

March 26, 2019, 5:30 p.m. | *Meeting called to order by* Kela Rosario at 5:34 p.m.

In Attendance

Executive Board Members

- Kela Rosario, President
- Linwood Hudson, Vice President
- Elizabeth Shouse, Secretary

Guests

- Amanda Weidner, BMS Principal
- Karen Jones, 6th Grade Teacher
- Kristy Hudson, Fundraising

Guest Speaker

- Pamela Ray, New River Health District

Board

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

Guest Speaker – Pamela Ray, New River Health District

Pamela Ray from the New River Health District presented on electronic cigarette usage among young people.

- The Surgeon General has called e-cigarettes an epidemic
- In 2014, 48% of High School Students and 40% of Middle School Students had tried e-cigarettes; 30% of High School Students and 25% of Middle School Students continued usage.
- Nicotine changes the wiring in the brain, has been called the gateway to addiction
- Flavored products are available which attract interest of children

Pamela discussed the various types of e-cigarettes including the Juul and how easy the devices and evidence of them are to conceal or camouflage. She mentioned that the Juul does not produce a large cloud of vape-smoke and children can easily exhale into a jacket to conceal the smoke. Packaging for these products can resemble every-day products that parents may not easily identify as an electronic cigarette.

Vaping Q&A's:

Kela Rosario asked what education is happening within the school system. Pamela stated that NRVCS (New River Valley Community Services) has a prevention group that has programs for schools that now include presentations on vaping.

Linwood Hudson pointed out that students are aware of others vaping in the bathrooms and on school busses and asked Ms. Weidner how to report these and similar issues to the school. Ms. Weidner said the students can report directly to the school (teachers, administrators, etc.), or parents can contact the school. Ms. Weidner stated that this information has already been shared with the staff.

Ms. Weidner, BMS Principal

Ms. Weidner provided updates on current happenings at the school

- We are now in the final quarter of the year. Parent-teacher conferences are this week.
- Spring sports include baseball, softball, and track.
- FBLA went to state leadership conference and received many 1st Place awards.
- All choir students who went to assessment received superior ratings. Band also went to assessment. 8th Grade Band earned a superior rating at assessment, 7th Grade Band earned an excellence rating. As a result of these achievements, BMS will be recognized as a blue-ribbon school by the music association.
- Drama is working on spring production, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, which will be performed in May.

- 8th Graders completed writing SOL's last week. End of course SOL testing schedule will be sent out next week and will begin on May 13th.
- BMS will host a school-wide dodgeball tournament. The final battle will be incorporated into field day on the last day of school.

Karen Jones, 6th Grade Teacher & Teacher Representative

Cost is taking donations for worn jeans to be donated to homeless teens in the NRV. Boxes are outside of the library and the main office. They can also be taken to D-Pod. Last year around 40 pairs of jeans were donated.

PTO Business

Kela Rosario discussed current and upcoming PTO business items

The 8th grade dance will be a Hollywood theme. The dance will be on June 1, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and the gym will be open towards the end of the dance for students. The D.J. has already been scheduled. Ms. Weidner stated that the students planning the dance will have a detailed list of items needed (food, supplies, etc.) by the next PTO meeting.

Bruin Distribution: The PTO has provided 3 out of a planned 5 distributions. The group discussed various ideas for the next distributions, and it was ultimately decided that food results in the most happiness among both students and staff. The group discussed combining the remaining 2 distributions into the two weeks that the students will be taking SOL tests.

PTO Board Openings

Kela Rosario provided an update to PTO Board openings for the 2019-2010 school year. A rising 6th grade parent has expressed interest in the Vice President position and two others have expressed interest in hospitality. An additional interest in hospitality was expressed by a parent in attendance. There is one person who may be interested in the fundraising position. It is expected to generate more interest as more rising 6th grade parents reach out.

Previous Meeting Follow Up – Dress Code , Ergonomic Impact Concerns

Kela Rosario followed up on the idea of putting together a work group to discuss the dress code concerns discussed at the February meeting. Ms. Weidner stated that she would help coordinate a meeting between the PTO Board and BMS Staff for this purpose.

Ms. Weidner stated that Vicki, who had offered her assistance at the February meeting, came to the school and spent about an hour at the school taking notes and making observations. They are to get back with the school with suggestions on what can be done to improve ergonomics.

Hospitality

Kela Rosario discussed the upcoming Staff Appreciation Day and Administrative Professionals Day. There is \$140 in the budget for these days. Providing donuts, lunch, ice cream, a pizza party, and a coffee cart were all discussed. Preliminary dates were set for each and will be confirmed at the next meeting. Ms. Weidner will assist in coordinating these.

Approval of Minutes

Elizabeth Shouse provided minutes from the last meeting for review. There were no questions. Kela Rosario made a motion to approve the minutes and Linwood Hudson seconded. All present were in favor of approving the minutes. Linwood pointed out that the minutes were not formally approved at the previous meeting. Kela stated that we could move on since they were not in front of us for review. The previous meeting's minutes are available on the BMS PTO website.

Budget

Kela Rosario discussed the budget in place of Robin Sanborn who was unable to attend the meeting.

The budget shows a \$800 deficit in projected income. Kela stated that she just received a check from Kroger for \$750 for the community rewards program and this brings the deficit closer to breaking even.

Regarding budgeted expenses, there is still around \$4,000 remaining to spend (both specifically budgeted and not specifically budgeted).

The winning attitudes program has still not announced any specific needs.

Fundraising

Linwood Hudson presented on behalf of Kristy Hudson regarding fundraisers

Xtreme Springs has agreed to host a fundraiser for the BMS PTO. The group discussed dates and decided that April 17, 2019 would be the best date since it is during Spring Break.

Sugar Magnolia has discussed hosting a fundraiser later in the spring. The PTO will decide on a date at a future meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 23, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. and will be a board meeting only with no special guest speakers.

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:58 p.m.