

## PTA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING – February 15, 2023

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Michael Wasko  
Mr. Roberto Camean  
Mr. Greg Margolis  
Mr. Darrin Stark  
Mr. Aaron Wasserman  
Mrs. Christine Egbert  
Ms. Michelle Stricchiola  
Mr. Evan Markensohn  
Mr. Michael Anderson  
Mr. Dan Diaz  
Mrs. Christine Cronkite  
Dr. Maria Carrell

### **ITEMS DISCUSSED:**

- 1) Tribute to Harvey Altman, former principal at Memorial Junior School
- 2) Thank you to the BMS PTA for hosting Super Saturday – it has been a long-standing tradition for 20-25 years in Hanover Township
- 3) Mr. Wasko addressed school security and is in close contact with the Hanover Township PD daily for any updates. There is ongoing dialogue, and the school district will always take their recommendations. All school officers are also briefed daily to any threats locally or in other areas.
- 4) Dr. Carrell WPHS has two layers of security – SRO and a class 3 officer who stays from 11-5 since students remain in the building late for activities.
- 5) The Hanover Township PD has given the class three officers town police cars to drive to the school to show that there is police presence. If a Class 3 Officer is absent, the PD sends a Police Officer for the day.
- 6) The district calendar was approved by the Board of Education. To date, there have been no closings for snow days, etc. The administration will be discussing the end of the year calendar within the next few weeks to discuss the 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation date. They will decide how to allocate the “extra” days off.
- 7) Enrollment for Kindergarten – Projecting 40 new students per school (BMS & SDS are a little lower) – sometimes summer enrollments change these numbers/sections.

- 8) The inclusive preschool program registration ended last week.
- 9) Approximately every 3-4 weeks, Mr. Wasko talks with the township regarding property development. Currently, the Corporate Mailing property has opened its application process (students in April 2023). We may receive 12 students at BMS, 6 at MJS. There are no changes to the plan for River Park Phase I for opening – when the units do open, they project 10-12 students at SDS, 5 for MJS. This is only part 1 of the obligation, there will be a part 2 in the future.
- 10) Dr. Carrell thanked the community for moving the referendum forward. The first phase (roofing) will be done this summer. WPHS play will be the last weekend in February “Little Shoppe of Horrors”. Winter sports will be concluding soon, and spring sports will be starting.

#### **Memorial Junior School Update – Mr. Anderson**

- 1) April 26<sup>th</sup> – Faculty & Friends Concert (proceeds go to Catherine Moser Fund)
- 2) All 8<sup>th</sup> grade activities are being scheduled
- 3) Graduation pictures took place
- 4) Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Frogbridge
- 5) 8<sup>th</sup> grade dance
- 6) 8<sup>th</sup> grade awards
- 7) Planning graduation
- 8) Met with the PTA officers and they are looking for new officers. They are discussing fundraising goals. Next weekend is a food fundraiser at Whippany Pizza.
- 9) MJS doesn't offer lunch anymore. Mr. Wasko mentioned that it may be difficult for PTAs to sustain the lunch program. Free and reduced lunch determines how to move forward. Christine Egbert asked how we can be a part of a federal program.
- 10) Mr. Anderson mentioned that the Assistant Prosecutor will be speaking on 3/2 for each grade level

#### **Mrs. Cronkite – MTV PTA**

- 1) Kids Interactive Theater- all school assembly
- 2) Report Card Day Treat – ice cream
- 3) Family Roller-skating Party – 149 kids
- 4) Family Movie Night in March
- 5) March Book Fair
- 6) Talent Show in April

#### **Mr. Stark – BMS**

- 1) Super Saturday was a great event
- 2) HIB refresher program took place and LEED for 5<sup>th</sup> grade started

- 3) SEL day is Friday – the students will be doing activities about character education and culminating
- 4) Harlem Wizards visiting on Tuesday
- 5) Read-a-thon, Author Day, Math Assembly, Grade Level shows (grades 1-4)
- 6) Field Trips are being planned
- 7) STEM Night on 3/9 – about 200 students have signed up

#### **Evan Markensohn – BMS PTA**

- 1) Holiday Shoppe was a huge success
- 2) Holiday concert decorations by PTA and concession sales happened for Winter Concert
- 3) We sent out communication supporting HS referendum
- 4) Holiday treats for staff
- 5) BINGO for books
- 6) Cronut fundraiser Thursday
- 7) Super Sat – high school Interact helped aas well
- 8) Teacher Grant Requests
- 9) Looking for PTA Board President and VP of Membership
- 10) May 12<sup>th</sup> – Tricky Tray Flyer for Mr. Wasko

#### **Mr. Camean - SDS**

- 1) Outdoor Classroom is progressing, and it will be in the back of the school
- 2) PTA Assembly – STEM related
- 3) PTA set up Valentine’s Day treat – raffled off 2 bouquets
- 4) BINGO Night – 2/24
- 5) Build a Bear Event – 3/24
- 6) “Soup”-er Bowl just concluded – friendly competition between schools – a lot of food donated to Interfaith Food Pantry
- 7) 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School – K & 1<sup>st</sup> dress up as 100-year-old people
- 8) K registration phase 1 has taken place, phase 2 will occur in the spring
- 9) PTA Read-a-thon will begin next week, one book district will begin, and it will culminate with an Author Day (Wendy Mass)
- 10) Character Education is taking place – “Be TRRFCC”
- 11) Caring Challenge – students submit caring chart and receive a “brag tag” at the end of the two weeks
- 12) Play season has started – each grade level is doing a show (animals, America)

#### **Mr. Margolis – Special Services**

- 1) Inclusive preschool registration process concluded last week
- 2) Planning for extended school year
- 3) Parent Meeting – 7:00 at BMS Media Center – Social Skills Presentation by Care Plus Coach

### **Mr. Diaz**

- 1) Spring Musical at MJS – Oliver

### **Mr. Wasserman – Curriculum Update**

- 1) Shout out to teachers for all that they are doing for students
- 2) Professional development – math department met with the regional schools to make sure transition is smooth. ELA articulation will occur in March.
- 3) Last professional development day for staff is Friday. Teachers chose from workshops that best suit what they need
- 4) Reading Comprehension, Benchmark Assessments, mathematic coaching

### **Mr. Wasko - Spring Assessments Update**

- 1) Testing dates on calendar
- 2) Mr. Stark and Mr. Schwab attended a training meeting about how to administer/manage tests
- 3) Building staff will be trained in March
- 4) Only trained/certified teachers can proctor test
- 5) Waiting to hear if they will be a “field test” district

### **Mr. Wasko – BOE Update**

- 1) February 28<sup>th</sup> - BOE Meeting
- 2) March 9<sup>th</sup> – tentative meeting for budget but it is the same night as BMS STEM night so it probably needs to be rescheduled
- 3) March 28<sup>th</sup> – BOE Meeting

### **Teacher Recognition Program/Excellence in Service Awards**

- 1) Instructions will be coming out soon via SWIFT K12 Email Notification System by Mr. Wasko
- 2) One Teacher of the Year is selected per school
- 3) 4 district-wide Excellence in Service awards – not school specific
- 4) Parents write email/letter to nominate someone
- 5) Awards are presented by Mr. Wasko and crew
- 6) Staff are recognized at the May or June BOE Meeting
- 7) They receive a golden apple and teachers receive a stipend for school supplies while excellence in service get a comp day.