

Bannockburn School Parent Organization (BSPO) Meeting Minutes- October 19, 2010

Attendance: Vicki Martin, Sara Danielewicz, Catherine Reznik, Pam Lewis, Sharon Kregel, Marcy Erickson, Joann Desmond, Debbie Barnes, Nancy Nervick, Cherrie Thompson, Paul Johnson, Kaye Kharasch

The motion to approve the September 14th meeting minutes was made by Sara, second by Cherrie.

Principal's Report:

- Debbie informed everyone that Omni Youth Services is at the school today. They did a program for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade last year and a parent night. This year Debbie asked that they start a program for 3rd grade. Debbie feels that with siblings and small classes at the school it makes the dynamic different and that a program for the younger students would be beneficial. Today's program is targeted at the 5th and 6th graders and later this year they will do a program for the 3rd and 6th grade.
- Debbie was pleased with the great participation at parent/teacher conferences. Everyone in attendance voiced their support of the new online system to schedule conferences. The computer specialist Jessica Pollack will be listed as the point of contact the next time the system is used, as changes are only able to be made by a system administrator.
- Debbie announced that the 1st through 5th graders are going to the Genesee Theater on October 29th in the morning. The middle school children will attend a special BSPO sponsored assembly at the school that same afternoon. The parade may be moved from 2PM to 2:40PM and the parties may be at 2PM. Debbie will discuss this possible time change with the teachers and will let everyone know. Family members are welcome to attend the parade; however the class parties are for just the students and in the lower grades for the few parents that are assisting with the party.
- Debbie informed everyone that sadly Connie Anderson's (our enrichment specialist) father passed away. She also announced that Mr. Gavrilovic is back from his paternity leave.
- Debbie recounted a visit to Prairie Crossing, an all green school. She emphasized that they do a great job of recycling and reducing waste. They use dishes and even have pans that they have provided to the pizza restaurant that uses them instead of cardboard pizza boxes.

Superintendent's Report:

- Joann explained that Debbie had worked hard to get us the solar grant. Twenty grants were given this year and ours will be installed soon. It will be a 1 kilowatt system which will not power very much, but will hopefully be a good learning tool for all of us.
- She explained that school rating came out recently and that our efficiency is not as good because of the smaller class size but we still rank in the very top of the list for performance.
- Joann mentioned that the staff met on Institute Day to discuss I Just Want My Kids to be Happy book. She hopes that we have the author come speak with Holy Cross or another school that will be open to the community. We may get books to sell at a reduced rate and do this program in the Spring. Gen Bentley is working on putting this together.

President's Report:

- Three new families have joined the school, Nathaniel-Kindergarten, Colin-6th grade, Sophie-8th grade. Please welcome these new families. Vicki will deliver a bulldog and welcome letter to them soon.
- Vicki announced that Movie Night is November 5th at 6:30PM. Please mark your calendars. The movie is Karate Kid. Forty-nine families voted using Survey Monkey. Everyone was very pleased with the voting participation and the ease of using Survey Monkey. Vicki will send out a note to everyone closer to the date reminding them of the event.
- Vicki explained that Mulamu contacted her. They offer daily internet deals and if you create a log-on and select Bannockburn school when using their deals, Bannockburn will receive a small percentage. She will send out a link and more information soon.

Corresponding Secretary:

- Pam asked that anyone that knows of people that she should contact; please let her know via email.

Treasurer:

- Sharon reported that we made \$30 selling pumpkins at the Bulldog Walk/Run, although this was not a fundraising event. She also said that Elaine has \$371 Spirit Wear to sell in order to break even. She stated that selling Spirit Wear is also not a fundraiser.

Committee Updates:

- Bulldog Pumpkin 1 mile Walk/ 5k Run: Sara stated that we had approx. 60 people participate, more walkers than runners and that we sold all 50 pumpkins. We hope that we can do an event like this again in the future and encourage more adults and older children to participate.
- Cultural Arts: Sara gave the report for Stacie Danielewicz, as she was not able to attend this morning. The Science Guy Assembly was well received by all. He donated some Science books to the school and signed them. The Halloween assembly will be from 12:45-2:00 on October 29th for Upper School. Stacie recommended that we increase the field trip budget. Vicki motioned that we increase the budget per child for field trips from \$12 to \$18, second by Pam. The budget will need to be looked at to find out how much money is left for any additional programs this year, given this increase in the field trip budget.
- Spirit Wear: We hope that more Spirit Wear will sell at the Halloween Parade or at the Movie Night. Cherie suggested that we have more options next year that include the Bulldog.
- Fall Gift Sale: Paul Johnson has received quite a few orders for the gift sale, but hopes to receive all of the orders soon. Some students and parents have done an amazing job in selling items from the catalogs!
- Book Fair: Cherie announced that the book fair will be Saturday, November 20th. She plans to send out emails, a few flyers and put up posters to remind people of the upcoming book sale. Kaye recommended that in addition to the cheesecakes, that pretzels be available for sale as well. Cherie will talk with her contact at Barnes and Noble. The students are completing wish list forms that parents can see at the fair. This year people can start purchasing items at Barnes and Noble on Thursday, November 17th and the school will receive credit for the items.

Green Initiative:

Kaye Kharasch is a Certified Green consultant. She recently worked with the school to certify it. She was thrilled at how terrific Debbie and Whitman were to work with, as they are very supportive of green initiatives. Kaye explained that air quality is an extremely important component of being green and that the geothermal system is a great green addition. She remarked that the school had already changed out some light bulbs which are much more efficient. She evaluated the cleaning products the school is using and has recommended replacements for many of them. She referred everyone to the website www.ecofont.com as it is a great resource. She recommended that we further put together a sub-committee of "Moms for Green" to get some additional initiatives underway at school and at peoples' homes. So much of being green is being aware. She recommended as well that we do some working workshops at school to bring more awareness to the kids.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Vicki, second by Marcy. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Catherine Reznik
Recording Secretary