

Brownsville Elementary PTO
 General Membership Meeting Minutes
 May 18, 2010

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. In Attendance: Danica Plantz, Joanne Meier, Lori Benedict, Megan Jackson, Suzette Mata, Sue Brown, Wendy Bragaw, Betsy Aronson, Amy Life, Megan Sullivan, Jeanette Abell, Linda King, Jo Vining, Jess Haden, Sally Cushing, Thedra Nichols, Ian Sole, Melinda Somers and Cady Garey

After review, Lori moved to approve the April GM Minutes, Jess seconded and the motion was approved unopposed.

- II. Reports of Officers

- A. Principal, Jo Vining

- Staff Appreciation week was wonderful.
- The Volunteer Appreciation breakfast was held recently, a smallish turnout. The Honors Choir performed.
- Fun Fair was great despite the bad weather.
- SOL's began 5/18. Some computer problems but they were quickly corrected.
- Buzzings reported some teacher changes: Ken Bragg is retiring; there will be some new hires due to class sizes. Some moving around of staff but no losses due to budget.
- There will be an end of the year celebration which will include VMDO and the Board of Supervisors. 5th Graders will be doing tours of the building. This is a school only, not a public, event.

- B. President, Joanne Meier

Principal's search committee is beginning work, though Ms. Vining is clearly irreplaceable! Joanne hopes that the new principal can help the growing school retain the small school feeling. We may know the new principal by the end of school. Interviews will happen the week of June 3rd.

- C. Treasurers, Wendy Bragaw and Sue Brown

Currently at about \$11,685.44 for Gifting but this total will in all likelihood increase to a little over \$12,000. Kid Pan Alley is not part of operating budget, should be deducted from the above \$12,000. To use the remainder of the Assemblies budget, a check needs to be written to The Barter Theatre by June. 25 cents in interest profit this month!

- III. Old Business

- A. Slated Officers---Almost full! New positions/ Committees: Co Volunteer Coordinator, Vice President BEE Program, Barter Theatre, Family Fitness, Restaurant Spirit Nights, and Square One Art.

EXECUTIVE BOARD			
President	Joanne Meier	823.8232	jmeier@ericmeier.ne
Co-Vice President	Jess Haden	823.1230	jwh009@aol.com
Co-Vice President	Danica Plantz	823.4385	pdplantz@gmail.com
Co-Treasurer	Amy Life	823.5887	amylife@comcast.ne

Co-Treasurer	Sue Brown Douvas	823.5228	sab2f@virginia.edu
Secretary	Cady Garey	823.5297	cadygarey@hotmail.com
Co-Volunteer Coordinator	Lori Benedict	202.8918	lobenedict@comcast.net
Co-Volunteer Coordinator	Suzette Mata	205.4299	kbug115@yahoo.com
Vice President BEE Program	Katherine Merhige	456.6544	ktm@ntelos.net
STANDING COMMITTEE	For 2010-2011		
Art Print Program	Kimberly Gale		
Arts & Crafts Fair	Tara Giannini, Amanda Farmer		
Attractions Fundraiser	Cady Garey		
Barter Theatre	Ian Sole		
BEE Program	Katherine Merhige, Sally Cushing		
BeeBop	Danica Plantz		
Book Fair	Lisa Koolman, Maryann Russell		
Brownsville Bakers	Kara Fulop		
Brownsville Publishing (K-2)	Wendi Foster, Michelle Amtmann		
Butterfly Garden & Grounds Beautification	Tamara Sole, Kris Sukovich		
Coat Drive	Lisa Swales		
Evening Event	Katherine Merhige		
Family Dance & Ice Cream Social	Deanna Robertson, Elizabeth Smith		
Family Dinner	Susan Gehrning , Megan Sullivan		
Family Game Night	Susan Gehring, Megan Sullivan		
Fifth Grade Sendoff	Kristie Croll, Sally Wallace		
Fun Fair	Melinda Somers, Megan Jackson		
Family Fitness	Melissa Miller		
Golf Tournament	Jess Haden		
Kid Pan Alley	Terri Allard, Sally Cushing		
Lost & Found	Aurora Warren		
Newcomer's Network	Thedra Nichols		
Parent Council Representative	Ian Sole		
PTO Communications	Heather Marcel		
Redemption Programs	Donna McCance, Helen Winkler		
Restaurant Spirit Nights	Suzette Mata		
School Directory	Candy High-Simmons		
Science Day	Sarah Louie		
Spiritwares	Wendi Foster		
Square One Art	Christina Sandridge, Kristie Sojka		
Tasty Tastings Nutritional Awareness	Kris Sukovich		
Teacher/Staff Appreciation	Betsy Grinnell, Heather Marcel		
Used Book Sale	Lisa Koolman, Maryann Russell		
Yearbook	Kathleen Capshaw, Crisanne Barker		

- B. Fundraiser wrap up/Calendar. Golf Tournament will be October 8th and Newcomer's Picnic will be August 21st. (See attached spreadsheet)

Gifted Proposals:

-World Peace Program

-Lice Care Kits

-Kid Pan Alley

-Mrs. Vining presented a wish list from teachers which had very specific items and costs. Lori asked if it is better to give each grade a certain amount rather than amounts for individual items. Mrs. Vining felt that this was best. There was a lengthy discussion as to if room parents should be privy to this wish list as they may want to purchase items as an end of the year gifts. Discussion over the canned food drive and teacher gifts for the end of the year. After much discussion, it was decided that the wish list brought to us by Mrs. Vining was for use of the PTO and not meant for parents as end of the year gift options. Gifting and Food Drive to be discussed in the Executive Board Meeting.

- C. Food Drive: This effort stemmed from last year's 5th grade teachers asking for a food drive in their honor rather than a class gift. Details to be ironed out in EB.

IV. Reports of Standing and Special Committees

- A. Parent Council, Ian Sole—report given by Joanne Meier who attended the last meeting. Ian will be the Parent Council Representative again next year. Next year the Parent Council will strive to be more proactive rather than reactive especially with the School Board and Board of Supervisors. Alexandra Surlles from the Lewis and Clark Exploratory Park spoke. Lydell Holland from the Senior Center spoke about how seniors can be a part of schools. Joanne and Jo were quite moved by the examples of how this wonderful and vibrant community of people can be a great resource to the school.
- B. BEE Program, Sally Cushing. Last full week of classes. The BEE Program received \$3500 from Emmanuel. Still in need of volunteer support. There were 92 classes offered this year. Volunteers are reminded that two people can share jobs.
- C. Teacher and Staff Appreciation, Amy Life and Betsy Grinnell
Appreciation week went well. Amy is interested in hearing what new families thought of the week's events. The end of the year luncheon is June 14th at noon. Gift cards will be purchased for Custodial, Cafeteria, and Office Staff.
- D. Fun Fair, Melinda Somers and Megan Jackson. Profit of about \$8,387. Wonderful despite the weather! Sponsor booths that they staffed themselves were popular, look to do more next year. Melinda and Megan will do it again next year. Hooray!! Please support the sponsors and thank them!
- E. 5th grade send off, Wendy Bragaw. 5th graders will visit the Dome at Wintergreen on June 3rd. Sending Off ceremony will be held the day before the last day of school from 9:30 until 11:00. Working on a class gift. 4th grade parents will help with serving at the reception.

V. Announcements

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 8th at 6:30 pm in the library. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Cady Garey, PTO Secretary

