

**Blind Brook PTA  
General PTA Meeting  
Tuesday, March 13, 2018 7:00pm  
BMPRSS Library**

**Minutes Approved**

- Corey Stephenson & Hedy Cardozo

**Superintendent's Message – Dr. Jonathan Ross**

- Tomorrow, 3/14/18, student's in the HS will participate in the National Walk-Out Day in support of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. There will be 17 minutes of silence followed by reading of the names of those who died, and speeches. It will be from 9:45-10:45am. The school will be closed to visitors at this time.
  - There is no planned walk-outs for the Middle School or Ridge Street.
- A ½ day Superintendent's Conference Day will take place Friday.
  - A planned full evacuation of the MS and HS will take place that morning. They will evacuate to RSS.
- Various drills are practiced for safety purposes throughout the year.
  - State mandated 8 fire drills.
  - 4 lock-downs with police presence.
  - Shelter in place – where there is no imminent danger.
  - Lock-Out – where there is no imminent danger.
  - Unexpected early dismissal – such as for a power loss.
  - Full evacuations.
- Budget – please go on the website for further details on the three proposed budgets.
  - A Budget – All in budget. Over the tax levy limit by \$1.1 million.
  - B Budget – At the tax levy limit including the debt servicing for Reckson/Doral.
  - C Budget – Over the tax levy by the debt service amount.
  - BOE to decide on budget on April 17, 2018. There will be a budget workshop this Saturday. It is open for all to attend.
  -

**Presidents' Report**

- On March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, March for Our Lives will take place at Manhattanville College. Please see [marchforourlives.com](http://marchforourlives.com) website for more information.
- The Blind Brook PTA supports the Heard in Rye Speaker Series. We are looking for a volunteer to sit in on this speaker series planning committee for next year.
- There is a New Family Welcome Committee being spearheaded by a PTA member. If you are interested in helping with this committee, please let us know.
- Ms. Taylor at the RSS is looking to form a committee to bring a Multi-Cultural week to the school similar to Creating Connections. She is looking for individuals interested in participating on this planning committee. PTA to support.

## Finance/ Treasurer Report

- Our fundraising is tracking worse than the same time last year by (\$33.6k) (excluding what we spent on the playground) This is due primarily to the following:
  - ASA is (\$23k) worse, but this is most likely due to timing and because we're working with Flex Academies this year, rather than running the program ourselves. ASA may well even out by year-end since we'll be running more seasons than last year.
  - Our school pictures funds haven't come in yet (\$9k).
  - The other programs are offsetting each other.
- We paid \$19k this month for the lighting equipment in the MS/HS auditorium. This came from their special projects money
- We anticipate spending \$12k for the RSS rock wall. But we're planning on potentially raising funds for this.
- Services to students are on par with last year

## Ways and Means

- 3/17/18 Fundraiser at Vanilla Sky in the Rye Ridge shopping center. 10% of sales goes to the PTA. Bling in the Burbs will be holding a trunk show at Vanilla Sky that day as well.
- 4/24/18 Fundraiser at Chipotle. 4-8pm. 50% of sales goes to PTA. Just mention Blind Brook.
- 3/20/18 Last day to purchase tickets for the Yankees game on 4/20/18. Sales are going well. 75 tickets sold thus far.
- 5/10/18 Plant Sale at RSS.
- 5/19/18 May Picnic at RSS (last year's sing-along). To hold a silent auction.
- 3/21/18 Registration for Spring ASA closes.

## Programming

- Olympic Nights
  - Grades 2/3 is on March 22, 2018.
  - Grades 4/5 is on March 16, 2018.

## Building Liaisons

- RSS- Lorri Goldstein
  - Safety and Security
    - All students dropped off at main entrance go into the gym. They will be greeted by Mrs. Taylor or someone holding the door.
    - Teachers are being asked to keep their class doors locked at all times.
  - Lunar New Year was very successful.
  - Mrs. Taylor is looking to host a Multi-Cultural Awareness week next year. She is trying to form a committee to spearhead this initiative.
  - There are 85 Kindergartners registered for next year as of today. Kindergarten is likely to go back to 5 sections next year. There may be a possible 6<sup>th</sup> section for second grade. All other grades will stay at 5 sections.

- Exploration Station activity during recess for K & 1<sup>st</sup> graders was successful this year. It was spearheaded by the RSS Shared Decision Making committee. If anyone is interested in taking over this initiative for next year, please contact Lorri Goldstein.
- MS - Hedy Cardozo
  - Student Assembly that was scheduled for today (3/13/18) will be rescheduled due to the 2-hour delay. This assembly was related to Women's History Month.
  - 3/16/18 Half-Day. Full evacuation drill to be conducted.
  - 3/19/18 Spring Modified Sports begins.
  - 3/21/18 Next year's incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders will tour the Middle School. The incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders parent orientation will take place that evening.
  - 3/22/18 Parent Teacher Institute. Understanding Common Core Math.
  - 3/28/18 Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent orientation assembly.
  - 3/29/18 End of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period.
- HS – Kelly Lieberman
  - Walkout tomorrow during 4th period in solidarity with Florida
  - Spring sports started yesterday
  - Students have met with guidance counselors regarding next year's schedule. Course selection to be submitted by end of month.
  - Budget presentation March 17
  - HS Musical "Shrek" ran this weekend to sold out crowds!

### **Membership**

- No report.

### **New Business**

- If anyone is interested in being on the PTA Executive Board please reach out to any member of the PTA Board and express your interest.
  - Nominating Committee being selected.
  - There is a new Executive Board position – Liaison to Special Pupil Services. This individual will report on Special Education issues throughout the district similar to the liaisons for Ridge Street, MS and HS. They will also play a key role in the Creating Connections program.
- **Meeting Adjourned.**

# PTA Sign-In

March 13, 2018

---

Prisha Jhaugmal

ROBIN ELKOWITZ

LORRI GOLDSTEIN

Concetta L'Inverno

Correy Stephenson

Jessica Tablow

Pei Wang

Linda Wu

Hedy Cardo

Jaime Coffey

Alicia Scala

Johanna Gonzalez

Yvette Montvelisky

Cheryl Artabane

Lori Kron