

**Blind Brook PTA  
General PTA Meeting  
Tuesday, November 13th, 2018 7:00pm  
BMP Ridge Street School Library**

**Minutes Approved**

- Betsy Rohtbart & Correy Stephenson

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

- Dr. Ross reported 95% of students participated this year's fire drill. The eviction was faster than last year
- The district treasurer Ms. Mikaela Coni resigned after serving in the school district for many years. The School Board accept her resignation and wished her well.
- Currently we had eight bid for reconstruction. Look for Board approval. We are planning to spend \$30 million on elementary school, \$6 million on Middle and High School.
- Construction will start on July 2019 and plan to finish in September 2020. Kitchen and cafeteria is priority.
- Arbor's soon to be President Dan Barbett raised concern about parking in Arbors. Whenever Middle and High School have events, a lot of car will park there. Dr. Ross agreed that Arbor's residents should have some saying about it.

**Finance/ Treasurer Report**

- We made \$15,000+ from fall fest. Also made \$12,000+ from Dial a friend.
- Even though the playground costs \$32,000+, PTA budget is still in surplus.

**Ways and Means**

- Fall fest was a huge success. Now we are working on holiday sales.
- Plan to have a spring Gala in a country club in April 2019.
- Lester manager is willing to work with us to host a potential fashion show in fall 2019.
- Look for alternative way for winter holiday sale other than Ms. Chocolate.

**Programming**

- Harlem Wizards will return on January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Tickets will be on sale on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018
- To participate WIZ Kids, you have to buy a Jersey for \$45. Need to tell parents in advance.
- Working on winter session program.
- December 17<sup>th</sup> we have assembly. Need volunteers for souvenirs.

**Building Liaisons**

- Pupil Service – Katherine Ayala

- Mr. Burgs will take about ICT ( Integrated Co-Teaching) tomorrow night at Rye Brook fire house. We are looking for more feedback and planning upcoming programs.
  - October morning coffee attracted 12 parents. Mr. Burger explained ICT model again. There will be more discussion followed.
  - Creating Connection's social skill seminar attracted more than 60 parents. It was well received.
  - The Tech committee will update your contact info for school Messenger.
- RSS – Correy Stephenson
- Evacuation drill. The elementary school held an eviction drill last Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. It started about 10am and everyone was back at Ridge Street around 11:15am. The drill went very well and was 30 minutes faster than the evaluation drill last year.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field trip. For the first time, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade had their field trip to Boundless Adventures, the rope courses at SUNY Purchase. The feedbacks were overwhelmingly positive and it is likely this will be the annual 5<sup>th</sup> grade field trip instead of going to a Westchester Knicks game, as they were done in recent years. For those who are not interested in rope course, there are alternative activity on the ground.
  - Parent/teacher conference. The first parent/teacher conferences were held the afternoon of November 2<sup>nd</sup>; the second round of conferences are scheduled for this Thursday evening.
  - Jane Giard. ENL teacher Jane Giard is retiring at the end of this month.
  - Construction notes. Tracy and the Shared Decision-making Committee are focusing on the upcoming construction project and get information out to families. When the bond was on the ballot, there was a FAQ document that was mailed to everyone; they are considering something similar for construction.
  - End of school reminder. A reminder that the last day of school is on a Wednesday this year – Wednesday June 26. Gradation for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade is the day before, on Tuesday, June 25.
  - Donation request. Tracy asked for any donations of child-size hangers – no wire and no wood, plastic only – that could be used to hang items in the Lost and Found.
- MS – Jamie Coffey
- Middle School Play is under way
- HS – Kelly Lieberman
- Block scheduling presentation will be given at next BOE meeting - 11/19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Naviance Night will be held on December 3<sup>rd</sup> for sophomores, juniors and their parents.
  - There will be an evacuation drill for the MS/HS later this month.
  - Heating pipe has been repaired.

- 9th grade transition program going well.
- Early action/ early decision: college applications have been sent!
- Course descriptions are being put together for next year's course of study.
- HS "A Chorus Line" will be performed this Friday and Saturday night at 7:30pm. Tickets on sale now.
- Next Principal Conversation scheduled for Wednesday, November 14 at 9am.

**Membership** – Hedy Cardozo & Yvette Montvelisky

We got excellent response, distributed 260 dial-a-friend.

**New Business**

Dan Barnett raise the concerns about the upcoming construction project in Arbors, near Middle/High School:

- 1) It will increase Rye Brook population 6-7%.
- 2) Traffic will be very heavy during school session. Vehicles will clog King Street, all assisted care and day to day worker will make the school area less safe.
- 3) The Noise during the construction will be big. People are afraid of environment impact.
- 4) We are asking support to take the project size to a more manageable level.
- 5) Next Village Board meeting is on December 11th 7:30pm. The village Board will address any public comments.

**Meeting Adjourned.**