

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGE PTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on January 5, 2011 at 1:35 pm at Conference Room 1, Bridge School, 55 Middleby Road, Lexington, MA.

PTA Executive Committee Members Present:

Rebecca Reynolds Moore (Co-President), Tricia Weisberg (Treasurer), Suzanne Lau (Secretary), Victoria Campos, Stephanie Mitzenmacher, Laura Schroeder, Guorong Zhu and Cathy Smith.

PTA Executive Committee Members Absent:

Justine Wirtanen (Co-President)

PROCEEDINGS

1. Welcome

Rebecca called the meeting to order at 1:35 pm. Justine excused herself from the meeting due to illness of one of her children.

2. Minutes and business conducted between EC meetings

- The Minutes for the December 1, 2010 Bridge PTA Executive Committee Meeting were amended and unanimously approved.
- MOTION on December 3, 2010 by Laura via email to approve the total Mini-grant awarded amount of \$6,215.94, which is \$1,215.94 over our 2010-2011 budgeted amount of \$5,000. Seconded by Tricia. Approved unanimously by email vote on December 4, 2010.
- MOTION on December 5, 2010 by Suzanne via email to approve the purchase of playground equipment requested by Lucia Gates for \$609.98 using the saved playground funds. Seconded by Rebecca. Approved unanimously by email vote on December 6, 2010.
- The PTA Executive Committee is delighted to note that on December 21, 2010, Superintendent Paul Ash announced that interim Principal Meg Colella was appointed the permanent Principal of Bridge School. Congratulations to Principal Colella and we look forward to many years under her leadership.

3. PTA Bylaw Amendments

Justine and Suzanne will review suggested changes by members of the EC and prepare a final draft for the next EC meeting. The final version of the revised Bylaws will be presented to the general membership for approval at a General Membership meeting scheduled in conjunction with the February Parent Coffee Connection. Copies of the proposed revised Bylaws will be provided upon request.

4. Treasurer's Review

Tricia reviewed the year-to-date numbers for 2010-2011.

- YTD fundraising total is \$4,111.56
- Teachers Purse has spent \$1,969 so far.

- Mini-grants has paid out \$1,446 so far for 8 out of the 24 grants awarded
- Lucia Gate's playground equipment has been ordered
- Scholastic book fair was very successful; funds earmarked for the library
- Scholarships in total of \$233 have been awarded based on recommendations from Principal Colella. Tricia will clarify the process for awarding scholarships by the PTA.

5. Upcoming Fundraising Events

- Fifth Grade Committee movie and pizza night on January 21 at Bridge
- The Winter Soiree/Ball Fundraiser is scheduled for Friday, February 4, 2011. This Committee welcomes donations for the Silent Auction to be held at this event.
- Wilson Farm Day (date to be announced)

6. Mini-Grant Program

The awards will be announced on the Bridge website (listing the recipient and a description of the award). Two mini-grants were referred to other sources (Book fair proceeds and Wishing Well) after the 12/6/2010 approval vote. The final total for all Mini-grants awarded for 2010-2011 is \$5,725.70 for 24 awards.

7. Parent Coffee Connection

The Parent Coffee Connection scheduled for January 12 on the District Anti-Bullying policy will be postponed until the policy has been finalized. Stephanie will consult with Principal Colella regarding the upcoming Parent Coffee Connections.

8. Playground Committee

Suzanne is waiting for a proposal and budget from the Playground Committee Chair, Chris Roy. Most of the proposed work will take place in the spring. Victoria will verify with Mrs. Sciaretta that her playground needs were covered by Mrs. Gates equipment purchase for the school.

9. SPARC/Enrollment Update

- Bridge has 528 students as of 1/5/ 2111
- Reviewed School Committee meeting on January 4, 2011 discussion of enrollment. Enrollment for the schools is very unpredictable. Current enrollment models do not accurately predict student enrollment. There is a significant in-migration of families with school-age children to Lexington. Superintendent Ash is not ready to propose re-districting.

10. Upcoming Calendar/Events

- Family Word Night: January 13 and 20
- Fifth Grade Pizza/Movie Fundraiser: January 21
- Family Math Night: January 25 and February 1, 8, 15, 17
- Winter Ball Fundraiser: February 4

11. Other topics

- Red Flag/Winter Weather Advisory: Parents would like clarification of the policy for before school Red Flag and outdoor winter recess.
- Lost and Found: Suzanne volunteered to manage the Lost and Found area
- Diversity Committee: Currently inactive, but the school and some parents have suggested re-activating this committee. Need to find a Chair person.
- After school enrichment program – most of these are run by volunteers (YES, Kids Cooking green etc). Need to find a solution for the Chess Club where the instructor receives payment.
- Rebecca continues to explore options for providing ELMOs to Bridge
- Read Thank you's received from Staff for PTA Mini-grant awards and other parent volunteer efforts.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Next Executive Committee Meeting Date: February 2, 2011 1:30-3:00 pm, Conference Room 1 at Bridge School.

Minutes Submitted by PTA Secretary: Suzanne Lau