

Brighton Central PTSA Board Meeting
November 14, 2018

Central Administration Building

Attendance: Natalie Pincus, Katrina Robins, Emily Brown, Dan Goldman, Kevin McGowan, Stephanie Bush, Kelsey Renella, Deborah Pulley, Alissa Chilson, Emily Minerva, Manish Dexit, Rev. Marlowe Washington.

Call to order: 9:33 AM

I. Business

Secretary's Report: Approval of October 2018 Meeting Minutes. Motion to approve made by Deborah Pulley, seconded by Denise Kotalik. Approved as written.

Treasurer's Report: Calendar and Spirit Wear money is in. Taxes have been filed. Dues paid to NYSPTA. Reminder that Katrina needs notice for cash box use; also, please make sure checks are signed by two people. Still waiting on revenue from Qdoba fundraiser.

- Discussion of Spirit Wear per Deborah Pulley: sales were enormous. Lots of compliments. Can we sell more of these? Item options – blankets, stadium seats, umbrellas, etc. Send emails with ideas to Diane. Could we sell at New Family Reception?

II. Building Reports

SPED

October 24 meeting at FRES had small turnout, but many people who could not attend reached out for more info. There was also one at CRPS, and another at TCMS tonight on extra-curriculars for everyone. Recording these meetings and posting on website is key for those parents who can't attend. SPED luncheon is being moved to January rather than end of year. Everyone at central building gets that luncheon. All buildings invited to the end of year one as well.

FRES

We had our first roller-skating days of the year! Everyone had a blast and we would like to send a special thanks to Red Jacket Juice Co. for donating juice and apples to our events!

In conjunction with the Special Ed chairs, we had an evening Meeting with the Principal on resources available when your child is struggling in school. Christine Treasure was the presenter and did a great job. Thank you to Jacqui and Ellie for planning the event.

We had a wildly successful winter wear drive! Aimee Connors, our community service chairman was able to deliver 7 large bags of winter clothing to Brighton Your Wardrobe!

Our first FRES family movie night was last Thursday. FRES students voted for the movie to be shown on Election Day. Incredibles 2 won the battle of the sequels! We had our largest crowd of students and their families attend yet! Many thanks to our event chairs Tara, Anne and Jen for planning such a fun event!

BHS

Meeting with Principal

- October meeting: discussed ACT and SAT prep with Chariot learning. Also discussed need for more parent informational meetings and when they should occur. At 9th grade parent meeting, communication was discussed. Ex: College night for Seniors held in October of senior year is too late; it should be for rising juniors.
- Upcoming meeting with the principal will be on vaping on Nov 27th at 12 pm and 6 pm (note 6 pm time is different from usually scheduled evening meeting). Should be open to entire BCSD community! BHS PTSA and Dr. Hall want to encourage FRES and TCMS parents to attend.

BHS Culture/Climate Diversity & Equity Committee Meeting:

Dr. Hall hosted the first Culture Climate, Diversity & Equity meeting, a multi-group meeting of students from BHS. PTSA attended as a silent observer, in order to remain sensitive and aware of student needs and concerns.

- groups expressed their interests in what they want from BHS and what they want from culture climate committee. - groups want to know more about each other.
- clubs also discussed their club's purposes and their desire for collaboration.
- meeting provided much-needed infrastructure for students to connect and find avenues for supporting one another in common objectives. December 14th, 1/2 day potluck lunch meeting date. (10:45).

Blue Ribbon Celebration Committee

Blue Ribbon Committee has met twice, working on lots of details to make the December 7th celebration special, but also plans to celebrate all year long, including at Springfest.

- FOOD TRUCKS – SELECT FEW, CURATED VIA Heidi's experience with Food Truck rodeo are being approached.
- Working on blue beads for home rooms for day of in December
- Springfest t-shirts will be paid for all students this year
- Phone wallet will also be paid for all students

Faculty / Staff Appreciation

Staff Appreciation is coming up for BHS on December 14th – BHS event chairs, Beth McDermott and Heather Zielinski, met with BHS PTSA building chair, Sangita Patel, and central PTSA teacher appreciation representative, Christina Thrall, to work out details, identify how central BCSD PTSA can help the BHS event, which is by far, the earliest teacher appreciation on the calendar.

Auditorium Repairs / Alternate Spaces

- The BHS auditorium construction schedule will impact event locations from April 13, 2019 - January 2020.
- Auditorium construction will affect BASH – looking at the Gym or Lower Gym for this part of the night...
- Situation will directly impact BASH space & activity planning.
- Video on website about construction phase available.

Also

Thanks to Rob Luce, head of maintenance for repairing cabinet for PTSA use at BHS.

Sports: With so many girls teams winning championships, building chairs are meeting with Nate Merritt today to discuss better coverage of girls' sports; communication with parents; etc.

Supply needs: perhaps worth a Beck Grant application for a bigger popcorn popper or a button maker for identifying volunteers, etc.

CRPS

School pictures were October 10 and 11. Compliments from volunteers on how smoothly it went. Waiting for group pictures. Book fair was October 15-17. Went well. Mr. Tappan made some suggestions for changes to it. Grace Lin on November 2 went very well, and she signed books. Volunteers came through at the last minute. Let's Chat meeting with SPED. Hoping to make more of them in the evening for better attendance. Color Cycle program – marker recycling – will be starting soon. Impact Earth has been very successful so far at the school, and there are discussions about organizing some food demonstrations. Brighton Believes committee is at work. Teacher conferences are next week.

TCMS

Past Events

Laurie Halse Anderson was the author for the **TCMS author visit**. She hosted 3 assemblies, one for each grade. TCMS students introduced her and participated in small group discussions. The TCMS newspaper interviewed her as well.

Gr 7 & 8 Activity Nights were held in October. 220 kids attended the Gr 7 activity night. 135 kids attended Gr 8 activity night, which was good considering there were a number of different sporting events that night. Both activity nights were Halloween themed.

TCMS Meeting with the Principal was well attended with about 25 people listening to Rob Thomas speak about How to Survive Middle School and the new grading system at TCMS.

Veterans Day Reception on Friday 11/9 1:30pm. There was an assembly for 7th Graders, featuring 5 veterans that have ties to Brighton. The PTSA hosted a reception for the veterans and student council. We decorated the library classroom, picked up the coffee, cider and donut holes and mingled with the veterans.

The Brighton Cosmocats, a **Brighton FIRST Lego League team** consisting of TCMS and FRES students participated in an FLL Qualifier at Penfield High School on 11/10. They are moving on to the FLL Regional Championship on 12/9 at the U of R. The Brighton Martian Mindstorms from FRES are competing in the FLL Qualifier at McQuaid this Saturday, 11/17. The robot game starts at noon.

TCMS School Picture retakes were Tuesday 11/13.

Upcoming Events

TCMS/SPED meeting on 11/14 7pm. Subject is Extracurriculars for Everyone.

1st Marking Period Ends on 11/15

The **TCMS Musical, Hairspray Jr**, will be performing on Friday 11/16 7pm and Saturday 11/17 2pm.

PTSA will be helping with a **New Student Reception** on Monday 11/19 during WIN period. We are coordinating volunteers to help with the ice cream social.

TCMS Winter Concert for 6th Grade Orchestra and Chorus is Wednesday, 12/5 and 7PM at BHS.

"Brighton Night at the Museum" is scheduled for Tuesday December 11th from 5-8 PM at the Memorial Art Gallery

III. Superintendent's Report:

Veterans Day at TCMS

Thank you to PTSA for being there. One example of how you make things different.

National Tragedies

District Central office is here to help: stress of life, gender identity issues, etc. Trying to be careful about sending out communications about tragedies because it can be overwhelming. How to communicate without being partisan, want to provide environment where we can promote diversity and tolerance. Focused on your kids. Please reach out to ask for help if you need it. District is committed to providing support for families.

Blue Ribbon Award

The application process provided an opportunity for self-exploration and self-measuring. CRPS can't apply for Blue Ribbon status because it doesn't give tests.

Community Forum – Last Night

Discussion of Blueprint: included diversity and equity update, construction and renovation updates. Different format than other board meetings, by maintaining small focus group discussions and allowing board members to listen rather than talk. Resulted in a lot of great ideas and conversation. Rev. Marlowe Washington spoke. Review of discipline practices, team building work. Family engagement committee. Urban-Suburban students and transportation issues re clubs and afterschool activity. If kids present an interest at BHS, will support new club.

Always open to those things. Club advisors have to be paid.

CRPS Construction

Discussion of expansion at CRPS. Will be a mess for a few years, but will produce fantastic results. There will be a community forum with the CRPS neighborhood soon to discuss traffic, logistics, safety, and cleanliness issues. Dr. McGowan went over blueprint plans for the building. (See PowerPoint presentation in separate document) Tariffs and labor shortages are playing into budget. Hoping to start construction in February 2019. Dan Goldman will keep reports of photo updates, etc. shifting cafeteria spaces, etc. Lots of work to be done in second shift (after school). Back soccer field will not be turned into parking lot, just a staging area for construction. Lots of other work happening in other buildings, as well, including stadium seating at FRES for concerts. (See community presentation [here](#))

Dr. McGowan will not be at December meeting. Will be at state conference in NYC on diversity and equity, and will be looking at restorative justice programs in NYC schools.

IV. Special Guest: Pastor Marlowe Washington

Diversity Consultant for the District.

Bio: Pastor at Seneca United Methodist Church. He has worked on diversity issues for the past 11 years, and is a former parent in the district whose son graduated from BHS.

His role in the district is to help create a comprehensive assessment on diversity issues to thread into the District Blueprint. Offer framework to make organizational changes to bring diversity excellence; this includes appreciating and celebrating differences and not running away from them. He is working with the Administration to help develop a big picture of diversity, inclusivity, and equity. He's excited about Brighton leadership, and sees that the district recognizes there are '-isms" that are creating barriers for learning and developing the work force. Must define diversity that is specific to Brighton. Once we come to agreement as to what the definition is, then we need to embrace it unapologetically. This will create sustainability and provide a connection to academics. He will then help provide a concept on how to implement that definition.

Discussion of his role in helping district define diversity that is specific to Brighton.

- First, he is working with several committees, including the Diversity and Equity Committee and the Family Engagement Subcommittee in which they working on how to make the district a welcoming destination. Hiring Practices Subcommittee is working on making the faculty and staff population match that of the student population. Research shows that students do better when they see teachers who look like themselves. Working with Special Ed. Subcommittee to explore issues of inclusiveness and best practices in student discipline.
- Second, he is tasked to listen to everybody. Available to meet with faculty, staff, students, parents, etc. While conversations are confidential, he'll bring general concerns to Dr. McGowan.
- Third, he is acting as co-advisor to Black Students Union.

Brighton is flagship district in working on these issues. Diversity definition and district objectives can be found in the Brighton Blueprint on the district website.

V. Other Business

Budget

One BCSD budget presentation from Dr. McGowan at Central PTSA Meeting, April 10th, 7:00 pm. There is one already scheduled for March in calendar. Emily will confirm date with him.

Committee Chairs Needed

Fundraising

- Chair and committee needed. Discussion of donations and how to coordinate, e.g. creating a central resource (database) of vendors who donate each year, including event and type of donation. Concern expressed about relying more on donations than on money PTSA currently has budgeted. Discussion of defraying costs for events like Bash that may be cost-prohibitive for many students. Dr. McGowan concerned that Bash is too expensive (\$40), and would like to see it go down to \$20 this year. Should we be spending more money on the seniors? How many events do Seniors have? Discussion of hospitality costs vs. donations. Staff appreciation changes? Spread it out over the week. Do smaller things during the year (popcorn bar, etc.)? Need to give "I Support the PTSA" signs to vendors that donate a lot.

Calendar Sales

- Chair needed. Stacia suggests it be someone already on the committee. Leslie Seltzer will do it.

Spirit Wear Report

- 279 items sold online. TCMS sold the most.
- Sell T-shirts & Calendars at *New Family Reception*, November 26?

Staff Appreciation/Hospitality Information

SPED Luncheon January 11th

- Used to be able to do a donation on PayPal, can do it on MemberHub now. Emily will put this on MemberHub.

What do we provide for other gatherings like *Meet the Principal* or, *Building Staff Meetings*?

BASH

- New vendor: Do tickets cost too much? Heidi not here to discuss. It used to be free. Student tickets make it financially possible. Speaks to the diversity issue (economic diversity is missing on the Diversity Committee). Need to table rest of discussion because Heidi and Sangita not present. Discussion of how to get tickets to kids who can't afford it. If tickets are required, will attendance go down? Where can we cut costs?

PTA Reflections Program

- Information workshop: Is there interest? GVPTA will do a workshop with us to learn more about it. Both fine and performing arts. Need committee chair for running

Reflections. Reflections runs in the fall, so need to start working on this now for next year.

Square One Art Fundraiser

- Emily Brown is looking for new art vendor. Need a chair for this, too.

Recycled Paper Goods

Discussion of recycled items for events (plates, etc.)

Questions Leslie asked for a phone list for all board and chairs. Need to put all of this on website? Parent reps who were put on the district committees, since they are the liaisons to PTSA. We want to hear from them. Have them come to the February or March meeting.

- **Next Meeting** • December 5th, 9:30 am. Dr. McGowan will not be able to attend.

Deborah: Angel Project at East House, providing gifts for their children. Offering to have us participate.

Meeting adjourned: 11:53 am

Budget 2018-2019 - November 2018

Fundraising Projection

School Pictures: \$7,000
Calendar Sales: \$8,000 (\$7,909.46)
Spirit Wear: \$4,000 (\$5,409.50)
Art Sale: \$1,200
FRES Movie Night: \$800
Ice Cream Socials: \$1,500
Book Fairs: \$1,000 (CRPS \$318.53)
Community Fundraisers: \$1,500
 Food Truck Rodeo: (\$1,171.54)
 Amazon Smile: (\$58.24)
Total: \$25,200

Checking: \$24,009.30
Savings: \$22,256.62
Class Accounts:
 '23: \$3,832.18
 '24: \$3,183.10
 '25: \$1,098.53

Obligations & Allocations

Hardship Grants: \$10,000
 CRPS: \$2000
 FRES: \$2248
 TCMS: \$2552
 BHS: \$3200
Author Visits: \$3,000 (\$3,000)
Membership Dues: \$3,200 (1,957.00)
Building Funds: \$1,650
 BHS \$600 (\$85.83)
 TCMS \$300 (\$56.27)
 FRES \$300
 CRPS \$300 (\$30.00)
 SPED \$150
Grants: \$4,000 (\$500 to ACE at BHS)
Central PTSA: \$400
 • Donations/Sunshine
 • BOE Appreciation Night (\$200 to Brighton Food Cupboard)
 • Miscellaneous
Fun Food Friday/Tasty Tuesday: \$550
 • FRES: \$300
 • CRPS: \$250 (\$63.30)
Staff Appreciation: \$1500 (\$2 per person)
Scholarship: \$1000
Life Membership Awards & Ceremony: \$700
Retirement Gifts: \$550
Software: \$500
Postage: \$225
Printing: \$300
Bank Fees: \$250 (\$35)
Tax Prep: \$500
Insurance: \$900
Total: \$29,225