



January 6, 2010 CBS PTA General Meeting

Sixteen Members Present

A meeting of the Central Blvd. PTA was held on Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 7:30 pm in the All Purpose Room. President Karen Fikar called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm. The minutes of the November meeting were submitted and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was submitted for audit.

CORRESPONDENCE- A letter was received from Mr. Furrey thanking us for having the "Book Fair" at the parent-teacher conferences on November 19th. He felt it was a huge success. Mr. Furrey also felt that the Holiday Boutique was a great opportunity for the children to purchase gifts for family members and friends. Mr. Furrey also thanked the PTA for the corsages the music teachers were given at the Winter Concerts. He also recognized Mrs. Dirks and Mrs. Lee for their beautifying of the front of the school building.

Mr. Furrey sent a second thank you for the generous holiday gift he received from the PTA.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-

- Mr. Furrey wished everyone a Happy New Year!
- Mr. Furrey mentioned that the school district is facing a big challenge due to problems with the State budget. The district has still not been paid some State aid for this year and there could be much deeper cuts for next year.
- The third grade class will have the StarLab program from BOCES on Monday, January 11th. There will be an inflatable planetarium set up in the gym. The experience is curriculum related.
- On Wednesday, January 20th the third grade class will be administered the InView Test which measures a child's Cognitive Skill Index or CSI. It is a 2 ½ hour test. This is a benchmark into the Challenger or Satellite Program. The test gives you an idea of the child's potential or as it has been referred to in the past, a child's IQ score.
- The teachers in Kindergarten, First and Second grades will start the mid-year Early Literacy Profile in January to measure a child's progress in reading. A large part of the ELP will be the administration of a DRA assessment to each child. Each teacher will get a substitute teacher and administer the test to every child individually. The test checks their comprehension, fluency and provides an instructional and independent reading level as well.
- The PE teachers will again be hosting a "Jump Rope for Heart" project on February 10th to raise money for the American Heart Association. Grades 3-5 volunteer to

- jump after school while students in grade 2 do their “jumping” during their regularly scheduled PE classes.
- Guest Author Day will take place on Wednesday, February 3rd. Our guest author is Chris Sonpiet.
 -

Questions from the Floor- What is going on with the Grading System in regards to the report cards? Mr. Furrey put together a proposal to the Superintendent to clarify the 1, 2, 3 and 4 scoring system and corresponding comments being used on the current report card. Mr. Furrey did receive approval on the proposed grading scales and the teachers followed them for the first quarter report cards. Due to concerns of consistency across the district, the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent are revisiting the reports cards and will organize a review of the entire grading system being used. The grading scales to be used for the next report card will be determined prior to the end of the second quarter. The revisions centered on an average of 88 or 89 being a 3 or 4 and averages of 75-79 being a 2 or 3. For the first report card an average of 88-100 was noted as a 4 and an average from 75-87 was noted as a 3.

NUTRITION MEETING- Mr. Furrey attended a nutrition meeting on November 24th. A DRAFT of a new wellness policy for the district had been developed and was presented at this meeting. Since that meeting there have been many serious concerns by parents and teachers regarding the outlined plans to address snacks and food allergies. Many people disagree with the proposals being presented and they also feel it will be very difficult to enforce on a building level. An audit by the state highlighted some areas of concern that the new policy DRAFT is trying to address. There will be more meetings to review and to possibly amend the DRAFT policy. The BOE must formally adopt the new policy. Separate plans include possibly holding district workshops on wellness and healthy eating.

TEACHER’S REPORT- NO Report

MEMBERSHIP- We already have 340 paid members. PTA is trying to encourage the fathers of the school to join.

FIELD DAY- The committee would like to buy purchase all the children shirts again if the budget allows.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION- We received a check for \$654.71 from our last collection. Box Tops are due February 8, 2010.

YEARBOOK- The committee came up with a pirate theme. The yearbook will be called “Treasure of Memories.” Each 5th grade child will get a navy t-shirt with a pirate picture.

SPIRIT WEAR- The jerseys were a big success and they can place more orders.

FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT- Family Fun Night was held on 12/4 at BHS. Monsters vs. Aliens was shown. It was a cute movie and nice night out for the family.

CLEAN UP DAY- Clean up day was held on 12/5 in torrential rain. We collected 1,993 pounds of donated items. This yielded a check of approximately \$233.00.

BJS- They have finally sent us a check for \$500 - no strings attached.

STOP AND SHOP- The fundraiser is still in full swing. Register your card on line and watch the savings for us grow.

BOARD OF ED REPORT- The Board of Education thanks the community for their vote on the Capital Referendum. Key Changes to buildings this summer are:

- Replace all boilers at BHS, JFK Auditorium, Locker Rooms and Bleachers.
- All schools will have some type of repair in progress this summer. There should be no interruption of summer programs while repairs take place.
- Phase 2 of Athletic Complex- new bleachers and concession hut will be completed this spring and should be ready for Graduation 2010.
- BBAI has proposed a donation of \$100,000 to repair and refurbish the baseball field at BHS.
- BHS hosted a program Allstate to educate students on the dangers of texting and driving. Very well received and had an impact on students.
- 21st Century Scavenger hunt winners took away iPods as prizes. Each member of the team turned around and donated all winnings to Schneider's Children's Hospital.
- Jordan Schlessner named News 12 Scholar Athlete.
- Four new courses being offered at BHS next year.
- Mr. La Spina received national recognition for excellence in mathematical education.
- TGIF program is still going strong. Looking for more dates to include this at JFK level.
- County Legislator Mangano sworn in at BHS on New Year's Day. Interviewed by a BHS student immediately following ceremony in BHS' own television studio. Will soon be ready for viewing at Bethpagetv.com

PTA COUNCIL REPORT- Abbreviated meeting last week-no report.

GROUNDS BEAUTIFICATION- On Thursday, 10/24 planting was done on the left side of the building. They received donations from Rosie Lee, Nancy O'Neill, and Christina Dirks, who also did the planting. Sharon Midgette, Margaret Regatiero, Karen Fikar and local residents Sophie and George also donated plants.

SEPTA- SEPTA now has 602 members. They are still selling Snuggies for \$30. On January 22, they will be hosting a "Winter Wonderland Dance" at JFK. There will be a DJ, snacks

and refreshments. They have asked the Cody Center to come speak at BHS on February 4th. On April 9th, they will be hosting their Family Game Night.

LIPSYNC- The show will be held on Friday, February 12th at 7pm. The DJ and videographer are booked. A final practice schedule for the APR at CBS and the Little Theater at BHS will be provided to Mr. Furrey no later than Thursday, January 7th. Practices will begin at CBS and BHS the week of January 11th. The use of APR notices to be distributed to all parents running class acts to ensure the guidelines of the APR and student safety. Dress Rehearsal at BHS is schedules for Thursday, February 11th(times to be determined).

GUEST AUTHOR DAY- This will take place on February 3rd. Chris Sonpiet (Illustrator) will be our guest.

PARP- PARP will begin in February. They will piggyback on Scholastic's theme, "Bookfair Diner- All You Can Read."

OLD BUSINESS- *HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE*-great success!!!

HOLIDAY CONCERTS- held in two parts on 12/6 and 12/13., Both performances were very well received! Everyone loved the new format.

NEW BUSINESS-

GUEST AUTHOR DAY is on 2/3/10. Our meeting will be held in Room 204 at 9:30 am.

LIPSYNC- in full swing with the show on 2/12 and full dress rehearsal on 2/11.

WEB SITE- design by award winning student technical team at BHS. We are meeting next week to revamp our entire site to make it more interactive.

FACEBOOK- CBS PTA is now on Facebook. You can join the CBS Facebook page by typing in Central Blvd PTA into the Facebook search feature and join. You need not be friends with anyone else on Facebook to link onto the page.

The next meeting will take place on February 3, 2010 at 9:30 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristin O'Callaghan
Recording Secretary