

# Bates Middle PTA Minutes

December 4, 2019

## BelieveKids Fundraiser

- only \$2000 net is expected.
- \$4k was planned for. Additional fundraising required for budgeted items
- Low response, anecdotes about students not having packets, teachers offering fundraising packets “if the students want one”
- PTA board needs to send a script for any future efforts so teachers don’t have to ad-lib

## Treasury currently at \$7532.

- See Treasurer’s report for details
- Believe Kids fundraiser ~ \$2000
- Movie night concessions ~ \$200
- 4 requests for funds received since last meeting, total \$1150. Teachers using fund request portal on website.
  - Those requests already in budget and expected. Details of requests passed around at meeting to attendees. Instructional support, programs.
  - Vote motioned, seconded, unanimous.

## School Resource Officer

- Ray Feldmann reminded attendees about background. He has spoken recently to Sarah Elfreth and recruited her help.
- Bates Middle will have an SRO in September 2020! Elfreth brokered an agreement between city and county. Both sides have agreed to make this happen and will figure out how to fund.
- Parents glad to hear it, surprised it took so long for Bates to receive this resource that every other middle school in the county has.
- Combination of strong messages sent to board, local politicians, local paper. Framing the lack of SRO as an equity issue seems to have helped get some traction.

## School Bus Incident

- Bates students overheard discussing instrument case looking like sniper’s gun case
- Bob Mosier asked people at last AEC meeting to encourage their school communities to be less reactive, slower to promote rumors

- There is contact info on the AACPS website for afterhours incidents, but many parents don't know about it. PTA will make an effort to publicize contact info to our community.
- It's great for people to report concerns ASAP, but we should all try to go through the school system or even police first, in preference to social media. The biggest takeaway is that student's names should NEVER be put on social media in cases like this. PTA president (Ray Feldmann) removed the post naming suspected students as soon as he saw it.
- Investigation was conducted immediately, and police and school found that there was no threat. Kids were having a foolish, joking conversation that was partially overheard by other students on the bus.

## Principal's Report

- Art showcase held several times a year. The showcase last week was in the gym and went well.
- Professional development day on Thursday: Equity/diversity is the topic. Curriculum same across county, provided through AACPS diversity office.
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade has CAT-South trip coming up
- Unity Day on Thursday.
- Dec 17, Strings Choral Concert
- Band teacher reinstated, band concerts delayed until January.
- Winter dance festival in January
- Bates basement: Kids shopping event. Donations of items can be sent to office. Please send in things suitable for adults or kids. December 19.
- Safety security drill delayed to next week because of the shooting in Annapolis this morning. The person killed was a student at AHS who was a former Bates student. The principal didn't want to add the stress of the drill to a day that was already mournful to the Annapolis city community.

## Fundraising and Events

- We need volunteer support!
- Angie Carroll is heading up dining outs
  - Chipotle (apparently very generous), Bella Italia, Chopt, Mod pizza, Nando's all suggested.
  - We have some additional volunteers who are willing to help. Reciprocity will send (Lisa Lyman and Jessica Dodson) contact info to Angie
- Spirit Wear
  - Hats, t-shirts, sweatpants, jackets
  - Plastic bracelets
  - Lanyards
  - Stickers (for water bottles), scrunchies, magnets
  - Press-on nails? GenZ appropriate items for the kids

- We need a committee chairperson for this! Jaye Falls will send email request to membership requesting volunteers. Joanne Linhard (in attendance) willing to be on committee.
- The committee would contract with a company (such as Annapolis Shirt Company) for an open order period, then have inventory delivered to school for pre-order distribution. PTA wants to order some extras too, to have on offer at school events.
- Custom Keepsakes
  - Something to commemorate student's time at Bates. Lovely magnet, ornament, item with a photo and kid's name, name of school...
  - A student contest for design/artwork
- Family Fun night for January
  - Chili cookoff
  - Short Movie to keep kids busy
  - PTA meeting
- Bingo night desired for February
  - Recruit Committee Chair
  - Donated food from local restaurant
  - Attendees buy bingo cards
  - Need volunteers to get prizes from local companies
  - Plan an event for 90 minutes, 10 rounds of bingo or less, so 10 prizes needed.
- Daffodil Day in March?
  - Ray F. will recruit for that
  - Students can order flowers to take home
  - Parents can order
- School fun run in April
  - Committee head volunteer is Tracey Brennan
  - Talk to Annapolis High Cross Country team about a good route
  - Could be a good thing for the kids who will be going to AHS in future
- Parent's Night for May
  - Recruit committee head

## Attendance

Ray Feldmann

Therese High

Jaye Falls

Tracey Brennan

Cathy Gorzkowski

Joanne Linhard

Paul DeRoo