

Bannockburn School Parent Organization (BSPO) Meeting Minutes November 8th, 2011

Attendance: Vicki Martin, Sara Danielewicz, Pam Lewis, Nancy Nervick, JoAnn Desmond, Debbie Barnes, Catherine Reznik, Beth Brooks

The motion to approve the October 18th meeting minutes was made by Sara, second by Pam.

President's Report:

- Vicki welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- Panera Fundraiser, where a percentage of the proceeds from purchases made at the Bannockburn Panera on a set date would go to our school, will be tabled until the Spring.
- Vicki initiated a discussion regarding "length of term" on BSPO Board positions. BSPO Bylaws state positions are a one year term, but it was suggested that it might take a school year to become acclimated to a position, making a two year assignment more reasonable. Board will revisit this topic when BSPO Exec Board Nominations begin in the Spring.

Corresponding Secretary:

- A condolence card was sent to the family of Sam Seltzer.
- Spirit Wear is complete - everyone seems pleased with the merchandise!
- Due to the low sales in the upper grades, Pam plans to meet with 5th graders prior to next year's sale to get feedback on what they would like to see available.

Principal's Report:

- The lunchroom murals are being painted. Debbie thanked the parents who have been volunteering after school/evening to help complete the murals.
- Debbie missed the BMX assembly due to a training session, but commented on how the students seemed to really enjoy it. There were some concerns expressed about the danger of having the program indoors. Catherine reiterated that the program did an effective job stressing bicycle safety.
- The Spring Musical (Grades 5th - 8th) preparations will begin, starting with selecting a title.
- There is a new blog listed on the school website highlighting teachers using iPads in the classroom.
- Teachers met on a Saturday to make dresses for girls in Haiti.
- Debbie was very pleased with the response to the survey for after school programs. She received 61 responses - about half of the families in the school. Starting in January, classes will be offered in technology, fitness, sewing, and art. Cost for an 8 week session will be \$75/child

Superintendent's Report:

- JoAnn testified in opposition at a hearing on school consolidation. She argued that forced school consolidation would not save money, would increase taxes, would have a negative impact on our community and would result in losing our small community school.
- JoAnn will continue to watch this important issue, and pass on any necessary information.
- Debbie praised JoAnn's past experience regarding school consolidation. Her expertise is helping us stay on top of this issue.
- Finally, JoAnn stated that there will be a zero increase tax levy and that the school is currently in a solid financial position. The School Board was commended on their effective job managing the school's finances.

Treasurer:

- Due to absence, Vicki read from a report Sharon had submitted.
- Current checking account balance is \$14,034.47; we have \$42,278.83 in both CD's.
- This month we have paid out hot lunch and the remaining owed on the BMX assembly.
- We made \$318 on our first movie night.
- Although it looks like our net worth is good, Sharon expects to pay out about \$11,200 for hot lunch and wrapping paper.
- She reminded all we are still on a tight budget!

Committee Updates:

- **Fall Gift Sale** Gift pick up will be Monday, November 14th. The money booth will take place sometime during the week of Thanksgiving, during lunch periods.
- **Book Fair** Sara read from an email update submitted by Cherie. The Book Fair (Sunday, November 20th) will have stories and readings beginning at 11am with 6th graders speaking out against banned books, 2nd grade student readings, and stories read by various teachers. The theme is "magic" and the events will conclude with a magician! There will be a craft table from 1-4pm. The book fair committee is still in need of gift wrapping volunteers.
- **Holiday Luncheon for Staff** Date is set for December 13th.
- **Cultural Arts**: Most grades still have funds available for field trips. Debbie will send a reminder to teachers that funds are available. Catherine asked if Neil Johnston, from the upcoming iPad music program on Dec. 5, needed to be paid in advance. Debbie appreciates BSPOs' support of the program and asked that a check be made out to the school. BSPO agreed to cover \$1500 of his fee. Catherine suggested that a new position, a Cultural Arts/BSPO Teacher Liaison, be created to help facilitate the communication about field trips and assemblies between the teachers and BSPO. Debbie will reach out to the teachers to find a representative. The Cultural Arts Chair and interested teacher(s) would then meet with Debbie and attend BSPO meetings to present potential assembly material prior to contracts being signed.

- **Movie Night** We made \$318. Good Attendance, perhaps due to the timing right after Halloween. Parents were pleased with the chip/pretzel alternative to candy. Next movie night will be Friday, February 10th.

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sara, second by Catherine. The meeting concluded at 10:25am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Nancy Nervick
Recording Secretary