Haynie, Resource Officer

PTO Members

- Wendy Silverman

Board

The Board: Kela Rosario, Linwood Hudson, Robin Sanborn, and Elizabeth Shouse were introduced.

Guest Speakers – Katie Conaway and Michele Parker, Guidance

Katie Conaway and Michele Parker of the guidance department discussed current events. Current focus is on technology and how to get across what to watch out for. Several books were mentioned as good points of reference: “The Teen’s Guide to Social Media and Mobile Devices,” “Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive (and Survive) the Digital World,” and “Social Media Wellness.” The PTO is mentioned as the frontline for input and/or concerns from parents on this subject. Kela Rosario pointed out that our October meeting will focus on social media and how to talk to kids about it.

- The focus for October is looking out for yourself and others.
- There will be a parent newsletter sent out each month, tailored to each grade level.
- There will be contests with prizes for students.
- Social media and digital citizenship are points of focus and will shift to safety in February.

Guest Speaker – Karen Jones, 6th Grade Teacher

Karen Jones discussed current teacher and student events:

- 8th Grade band is going on a trip.
- Bruin Fest is coming up.
- COAST is collecting items for hurricane relief.
- Picture day is next week.

Robin Sanborn mentioned that it is nice to see COAST collecting for hurricane relief that is so close to home instead of for an effort far away.

Kela Rosario asked Ms. Jones for input on what she and other teachers think the kids might enjoy on the next Bruin Time treat. Kela’s suggestions were pencils, pens, etc. Ms. Jones liked the pencil idea. PTO member in attendance, Wendy, suggested mood / color changing pens. Elizabeth Shouse suggested pod-themed pens with logos or mascots for each pod. The idea was well received, and Ms. Jones agreed to collect themes from teachers, so the items can be organized.

Guest Speaker – Office Haynie, Student Resource Officer

Officer Haynie discussed the many behind-the-scenes things he does for students to better their education and to influence them in a way that would change their behavior for the better. It was discussed that one of the goals is to prepare the kids for high school and help them see that a high school diploma should be their goal; even for kids who don't like academics. Officer Haynie mentioned that for some kids, they might get to visit the VOTECH center to see the auto mechanic or other programs available to show them that they may not need a college degree, but they do need a high school diploma.

Officer Haynie also discussed the need for the community's help to support kids who may need it. Examples given

- kids who participate in sports might not have reliable transportation to and from games / practices, or
- kids may not have food available to them upon arriving home from a game / practice.

Officer Haynie requested the community's support of these kids by providing transportation and/or free meals for them to help them stay able to participate in sports, which ultimately is a great way for them to receive positive encouragement from peers and adults.

Lastly, Officer Haynie discussed Christmas assistance for children identified as needing additional help. Officer Haynie mentioned that last year, bikes were donated to the school and he personally made sure they were delivered to children who needed them. Officer Haynie does not mind helping in this way and welcomes donations of items such as

- shoes and clothing that would help kids fit in better at school,
- new or used "active" toys that will get kids up and moving,

Ms. Weidner mentioned that the school does connect families with the Christmas Store, but she is not sure about the Angel Tree program.

Kela Rosario pointed out that if there are items that the school knows a child needs, the PTO could solicit donations of those items. The PTO would only need to know what the items were and would keep the child's information confidential.

Approval of Minutes

Elizabeth Shouse provided minutes from the last meeting for review. There were no questions. Robin made a motion to approve the minutes and Kela seconded followed by the majority. All present were in favor of approving the minutes.

Budget

Robin Sanborn provided a financial report indicating the items budgeted for the year, amounts spent, and remaining funding/expense items for the year.

- The PTO has already received more from Shelor donations than budgeted for the entire year.
- Member donations are going well.
- PayPal seems to be working well for donations.
- There have not been many expenses yet this year.

Linwood Hudson asked about when video studio expenses were expected to be spent. Kela Rosario replied that Dr. Passek knows what items are needed but has not provided them yet. Kela hopes those items can be purchased soon.

Fundraising Committee

- PK's fundraiser is this week. The flyer must be presented in person or on a mobile device.
- Belk tickets are available for purchase. The event will be November 3, 2018. Tickets are \$5 each and allows early entrance to the Belk sale that day. The ticket allows for a \$5 discount on items purchased during the sale. The PTO gets to keep all proceeds from selling the tickets. Anything not sold will be reported back to Belk for accountability.

- Boxtops will close out next week. Final count will be provided at the next meeting.

There was a discussion on setting up tables at upcoming events to sell tickets for Belk, Shelor, etc. It was suggested that the PTO look into setting up tables at places such as Sugar Magnolia (a BMS supporting local business), the upcoming Bruin Fest, at football games, or other school sponsored events. The PTO will review schedules to determine if there is enough availability to set up tables at these events.

T-Shirt order are being taken. The deadline may be extended if necessary. Ms. Weidner will send out a standalone message regarding t-shirts and will also include information for t-shirts on student announcements. Elizabeth Shouse suggested that the PTO email all of its contacts with the order form.

PTO member in attendance, Wendy, pointed out that many activities have recently sent out order forms for t-shirts and that some people may not realize they are receiving order forms for separate activities.

Activities Committee

- Date for the 6th grade open gym: October 18, 2018. Hard copies with information on this event will be sent out to parents.
- Thanks to Frank's Theater, Our Daily Bread, Lucie Monroe's, Topical Smoothie Café, Real Life Dental, and Mellow Mushroom for items donated for the teacher appreciation project. The PTO will be going out to solicit new vendors for donation soon.
- Bruin Time ice cream was a success. The kids enjoyed. Karen Jones mentioned that many kids had heard a rumor about ice cream and were excited for the event that day. Linwood Hudson gave special thanks to the cafeteria for allowing PTO and staff to utilize the kitchen area for utensils, supplies, etc., and for ordering the ice cream.

Ms. Weidner pointed out that for the next two months, teachers have requested utilizing Fridays for enrichment purposes and that the next Bruin Time activity sponsored by the PTO could possibly be in November. The PTO will discuss dates at a later time.

Kela provided a reminder that the health screening day is coming up and the sign up is available for parent volunteers. Snacks will be available for volunteers. October 12, 2018 will be flu shot day and volunteers are also needed for this. The nurse estimates that 6 volunteers are needed. October 12, 2018 will also be the first coffee cart. Two to three volunteers are needed to help with this.

Website and Social Media

Linwood Hudson commended Robin Sanborn for her WordPress skills and for adding an order form for t-shirts. T-shirt orders can now be submitted through the BMS PTO website.

New Business

No new business

Next Meeting

- Kela Rosario announced the next meeting date will be October 15, 2018. A time was not provided.
- The next meeting will include a social media presentation. Ms. Weidner will get in contact with guest speakers to make sure they can attend the meeting.
- Teacher Wishlist details will be discussed at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:07 p.m.