

Blind Brook PTA  
General Meeting  
Thursday, April 13, 2023  
7:00PM  
B.M.P Ridge Street Elementary cafetorium (In Person)  
**MINUTES**

**I. Presentation by Dr. Colin Byrne**

**A. Next Tuesday - board meeting, adopting the budget**

1. Below a 10 percent increase
2. Pulled out some things that can be put off
3. Inflation
4. Healthcare costs
5. Increase in mental health and special ed needs

**II. RSS Building updates**

- A. Expanding the black top
- B. Expand the basketball area (underway)
- C. Baseball field getting started

**III. Fire alarm**

- A. Bmprss alarm was a toaster oven fire
- B. MS/HS fablab mishap
  1. Mitigation to the room is complete
  2. Machines were checked and cleared
  3. Room will back in service by next week

**IV. Monday, April 17**

- A. International potluck
- B. Summer program

**Wednesday, April 19**

- A. 7pm - Mr. Ambrosia hosting "A Night at the Oscars"

**II. Acceptance of last month's minutes: Approved. (Toni-Anne Rigano, Correy Stephenson)**

**III. Co-Presidents' Report: Cameron Sager and Correy Stephenson**

A. Second lice check on 4/18

**B. VOTE, VOTE, VOTE**

C. Adult music night with Mr. DiMiceli on 4/20

**IV. Treasurer: Lynn Glantz**

**A. MARCH 2023 - Net Revenue of \$(8,551)**

**B. Major Revenues: Gross Profit/Loss: \$5,571**

ASA	5640
Minted	465
Lice Collection	4020
Photos	2876

**C. Expense Total: \$(14,122)**

Music Trip	(3175)
ASA	(8925)
RSS assemblies	(1380)
Lice	(2400)
Creating Connections	(5000)

**D. Total Net Revenue (Loss): \$(8,551)**

**V. Special Events & Fundraising: Leah Mittleman, Shana Koransky, Karen Lin, Linda Itani**

- A. Olympics - May 2, Time TBD
  - 1. No parent coaches, coach Collins will help
- B. Harlem Wizards, May 13th
  - 1. Save the date went out
- C. Plant sale - Friday, May 12th

**VI. RSS Liaison: Amanda Gitkind**

- A. Parent-Teacher info on how to sign up with pick-a-time was emailed earlier this week.
- B. No need to make an appointment if you wish to see specials teachers. Their doors are open.
- C. Parent input request form will be going out this week and will be due after conferences
  - a. Placements are first made by classroom teachers, and then also worked on by administration, special educators, specials teachers and guidance.
  - b. Specific requests for teachers will not be honored
  - c. Parents may make negative student requests or teachers with whom they have had a personal negative experience with.
- D. There will be early dismissal (11:30am) on 4/27 and 5/5
- E. State testing will take place end of the month for ELA, Math will take place in May
  - a. 3rd grade testing will be paper based
  - b. 4th/5 th grade testing will be computer based
- F. An email will go out about the last week of school
  - a. Monday, 6/19 there is no school
  - b. Wed/Thurs/Fri Half days
- G. Tuesday May 30th no school but there is school Friday May 26th
- H. Early release Wednesday 5/3 for Professional development
- I. There is a bluebird chat scheduled for Tuesday 4/11 on the enrichment program
- J. There will be another lice check with an option to opt-out
- K. Upcoming events:
  - a. 5 th grade D.A.R.E. graduation
  - b. Spring concert
  - c. Moving up
  - d. 5 th grade night of music

- e. K spring sing
- f. 1 st grade spring fling

**VII. MS Liaison: ToniAnne Rigano**

- A. April 13 - Current 5th graders visited BBMS to begin their transition to middle school.
- B. Students will take part in an info session, tour, and Q&A session with students.
- C. April 17 - World language course requests are due for next year's 6th graders
- D. April 19-20 - New York State ELA Exam (grade 6-8)
- E. May 2-3 - New York State Math Exam (grades 6-8)
- F. May 4 - Incoming 7th Grade Parent Meeting, 7:00 pm
- G. May 8-12 - Students will be taking the STAR Reading and STAR Math Assessments
- H. May 10 - BBMS Band Concert
- I. May 12 - Trills and Thrills Trip (a trip where students in Select Band and Chorus go to
- J. Lake Compounce Amusement Park to compete in musical performances)
- K. May 17 - BBMC Chorus Concert

**VIII. HS Liaison: Naomi Riley**

- A. Sophomore circus Friday, May 12
- B. Starting Thursday night at rye arts center, students work will be displayed
- C. Photography
- D. One of our students won best in show
- E. Junior class trip is this weekend
  - a. Going to Disney World
  - b. Won't be mother's day weekend next year
  - c. Place we used... before... never got back to us
  - d. Williamsburg
  - e. Go to Disney this year
  - f. Next year DC and Williamsburg
  - g. Because they never got their DC trip in
- F. Free screening of Screenagers at White Plains public library
  - a. May 16th at 12 pm

- b. Email Chirles and she can give info
  - c. Sponsored by student assistance
  - d. See if it's something we want to have for our community
  - e. Last screenager movie was good but a little dated
  - f. Talks about vaping and drug use
- G. Yearbook breakfast for seniors on June 7 is a celebration of learning for senior options... presenting projects
- a. Encourage parents and juniors to go... to see
- H. Senior awards and yearbook breakfast on June 8
- I. Senior prom is June 9th .
- J. Science symposium is on May 24
- K. Finals... let people know about when kids can come in and go
- L. The dress code
- M. Weather getting warmer
- N. Still have a dress code in effect and students should abide by it
- a. Will review over the summer
  - b. Basics of our body parts are covered
  - c. No drug or alcohol references
  - d. Don't want to remove kids from class
  - e. Encourage parents to talk to kids about it.
- O. Board of ed celebration of teaching
- P. On June 13, last day of classes
- Q. Won't have an advisory. Will have our outdoor yard party.
- R. From 220-250 when buses leave
- S. Sports teams doing well
- T. Debate team will be at the next board meeting and then the robotics team after that...
- U. Some interest meetings for fall sports
- V. Some makeup AP exams next week

**IX. Pupil Services Liaison: Victor Espinoza & Erica Wiener**

- A. Anyone who would like to join the SEID committee can email [blindbrookseid@gmail.com](mailto:blindbrookseid@gmail.com).
- B. Mr. Burg and Ms. Carpanzano heard a lot of good things about Creating Connections and wish to thank all of the parents who volunteered to help with the program!
- C. CSE and 504 Annual Review Meetings are taking place throughout the spring.

- D. If anyone is thinking that their child might need an IEP, it would be helpful to make that referral to the CSE by next week. That would allow time for evaluations and a meeting before the end of the school year. (You can also choose to wait, you'll just be likely to have evaluations and a meeting over the summer.) You can initiate a referral by sending a short letter explaining your concerns to Ms. Carpanzano (for RSS students) or Mr. Burg (for MS/HS students).
- E. Pupil Services introduced an online parent portal last month, to share meeting invitations, consent documents, and evaluation reports with parents. The implementation seems to be going well.
- F. Pupil Services is starting to project its layers of services for next year, such as ICT's, self-contained special classes, pull-outs, and teacher aides, which will all ultimately result from the CSE and 504 meetings. It is possible the Kindergarten ICT might be replaced by other service models. It is also possible that a fifth grade ICT might be added.

**X. Membership: Katie Wolff & Stephanie Biderman**

- A. Nothing new

**XI. Community Coalition: Debra Cohen, Community Coalition Coordinator and Monique Tricario, Student Assistance Counselor and Prevention Coordinator**

- A. Stephen Hill was interrupted by the first fire unfortunately
- B. Thank you for everyone for volunteering
- C. Stephen Hill from 'speak sobriety' came back on Monday, 4/10 since the fire alarm interrupted his first presentation
- D. April is Alcohol Awareness Month
- E. 4/20 Healthy brain day
- F. 4/25 Jacey Good - distracted driving
- G. 4/26 Donut drive distracted pledge (everyone will get a donut)

**XII. New Business:**

- A. Heard in Rye, Tuesday April 18th "All joy and no fun, the paradox of modern parenting", by Jennifer Senior
- B. DEI, April 17th. Bring your favorite recipe, 6pm-8pm.
- C. Every 2 years we have a new executive board, we are beginning to look for a nominating committee

Attendance

In Person

Dr. Byrne  
Alicia Scala  
Kate Marino  
Karen Lin  
Leah Mittleman  
Correy Stephenson  
Cameron Sager  
Monique Tricarico  
Debra Cohen  
Stephanie Biderman  
Rick Buzin  
Afton Rosenfeld  
Anthony Samela  
Johanna Gonzalez  
Naomi Riley