

**Blind Brook PTA
General PTA Meeting
Tuesday, October 9, 2018 7:00pm
BMP Ridge Street School Library**

Minutes Approved

- Debra & Correy Stephenson

Superintendent's Message – Dr. Jonathan Ross

- Dr. Ross introduced Mr. Harry Burg, Director of Pupil Services to discuss the current programs for Special Education at Blind Brook.

Presidents' Report

- **Harry Burg and Ilana Sitkoff presented Integrated Co-Teaching Services. It** means the provision of specially designed instruction and academic instruction provided to a group of students with disabilities and non-disabled students.
- **Integrated Co-Teaching Services** are provided in general education classes that are taught by a general educator and a special educator. The general educator is a content area specialist. The special educator works along side the general educator. Each brings their expertise to the classroom setting.

Finance/ Treasurer Report

- PTA YTD spending is on budget. We carried Boosterthon and playground expense from last year.

Building Liaisons

- Pupil Service – Katherine Ayala
 - Creating Connection is getting more interest from parents.
 - On October 2^{3rd} evening there is a talk by Caroline Maguire regarding ADHD and Social Skills
- RSS – Correy Stephenson
 - First Assembly. The elementary school has its first assembly last Friday, celebrating the melting pot of Rye Brook. There were 45 flags representing different countries carried by students in two assemblies.
 - Lice Treatment. The cost increased \$7 per student. Freddie will begin to reach out to collect lice contributions per class.
 - Enrichment. Rollout of the new enrichment program has been slow due to the waiting of NY state test result, which just came out last week.
 - Halloween. Sent emails to remind parents about safety issue and no group consumes.
 - Indoor recess. may start Exploration Station sooner this year.
 - Parent Teacher conference. In spring possibly switch to two evening sessions.

- Community service project. This year PTA added a community service project to the agenda for class parents, mostly likely as an element of a class celebration. Correy is happy to chat with anyone who has questions about it.
- MS – Jamie Coffey
 - Middle School had their first study skills on October 1st. The next one is October 29th on note taking.
 - The first Parent Teacher Institute, Surviving Middle School was held last week.
 - The theme for this month is perseverance and it's also Drug Awareness Month. The student assistance counselor is working with students on Making Good Decisions during lunch time.
 - Musical Auditions starts October 15th and The musical is Jan24th and 25th 2019.
 - Clubs start week of October 15th.
 - State test results for MS are coming soon.
- HS – Kelly Lieberman
 - Rye Brook home coming game on later September for memory of Joao Souza, a Rye Brook high school graduate
 - On October 15th 7:00pm, there is a seminar about college application: Tufts University: Who Gets In & Why
 - On October 28th High School drama set build
 - 9th grade transition period happening on double ELA period
 - SAT?

Ways and Means

- Fall Fest is coming in two weeks. Will send out flyer this week and look for volunteers for two hour turns.
- It is PTA's biggest fund raising event. In the past we have family sponsorship on fun activities like cotton candy, we also have food truck, DJ, raffle tables, silents auctions. Lots of prizes. Bring your cash/credit card and join the fun!

Programming

- **Halloween is coming in two weeks. Need to have 6-8 adults to help.**
- Working on Half day program in November (for parent teacher conference days).
- Jester Jim for K-1 has been reserved for early November.
- Harlem Wizards will return on January 4th.
- Working on winter session program.

Membership – Hedy Cardozo & Yvette Montvelisky

- There are 690 memberships.

Community Coalition – Pat Renz

- On November 13th 6:00pm there is a talk about various stimulus 's impact on Brain, for example, all digital devices. The presenter is a psychologist who has done many years' research on the subject.

New Business

- County Legislator Nancy Barr came and talked about the county government. She is one of the 17th Legislator in Westchester county.
 - o They organized summer camp in the parks
 - o they took students as interns in the office
 - o They let kids watch debate
 - o They passed regulation to protect employment. In Westchester no employer can ask for salary history.
 - o Need fresh blood in soup kitchen, a great high school community service projects.

Meeting Adjourned.