

January 27, 2020, 6:00 p.m. | *Meeting called to order by* Linwood Hudson @ 6:05pm

In Attendance

Executive Board Members

- Linwood Hudson, President
- Nichole Marsden, Vice President
- Elizabeth Shouse, Secretary

Guests

- Amanda Weidner, BMS Principal
- Karen Jones, Teacher Rep

Review of November Minutes

Linwood Hudson, President, circulated a copy of the November minutes for review. Ms. Weidner requested we correct the salutation on the previous minutes from Mr. to Dr. and noted that Dr. Passek is female, not male. Ms. Weidner also noted that the current revision indicates the prior meeting was August when it should be October and that Ms. Weidner can be addressed as Ms. instead of Mrs. Kristy Hudson moved to accept the minutes and Nicole Marsden seconded. All present were in favor of accepting the minutes with the noted changes.

Treasurer Report

Robin Sanborn was unable to attend the meeting and Linwood Hudson stepped in to discuss PTO financials using reports provided by Robin prior to the meeting. The PTO recently received a check from Shelor Motor Mile and is on track with many of its budgeted items.

Linwood noted he is worried about cash flow and the amount of available funds in the bank due to spending more than was budgeted for this point in the year, but after reviewing the financials provided by Robin, it was apparent there should be enough cash available in the bank to cover expenses. The board discussed updating the layout of the budget to be more visually friendly so it is apparent when there are funds available or not available.

Principal Update

Ms. Weidner provided an update on general school news.

- Upcoming 9th graders are currently registering for classes and meeting with counselors. Registration for upcoming 6th, 7th, and 8th graders will be available soon.
- Academic night was last week.
- Next school year there will be a change in the number of class periods. Students will have 7 periods instead of 6 periods. The class time is changing from 51 minutes to 45 minutes each. This will allow students to choose three electives instead of two and will allow for two planning periods for instructors instead of one. 6th and 7th graders will now have gym class all year instead of only one semester. 8th graders will have the choice of taking gym class or not.
- Spring sports start soon, after president's day. New this year is soccer. There will be a parent meeting soon.

Teacher Update

Karen Jones provided an update from the staff.

- Ms. Hedgepeth sent a thank you
- Stephanie Parker would like to ask the PTO to send out a sign-up link for competition judges needed. No training is required for those interested; they just need help. The event begins around 8:30am.
- The Thanksgiving baskets were a success. A total of 40 baskets were provided to students & families.

PTO Business

Linwood Hudson provided updates on various PTO business items.

- Regarding the Teacher Wishlist, all is going well.
 - Mr. Farmer's items are still outstanding
 - Magazines have been ordered
 - Sports equipment is still being distributed
 - Ms. Weidner's instructional budget is fully spent, so any additional teacher requests must be funded through the PTO's Teacher Wishlist.
- T-Shirts were all distributed. There was a concern that certain students with a long-term substitute may not have received their shirts. Ms. Jones stated she would follow up with that substitute to ensure she knows t-shirts are available to distribute to their students.

Special Teacher Request

Dr. Passek coordinates a program called Project Lit for BMS students. This program is a book club which meets regularly and aims to improve literacy. The program needs books to provide to participants, snacks etc. to provide during meetings, and would like to invite community sponsors to attend meetings. Dr. Passek can be reached at: kpassek@mcps.org. The PTO discussed the potential of funding this program at a future date, to be discussed.

Fundraising

- Jackson Hewitt of Blacksburg has offered a fundraiser for the BMS PTO in the form of a "Lend a Hand" coupon. Any person who presents this coupon at the time of tax preparation will get \$25 donated to the BMS PTO on their behalf. Coupons are available in the front office to pick up and available to print on the BMS PTO website.
- Upcoming restaurant at Slice Queen, date still TBD
- PK's donated \$400 worth of gift cards to raffle at teacher staff meetings.
- Xtreme Springs fundraiser was productive last year and PTO will reach out about another this spring.
- Nicole will reach out to individuals who have shown interest in helping with fundraising.

Hospitality

- The lunch event at Montgomery Central was a success. The PTO discussed offering additional luncheons, breakfasts, or meal treats in the future since it was such a hit.
- The PTO is providing a chili lunch for teachers soon. Nicole stated there should be plenty of chili. Nicole and Ms. Weidner briefly discussed the need for power strips to ensure the chili stays hot.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on February 24, 2020

Meeting adjourned.