

Blind Brook PTA
General Meeting
Thursday, March 16, 2023
9:00AM
B.M.P Ridge Street Elementary cafetorium (In Person)

MINUTES

- I. Presentation from Nancy Barr and George Latimer**
 - A. Presented awards to Cameron & Correy for their dedication to the PTA
- I. Presentation by Dr. Colin Byrne**
 - A. Budget**
 - 1. Things are very difficult
 - 2. We will have to go over the cap
 - 3. We've proposed many budgets
 - 4. 9.4% increase budget to budget
 - a) Healthcare costs
 - b) Inflation
- II. Lunch at Ridge Street**
 - A. Lunch has been slower than we would like
 - B. Struggling to find employees
- III. Lice screenings**
 - A. 4 times per year, a proactive program
 - B. Very effective way to prevent an outbreak
 - C. Unfortunately not all community members participated
- IV. Summer program**
 - A. We are not planning on doing another summer program
 - B. The programs in the past were aided by federal grants that have now run out
 - C. There may be other local programs that our students can partake in

- II. Acceptance of last month's minutes: Approved. (Johanna Gonzalez & Alicia Scala)**

- III. Co-Presidents' Report: Cameron Sager and Correy Stephenson**
 - A. Lice & the budget
 - B. VOTE, VOTE, VOTE**
 - C. Adult music night with Mr. DiMiceli (Movin' with Mr. D/Get down with Greg)

IV. Treasurer: Lynn Glantz

A. FEBRUARY 2023 - Net Revenue of \$(13,701)

B. Major Revenues: Gross Profit/Loss: \$8,035

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Programming | 2,209 |
| Membership | 2,075 |
| Photos | 3,350 |

C. Expense Total: \$(21,737)

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| Community Coalition | (4,750) |
| Programming Expenses | (3,363) |
| RSS assemblies | (2,810) |
| RSS Enhancement | (8,351) |
| MS assemblies | (1,997) |

D. Total Net Revenue (Loss): \$(13,701)

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

- A. First paint night at Bmprss
- B. Second paint night is next Friday at MS
- C. Jester Jim came and it was great

- D. Flex registration opens on Monday
 - 1. Emails will go out
- E. Harlem Wizards, May 13th
 - 1. Save the date will go out soon
- F. Olympic Night (Shayna Koransky)

VI. RSS Liaison: Amanda Gitkind

- A. Indoor recess activities continue
 - a. Art with Marla ends Friday 3/17
 - b. Chess with Chess Max Academy continues through the month of April
 - c. Yoga with Nathalie will continue through the month of April
- B. Bluebird chat addressing AIS/Enrichment services will take place in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for an email with more information
- C. ELA/Math State-wide exams will take place after April break and in early May, respectively
 - a. 3 rd grade will be paper-based
 - b. 4 th /5 th grade will be computer based; students have been practicing
- D. Parent/Teacher will take place on April 27 th (5-8pm) and May 5 th (12:30-3:30pm)
- E. Sign-ups will be done via pick-a-time
- F. There will be an early dismissal May 3 rd for Professional Development at 1:30pm
- G. There are currently 104 incoming Kindergarteners
 - a. Notifications for incoming K screening and parent meeting will be coming soon
- H. Class parent request form will be coming in the upcoming weeks
- I. As of now, we will have school Friday, May 26 th , and no school Monday, May 29th and Tuesday May, 30th for MDW
- J. Ms. Taylor would like to thank the PTA for organizing Michael Albert
 - a. Mr. Albert created a collage based on students work
 - b. Ms. Murphy and her intern are working on a mural which will be on display during parent/teacher conferences
- K. Lice check took place Wednesday 3/15/2023
- L. Creating connections began this week and will continue through next week with a combination of assemblies and hands-on activities

VII. MS Liaison: ToniAnne Rigano

- A. March 16 - Incoming 6th Grade Parent Meeting at 7:00 PM in the auditorium
- B. March 22 - 6th graders visit the Book Fair
- C. March 23 - 7th graders visit the Book Fair
- D. March 24 - 8th graders visit the Book Fair
- E. March 24 - Pinot's Palette is coming to BBMS for a painting party from 3:00-4:30 pm. Registration is open on Community Pass and includes all of the art supplies and snacks. Please contact Correy Stephenson with any questions.
- F. March 27 - 8th graders who have registered will be taking the National Spanish Exam and National Italian Exam
- G. April 3-7 - Spring Break
- H. PTA Reflections Program – The New York State PTA Reflections 2023 Winners were announced and three Blind Brook students received an Award of Merit for their submissions:
 - a. Maggie Moore, Literature in the Primary Division
 - b. Darren Guo, Music Composition in the Middle Division
 - c. Sheena Kitano, Visual Arts in the Primary Division
 - i. Thank you to all the students who participated this year and to the Blind Brook faculty and staff who served as judges. This year's submissions can be viewed on the PTA website

VIII. HS Liaison: Naomi Riley

- A. Wellness week next week
- B. School assembly on Tuesday sponsored by community coalition
 - a. Steven hill
- C. Student badminton tournament
- D. Goes into wellness thing
- E. In middle of scheduling
- F. Course requests due last week
- G. Budget is really big right now
 - a. Requesting to go over cap
 - b. If we don't significant cuts to sports, extracurriculars, mental health
 - c. Be educated
 - d. At next board meeting
 - e. There is plan b budget on Tuesday
 - f. Encourage people to tune in and what we're asking for...
- H. We are asking some things nice to have

- a. New furniture
 - b. New band instruments
 - c. Some broken
 - d. We're leasing some of them
 - e. Those are big asks
 - f. New textbooks for classrooms
 - g. Hopefully we will get some of that
- I. Right before or after April break will know if certain classes won't run
- J. Then another round of you have to choose because it won't fit into schedule
- K. That happens in April
- L. Having students in different competitions
- M. Mock trial had some ... wins in both
- N. We had 20 students go to Rochester for DECA and out of 20, 2 qualified for international conference in April
- a. Growing program
 - b. We're learning about it
 - c. Some schools have a whole class dedicated to it
 - d. Us to do well when we don't have a class dedicated to it
- O. Pretty quiet until end of year
- P. Senate will have fashion show
- a. April 14
- Q. Big fundraiser for sharing shelf we are donating money to
- a. Nice event for community to come out to
- R. Girl up will be doing a movie afternoon on 21st
- a. Not sure what movie but in auditorium
- S. Last week of school for seniors
- T. Spring sports start this week
- U. The high school librarian is asking for quiet games to play in the library.
They do not like scrabble.
- V. The musical "Something Rotten"
- W. Spring sports email is out
- X. Spring sports start March 13th
- Y. The spirit program ran last week

IX. Pupil Services Liaison: Victor Espinoza & Erica Wiener

- A. If you'd like to join SEID, email blindbrookseid@gmail.com.
- B. There is a new CPSE Chairperson: April Tunno. She is part time. The prior chair, Nicole Hirschler, will make her other job as rss school psychologist completely full-time.
- C. Pupil Services is going paperless through the Frontline Collaboration Portal- electronic sharing of meeting invitations and RSVP's and evaluations/reports, as of March 6th.

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. Next week is wellness week at the MS/HS
- B. Monday - compliment door
- C. Tuesday - spin the wheel trivia
- D. Wednesday - relaxation station
- E. Thursday - kick the herb, will be planting basil
- F. Friday - Therapy dog day
- G. Steven Hill, Tuesday at 1:20pm (talks about his drug addiction, grew up in rockland, has a very interesting story) will also be there on Friday
- H. Narcan training was a success
 - 1. They have a once a month zoom to get trained
- I. We need parent volunteers

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.

| Attendance | |
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| 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 | |