

General Membership Meeting - PTO Minutes

January 10th 2012 – 4:30pm – 5:30pm

In Attendance: Katherine Merhige, Megan Sullivan, Amy Life, Claiborne Davis, Sally Wallace, Linda King, India Haun, Lori Benedict, Leslie Burns and Danica Plantz

<i>TOPIC</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>ACTIONS/FOLLOW-UP</i>	<i>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</i>
I. Call to Order	Approval of November General Membership Meeting Minutes	No further revisions	
II. Reports of Officers			
A. Principal, India Haun	<p>Welcome from India</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We did some responsive classroom work with the children after returning from holiday break. - The end of first semester is coming soon! - Currently children are being assessed on grade level concepts to ensure mastery. - Today Dr. Moran visited Brownsville and read to some of the classes. - Over the summer the library will go through series of renovations – don't know what they are yet. - Yesterday the UVA Womens' basketball team visited and worked with the 5th grade. - Jim Foley is collecting numbers to re-evaluate the drop off/pick up zones as well as bus service in Brownsville school. - The Buzzings went home yesterday. - It is time for Golden apple award nominations. 	<p>Important Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reminder, no school – Jan 16th and 23rd. -Report cards are coming out Feb 6th - Mid year school review is Jan 26th - 2nd grade CogAT test is scheduled for Jan 31st - There will be a meeting on Jan 18th with Josh Davis on long range planning - 7:00pm in the Brownsville Theater. -5th grade transitions are coming up. On Jan 25th , there will be a parent meeting at Brownsville about the transition to Henley. -April 17th another parent meeting at Henley. - Coming Soon! Feb. 2nd Spelling BEE – 3-5 grade 	

<p>B. President, Katherine Merhige</p>	<p>Welcome from Katherine Merhige</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Race to Nowhere - http://www.racetonowhere.com/home –Jan. 25th at WAHS. It is a documentary about school age children and the pressures they are under. It that has been released for a couple years. All western feeder schools will have an opportunity to see it. After the movie, there will be a panel to discuss issues. The movie is free but if you are able, a couple of dollars donation would be greatly appreciated. - Long range grounds planning committee toured Baker Butler to see the work that they have done on their school grounds. 	<p>-Grounds Planning – First step is to take care of what we have. The second step is to looking into adding new grounds projects.</p> <p>- Kathleen announced that the next PTO meeting Feb. 7th will be again at 4:30 – 5:30 in hopes of getting more people to the meeting in the winter.</p>	<p>Grounds Committee</p>
<p>C. Volunteer Coordinators, Sally Wallace and Nancy Bond</p>	<p>Update from Sally Wallace</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contacted committee chairs to see if they need help in recruiting volunteers for the next events. - Nancy sent an email to room parents about Kate Mahanes’s idea to take pictures of self portraits through out their time at Brownsville. Each child will have a self portrait portfolio. 	<p>- Self Portrait portfolio</p>	<p>Nancy Bond</p>
<p>D. Treasurers, Amy Life and Josh Gehring</p>	<p>Update from Amy Life</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Box tops raised \$2,200! - Will finish our major fund raising soon. - Book fair money went to: 1) Identified students to get a book, 2) to a new teacher who needed books and 3) books for Headstart kids. We spent a bit more this year on books than last, but we did not want to turn anyone away. - Headstart received – \$80.00 	<p>-Waiting for information from Sally Foster fundraiser and T-Shirt order fundraiser.</p> <p>-Money will be coming soon for the tile sale in Square One Art.</p>	<p>Treasurers – Amy Life and Josh Gehring</p>
<p>E. BEE Program, Sally Cushing</p>	<p>Report from Sally Cushing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yesterday BEE classes started. Fairly full. - The BEE registration and process has gone very well this year compared to previous years. 	<p>-Openings for Feb. BEE classes will be announced soon!</p>	
<p>III. Reports of Standing and Special Committees</p>			
<p>A. Square One Art</p>	<p>Report from Lori Benedict</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fundraiser went very well - Sold 229 tiles, so the art program will receive \$ 1259.50 	<p>-Art teachers are thinking about how to spend the money. Share some money with the 30</p>	<p>Lori Benedict</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mrs. Mahanes is currently not interested in managing this fundraiser next year because it takes a lot of time out of her curriculum. - Parents love Square One Art and would hate to see it go next year. - Could we have a BEE program to make tiles? We would like to explore ideas on how to expedite it for Mrs. Mahanes. 	<p>classrooms? Help teachers to create art ideas? Each class gets 100 dollars? Update art print?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Empty spaces in the tile wall need to be filled it. - New tiles will be placed on the same wall. - Re-visit Square One Art at a later date. 	
B. Book Fair	<p>Lisa Koolman and Maryanne Russell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report 		
C. Family Dinner and Game Night – Jan 27th	<p>Megan Sullivan reported for Susan Gehring and Beth Jeronimus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The night will be similar to last year. - Dinner will be in the cafeteria first then we will have game night. - There will be 3 BINGO sessions - A flyer issue was brought up – Paper only goes to people who want paper. The people receiving electronic information are not receiving the paper flyers. Paper is the way to pre-register for game night. - We would like to recruit Western and Henely teen volunteers. The best process would be to ask Brownsville parents if older sibs were available to help. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Sacra will be a BINGO caller but we need more callers. - The flyer for the Family Dinner Game Night will go out next week so family’s can pre-register for the evening. 	Susan Gehring and Beth Jeronimus
D. Brownsville has Talent – Feb 25th	<p>Report by Leslie Burns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The event will take place at the King Family Vineyard -7pm-11:00pm - The Band will be E3. The drummer is a Brownsville dad – Nate Brown - King Family Vineyard will serve wine. - We want to sell out to 200 people. - There is a Facebook page so spread the news! - Emphasize that there are only 200 tickets. Room capacity is 200 people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Working on the catering. -Asking the room parents to help generate a craft for an auction item. -Looking for creative auction items – ie scotch and cigar party? Things for men? -Hope for 6 or 7 acts, max. -Thinking about asking the Teachers put together a fun act. 	Heidi Brown, Wendy Foster, Kristen Hardy, Leslie Burns and Gigi Elliott
E. Staff Appreciation	<p>Report from Heather Marcel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - January - Celebrating 2-3 grade teachers! - February – Celebrating K-1 teachers. 	<p>-February Theme - Teachers can’t live by apples alone. The need HUGS! Also, we will provide a soup lunch on teacher</p>	Heather Marcel, Kelly Gobble, and Tracey Roberts

		work day. -PTO will be acting as cupid in the month of February. - March Theme - Thanks for making us Sharpies and Smarty's!	
F. Parent Council Meeting	<p>Written Report from Ian Sole The Parent Council met on December 14th at Crozet ES. Highlights as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ned Galloway, an ex-Parent Council rep, and newest member of the AC School Board has offered to attend any PTO meeting. I recommend we invite him to one of our meetings and use it to attract broader parent participation. • Several schools planning a 5K Parent/Child run this year as both a fund raiser and to promote wellness. • Dr. Moran answered several questions regards the on-going discussion over change to 4x4 HS schedule. She hopes Board makes final decision soon so all can move on. She firmly supports the new 4x4 schedule due to the increased flexibility it provides students. • Josh Davis provided an update on the budget process, and indicated at present there was a \$5 million gap with \$3 million more in expenses and \$2 million less in revenue compared to last year. Dr. Moran favors a 2% increase in teacher salaries but this adds \$2million and funding the retirement plan adds an additional \$2million. 	<p>Important Dates</p> <p>-Jan 19th - Superintendent presents her funding request to the School Board - 6.30pm County Offices, Lane Auditorium</p> <p>-Feb 2nd - School Board Public hearing on budget - 6.30pm, Lane Auditorium</p> <p>-Feb 29th - Albemarle County Board of Supervisors Public hearing on County Executives Recommended Budget. Time: TBA Lane Auditorium.</p>	
IV. Announcements	The next PTO meeting will be held February, 2012 at 4:30pm		

Meeting Adjourned at 5:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Claiborne Miller-Davis - PTO Secretary