

MINUTES OF THE BRIDGE PTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on November 16, 2011 at 1:00 pm at Conference Room 2, Bridge School, 55 Middleby Road, Lexington, MA.

PTA Executive Committee Members Present:

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

PROCEEDINGS

1. Welcome

Rebecca called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Justine had to leave due to family emergency.

2. Minutes for October 12, 2011 EC meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Budget Review

Tricia reviewed budget for 2011-2012.

- a) Current income from membership, donations and fundraisers (see below) were reviewed.
- b) Teacher's purse – 14 teachers have requested reimbursements to date.
- c) YES program review – Program is operated by the PTA
- d) Kids Cooking Green – Program is operated by Liza Connolly, and receives some funding through grants. PTA will explore further supporting this enrichment program.

4. Fundraising Update

- a) ACT/Square 1 Arts orders are due.
- b) Map Night/Asia Café raised \$811 gross for ACT
- c) ACT/Thriller dance raised \$454 gross
- d) Spiritgear has been ordered from Tricon.
- e) Sally Foster giftwrap, online ordering and home delivery are great improvements.
- f) 5GC/Monstah Mash was very successful (\$7.1K gross, \$4.3K net)
- g) No Barnes and Noble event this year – available dates were unsuitable.
- h) Book fair planned for the week of December 5.
- i) LexFUN Luminary kits – 50% goes to Bridge, estimated income \$320
- j) Stop and Shop is ongoing

5. Mini-grants Update

Deadline for grant proposals was November 14. A preliminary list of proposals will be reviewed and approved by Principal Meg Colella. The final list of proposals will then be presented to the EC for discussion and vote December.

6. ACT Update

The programming information for ACT from last year was received in early October from Amy Stix (previous Chair). The ACT committee will need to work with teachers to program events for the remainder of the year.

7. 5th Grade Committee
Will discuss the handling of the camp deposit and the camp subsidy at the next EC meeting.
8. Community Service Update
 - a) The holiday gift drive has received more gifts than last year (160 gifts donated this year). These gifts are given to a shelter in Lowell and are much appreciated.
 - b) PTA recognizes that there are families in our own Bridge community that are also in need for this holiday season. PTA will once again host a coffee to solicit gift card donations to help these families. Giftcards will be distributed by Meg Colella. Stephanie will host the coffee at a date TBD.
9. Bridge/Bowman Renovation and 2012 Debt Exclusion Campaign Update
 - a) Town Meeting approved inclusion of the funding for the Bridge/Bowman Renovation on the ballot on January 24, 2012. If approved, renovation work will start in April.
 - b) YesForOurSchools is raising funds to support the campaign. The campaign has a kick-off meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday, November 21, 2011 at Sacred Heart Church.
 - c) MOTION by Rebecca to allocate \$2500 from the Bridge PTA cash reserve to support the YesForOurSchools campaign. Seconded by Laura and approved in a unanimous vote by the EC. The Bridge PTA EC would like to encourage our school community to endorse the campaign and to vote in the upcoming January election.
10. Website/B2H/Communications
 - a) The uniformity of the new LPS Bridge school website is very confusing – all the school websites in the district look the same.
 - b) PTA will work on getting the information for all families into the school directories. Families do not have to be PTA members to be in the directory.
11. Calendar/Upcoming Events
 - a) 11/21 Debt Exclusion Campaign Kick-off
 - b) 11/21 Square1 Art orders due
 - c) 12/1 Word Night K-1st Grade
 - d) 12/4 Luminary Night
 - e) 12/5 Scholastic Book Fair starts
 - f) 12/8 Gift drive card making
 - g) TDB Gift card Coffee
12. Next meeting
PTA EC will invite interested EC candidates to the next meeting on December 7 to observe the EC in action.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Next Executive Committee Meeting Date: 1:00 – 2:45 pm on December 7, 2011, Conference Room 2 at Bridge School

Minutes Submitted by PTA Secretary: Suzanne Lau