



Beechwood Knoll School Parent Teacher Organization

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 15, 2011

Location: Beechwood Knoll School, Sawyer Center

Board members present: Diane O’Keeffe, Christine Murphy, Cheri O’Connor, Tracy Pickering, Susan Porter, Lynda Segal Cronin, Jenne Travers

PTO members presents: approx. 20 members

Meeting called to order by Christine Murphy at 6:35pm

Reports

President’s Report presented by Christine Murphy, co-president. Jenne Travers was welcomed to the PTO board as our new treasurer. Fall Festival silent auction raised \$9039. The October can/bottle drive collected \$90.

Principal’s Report presented by Diane O’Keeffe. Key topics:

- School improvement plan was presented to the school committee and has been approved.
- School council will meet on November 16th at 3pm. All parents invited to attend. The meeting will be addressing school improvements.
- 5th grade Election Day Bake Sale raised \$1706.
- BKS Holiday Concert will be on December 20th at 9am at ENC.

Treasurer’s Report presented by Jenne Travers
PTO approved \$2000 for the 5th grade yearbooks.

Stage Curtain Update

Speaker: Neil McCole

Reviewed project plan. Friends of Wollaston Beach has committed to a \$500 donation. Ward 5 Community Association has committed to a \$300 donation. Estimated Phase 1 cost is \$2350 plus electrical connect power to the motorized screen.

Action: Mrs. O’Keeffe to contact QPS maintenance dept. to obtain an estimate for electrical work.

Motion by Christine Murphy to approve \$2000 for this project.

Seconded by Fionna McGarry and PTO members



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Phase 2 of project (purchase and installation of back curtain and valance) is estimated to cost \$2500. PTO will review further. May need separate fundraising.

BKS PTO Website (www.bkspto.com)

Speaker: Tracy Pickering

Reviewed tabs of website and requested comments/feedback from PTO members. **Ideas:**

- Add links to Quincy Afterschool, BKS on Facebook
- Change the colors to BKS school colors of blue and green with red lobster
- Send home a flyer announcing the website
- Post newcomer information for new parents in September
- Build an email distribution list
- Research PayPal as an option to receive donations or to sell tickets to events

A question was asked about posting pictures to the site. Per Mrs. O'Keeffe, parents sign a permission slip in September giving authorization.

Action: Review to ensure authorization has been given for all students.

Teacher Requests

Speaker: Diane O'Keeffe

Reviewed request form. Motion for approval of \$1563.81 by Fiona McGarry. Seconded by PTO members.

Quincy City Wide PTO Meeting Update

Speaker: Fiona McGarry

Discussed guest speaker from the Brockton public schools. BPS developed a plan that looks at what the schools are doing well/not doing well. There are various formulas that Quincy could use to help improve our schools. City wide council will take a closer look at a future meeting.

Upcoming Events/Programs

Ice Cream Social is Friday, November 18. \$5 donation per family.

Action: Nicki Caldwell to notify Quincy Afterschool so students can participate.



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Scholastic Bookfair will be held December 5-9. Thursday December 8th is an evening family event. Idea presented by PTO is to have book readings during this event. Solicit parents and BKS alumni.

Action: Susan Porter to notify Michelle Leonard of this request.

Toys for Tots -- December

Open items, suggestions, ideas

Play structure Update

Speaker: Robin Franchesini

To improve the playground, we will need to make a larger monetary investment (additional \$3000). Robin still researching options. Sterling Middle School has a light bulb program that gives money back to the school. Robin will review further at the December meeting.

Fundraising idea

Capri Sun recycling – bundle and send in.

BKS Family Event

Quincy Symphony performing at QHS – December 6th (Tuesday). Suggestion to host a BKS Family Night.

Action: Mrs. O’Keeffe to research and send out a flyer.

Meeting adjourned: 7:55 pm