

PTA meeting 9/7/11 started at 7:15 adjourned at 8:22

I. Call to Order/Welcome (Sue Capper)

- a. Introduction of Board members
- b. PTA mission statement
- c. Brief explanation of past PTA programs/ fundraisers and those upcoming events
- d. Overview of those to contact with questions, online newsletter and directory
- e. Website information: calendar, PTA website, etc

II. Approval of Minutes (June 2011)

III. Principal's Update (Eleanor Contreras)

- a. Welcome to our community
- b. A great opening to the school year: transportation is going well, better than past years
- c. Back to School Night: please come!
- d. Communication is key: please communicate with us in order to help us better foster your student's learning

IV. Committee Reports

• Fundraising/Corporate Sponsors (Cindy Slone)

- a. Fundraising is an important part of the PTA; some are for general funds and some are specific
- b. Money from Book Fair goes to the library specifically
- c. First fundraiser: Innisbrook Wrapping Paper/ Gift Catalogs – will go home September 13 and runs through September 29th
- d. Entertainment books and cookie dough will not be held this year
- e. Spell and/or math check are in the process
- f. Odyssey of the Mind fundraiser will be planned later in the year
- g. Can contribute to the PTA with a check either personally or corporately anytime

• Volunteers Melissa Brunton

- a. Thank you to those who have already volunteered
- b. Needs:
 - After school programs (Theatre and Language)
 - PTA membership
 - Fannie May Walk for the Homeless (Fall)- not a fundraiser
 - Spring Social
 - Spring Picnic
 - Co-chair for the Principal Scholarship
- c. Sign Up Genius will be used this year by the PTA in order to sign up for events as well as email.
- d. Next year volunteer needs:
 - Track
 - Junior Great Books

• Back to School Night Volunteers Cindy Anderson

- a. Co-op for childcare
 - sign up for a time throughout the evening, one of the 3 sessions
 - this way you can get care for your child and give back that time by helping others out!

- Outdoor Classroom
 - Building a wetland project in front of the school; we are the only school in the county that has a naturally occurring wetland; a pathway will run through it in order for the students to see 3 different habitats (wetlands, meadow, forest)
 - We will be getting funding and support by FCPS, US Fish and Wild Life, Occoquan Bay, Mason Neck, Audubon, and Friends of Dyke Marsh
 - Audubon will provide staff development for the teachers
 - An assembly will be conducted in 2 sessions for all grade levels (by National Park Service)
 - We will break ground in October
 - National Park Service will set up field trip options for the school both Fall and Spring
 - Gardening Days- we always needs volunteers! You do not need any specific skills, just come and have fun
 - Spell and Math Check fundraisers will happen this year in order to raise money for the Wetland Project and other outdoor needs
 - In the past year we have created a rain garden, a track, an amphitheatre and many more; this has really changed what our children do at recess and expands the time they learn outside of the classroom
 - Use the space we have created, it is for the entire community!

- Junior Great Books Talley Fulghum
 - a. Has been around quite a while at Belle View
 - b. Is led by PTA/ parents; enriches students' reading and comprehending; questioning in order to expand childrens' thinking and imagination
 - c. This year we will expand into the upper grades (1-6)
 - d. Will now be conducted within the classroom due to space
 - e. Training will happen in the next month
 - f. A volunteer would lead a group once a week and would read a collection of stories throughout the year depending on grade level
 - g. JGBs will request from PTA for a set of books for each classroom in order to have a group of 8 students for each classroom during their language arts block
 - h. Purchase estimates are noted on a separate sheet (at a total cost of \$5,135.95)
 - i. 6th grade is still being talked about by administration and teachers due to more options for this grade level
 - j. BVES textbook budget would cover half of the costs

V. Unfinished Business

- Approval of minutes (June) Approved

VI. New Business

- Approve Audit (Ceri Richards)

- a. This was conducted July 11, 2011
 - b. This was presented tonight before being mailed to the VA PTA
 - c. This is required in order keep non-profit status
 - d. A motion was called and seconded to approve the Audit as presented. The motion to approve the audit was passed.
- Approve Budget for 2011-2012 (Ceri Richards)
 - a. Similar to last year: fundraisers, after school sports, community building, donations, operating activities, etc
 - b. Changes include Entertainment Books (no longer being done) and Spell and Math Check will be introduced formally into budget
 - c. Community Building- free and fun activities. These will not be areas for the PTA to fundraise. Such as Spring Picnic and Sock Hop
 - d. Parent Workshop has been proposed
 - topics would be up to the participants
 - e. Under Community misc. - PTA would like to work on a program that would target having fathers come to school for an event (Donuts with Dad)
 - f. Author visit/ writing workshop were proposed and therefore the budget in that area has been raised slightly
 - g. Field Trips are a significant expense in the budget
 - h. Teacher trainings and Outdoor Classroom budget have also gone up slightly
 - i. Any moneys not used will always be carried over to following year

A motion to approve the Budget as presented was called, seconded and approved for 2011-2012.

VII. Announcements

- Noodles and Company (Sept. 21) 5pm-9pm will be first dinner night
- Nickelodeon Day of Play (Cathy Guthrie)
- September 24th is proposed day (Saturday)
- Encouraging dance, outside play, physical activities
- A committee will be organized soon, please see Cathy; email will be sent
- Fall Picture Day/volunteers (Sept. 29)
 - If you volunteer you will receive \$25.00 credit on your students' pictures
 - 2 for morning/ 2 for afternoon
- Giant and Safeway Rewards will be taken over by Nitasha Brigham
- October PTA meeting (Oct. 5)
 - 1st Wednesday of every month
- Book Swap will be done in the Spring, save your books to donate! This was a great way to give books to all of our students.

VIII. Adjournment