

**Blind Brook PTA
General PTA Meeting
Tuesday, February 25th, 2020 7:00pm
Middle School Cafeteria**

Minutes Approved

- Correy Stephenson and Wendy Corbin

Superintendent's Message – Dr. Colin Byrne

- There will be a big budget increase for next year due to addition of several new positions: assist superintendent, STEAM facilitator, etc.
- The construction at Ridge Street School continue move forward. During February break we finished all bathrooms and tiles in one section of the school; in April spring break we will finish another area.
- Coronavirus. Nobody at our school is impacted by coronavirus. Past winter flu was really bad, some classes only had half students came to school. We are working very hard to keep everything clean.
- Look for a professional development staff.
- Snow day. We have not used any snow day for this year, it will be added to: one at the end of spring break; one day before Memorial Day weekend; one day after Memorial Day weekend.

Co-Presidents Report

- The PTA will be electing a new executive board to serve for the 2020-2022 term. PTA will host a "Meet & Greet" on Wednesday evening March 4th. This event, as well as next PTA meeting (March 17th at 8:45am) will be great opportunities to know the PTA responsibility and meet and learn from current members.

Finance/ Treasurer Report

- Money went out for basketball hoops and poster maker, so those are in special projects. And Membership is negative because we sent state PTA their portion.

Ways and Means

- Yankee Game is set on Saturday 4/25 at 1pm. Tickets are all in 100 level tier, are all \$80, and will include new era hat, hot dog and drink (beer for adults). The reason for doing this is because:
 - We sold very little 2nd tier tickets last year and feel it's easier this way and everyone will sit together. The Yankees offered us a better deal for using the "school package" as opposed to just buying individual seats.
 - And the price increased because Yankees tickets went up \$5.
- We are planning to get the Community Pass set up this week for sales and send email early next week that Sales start March 5.

- Sales will definitely be slow at first because none of the spring schedules are out yet.... but hopefully they will pick up closer to April.
- We have secured Food truck and where it will be parked for both RSS and the HS for teacher appreciation. More detail to follow.
- Plants Sale for Mother's d Day. We also asked Lori Cutrone for schedule for plant sale, it looks like sale will be held across 3 days instead of 2 to fit everyone in. Wednesday afternoon, Thursday morning and Friday all day.

Programming

The Olympic nights are all set. Here are the dates:

- 2nd and 3rd Grade Olympic Night
March 27th 6:30 - 8:00pm
NEW GYM - RIDGE STREET
Chairs: Alissa Levine & Jen Fier
- 4th and 5th Grade Olympic Night
April 17th 6:30 - 8:30pm
BBHS GYM
Chairs: Lauren Feist & Kathy Billing

Building Liaisons

- RSS- Correy Stephenson
 1. Coronavirus concerns. Dr. Byrne will be sending an email to the community about the coronavirus.
 2. Lice check. A lice check was conducted yesterday on the first day back from February break. The last lice check will be held when students return from April break.
 3. Incoming Kindergarten. The incoming Kindergarten class continues to grow and has reached 84. The current projection is to have 5 sections.
 4. Construction. No specific updates, the project continues.
 5. Pizza day. The second pizza Friday went much more smoothly than the first, although a lot fewer kids purchased pizza. Not sure if/when there will be another one.
 6. Read Across America. On Monday, March 2nd, RSS will be holding a new event for Read Across America. Students can come to school dressed as their favorite book character and should bring their favorite book – everyone will get the chance to share their books and read with a buddy.
- MS – Jaime Coffey

1. Survey went out about Block scheduling. Please fill it out and encourage your friends to fill to as well.
 2. Dr. Dewey is coming Thursday, February 27th for assembly- each grade gets their own. He talks about addiction/drugs and alcohol
 3. 8th grade DC trip Informational meeting was held two weeks ago prior to the incoming Hs meeting. Trip is in early May. No cell phones allowed and dress code enforced.
 4. Principals conversation is February 27th at 7pm
 5. Incoming 6th grade meeting is March 19; Incoming 7th grade meeting is March 11; Incoming 8th grade meeting is March 5th.
 6. PTA Reflections winners were announced and their submissions will go up to state.
 7. Finally, if you haven't signed up for the heart screening, there's still time tomorrow for kids age 10+. Sessions start at 8am-6:45pm and walk ins welcome after school.
- HS – Kelly Lieberman
 1. Finals schedule will be posted later this week
 2. Teaching position, (replacement for Ms. Decker) will be posted this week.
 3. Students are continuing to meet with their guidance counselors to finalize class selection for next year.
 4. Wellness Week scheduled for March 22-27. Details to follow.
 5. Implemented test reduction plan - students who take selected AP courses can choose to take either the AP test or the regents for their final grade.
 6. Construction moving along as scheduled.
 7. Senior Fashion Show will be held on Friday, March 27. Proceeds from this event will be donated to Corporate Angel Network (CAN).
 8. We had four HS winners in the National PTA Reflections contest: Rachel Sosin (photography), Spencer Gordon (photography), Tiffany Chao (literature), and Rebecca Starr (Dance Choreography).

9. The HS musical “Les Miserables” will be performed Thursday, Friday and Saturday March 12-14. Tickets go on sale to the public on March 8.

10. Next principal coffee will be held on March 18 at 9am.

- Pupil Services – Katherine Ayala

1. We had a workshop January 28th with Stephanie Bellantoni of the WIHD on Preparing for the Annual Review Meeting. About 16 parents attended. It was a helpful presentation, and we came away with guiding documents.
2. Mr. Burg reports that the annual review meetings are underway. Meetings regarding MS/HS are taking place in February and March. Meetings regarding RSS students will take place in late March. Meetings regarding HS seniors will take place in April.
3. The Pupil Services team has invited a trainer from the WIHD's Community Support Network to present on the transition from special education services in preschool to elementary school (CPSE to CSE). The talk is geared toward parents of preschoolers who currently receive special education services. It will take place on Thursday, March 12th, at 9:30am in the Bluebird Cafe at RSS.
4. Tina and I are working on a presentation on ADHD and Executive Functioning in April. The speaker will be Dr. Martin Kutscher, a pediatric neurologist who practices in Rye Brook and who has published several books. Details to follow.

Membership

- Prepare to work for the new coming families.

Announcements

Dr. Dewey’s presentation on February 27th on middle school, high school and 5th grade students. His research involves testing the impact that commonly abused drugs have on the brain. The findings have led to a deep understanding of how the brain can so easily and permanently be altered by chronic exposure to drugs. Dr. Dewey will be focusing his presentation to the fifth grade students on gaming and caffeine addiction, as well as the dangers of vaping, cigarette smoking and nicotine.

Meeting Adjourned.

Attendance-

Correy Stephenson
Yvette Montvelisky

Betsy Rohtbart
Rich Donoghue
Lynn Glantz
Tontine Ryano
Nethra Bhatt
Kerri James
Sara Wolf
Tina Steinberg
Katherine Hallissy Ayala
Wendy Corbin
Hedy Cardozo
Jen Savner
Kelly Liberman
Rachel Lerner
Debra Cohen
Julia Fritsch
Bree Candee
Linda Wu
Alicia Scala
Dr. Byrne
Monique Tricarico
Patty Dilluvio
Rachel Lerner