

BHIS Board Meeting – Tuesday 6/23/2009 6pm-8pm at BHIS Elementary

In attendance:

Susie Murphy, Principal
Maythia Airhart, Co-Pres
Jill Davies, Membership chair
Allison Delong, Co-Fund Raising chair
Leslie Stewart, Treasurer
Dave McGeoy, Legislative Chair
Ortencia Santana, outgoing Membership chair

Topics:

- Maythia suggested PTA should sponsor someone on PTA or Board to attend 8/6 and/or 8/7 PTA statewide conference at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia. Only \$15 per person to attend. Per Ortencia, there may be another one in September in Lynnwood or North Seattle. The group agreed. See www.wastatepta.org. Did Jill volunteer to attend? Most had problems with the August dates.
- The group agreed to a fall letter to parents to discuss what the PTA actually is, including Family Involvement, and Fund Raising. However, Dave pointed out that PTA originated as advocacy for children's education, which people tend to forget.
- There is an official PTA kit, which Jill will register for. It is shipped weekly 6/19 through October. After October there are shipping costs. Per Dave, there are old kits in the files which are also useful.
- PTA should represent ethnic and gender diversity – continue and improve this focus.
- PTA minutes should be distributed to all members and school families. Can ask Boun or Jason to post them at the BHIS website.
- Suggest we also post newsletters to the website to ensure maximum availability.
- Utilize website more in general.
- Post PTA membership roster on the website, with phone and email contacts for Board and Committee members to encourage members, and non-members to contact whoever they feel most comfortable with. For regular members, do not include phone or email to respect confidentiality.
- Be regular and consistent in whatever communication methods used so families know what to expect.
- Try to assemble a list of parent interpreters to ease the load on the IA staff.
- Agree that quarterly PTA meetings such as with 2008/2009 schedule works best for working families, especially those on committees, or with children in multiple schools, who would find monthly PTA meetings too difficult to manage.
- Format of a theme for the middle 2 PTA meetings works well. 1st meeting is Intro to PTA, 4th meeting is Wrap up of School Year with presentations of instrumental music and arts – so middle 2 meetings can have themes to promote interaction, especially among ethnicity and grades who may not otherwise be acquainted. Dates selected are 9/29, 1/19 (combine w/ MLK), 3/23, and 6/8. Call them "PTA Family Involvement Meeting" to include ALL families, not just PTA members.
- Each quarterly PTA meeting should include: Principal's Report, Treasurer's Report, Committee Reports, Approval of Budget (?)
- Does Chinese New Year work for one of these quarterly dates or will that be a separate event?
- What about Family Literacy Night – that probably needs to be a separate event since there is a lot going on, and would be difficult to hold PTA tasks.
- Wed 9/9 First Day of School – PTA hosts coffee for new kindergarten parents in a.m. to help them transition out of the classroom.

- Mon 11/23 through Wed 11/25 will be 3 days of Parent Teacher conferences – all day so no school on these days.
- Dave mentioned that BHIS is split between 11th & 37th Legislative Districts so we need to educate and encourage our families to be familiar with who their legislators are, and how easy it is to contact them.
- Per Dave, the Membership chair (Jill) needs to create a membership nominating committee of 3+ people.
- The group voted to accept the recommendation of “el comite” the Latino family committee (which is technically a PTA committee, not a separate PTA) to name Maria Hernandez Ruiz as the Latino Family Committee chair person.
- The group we agreed there should also be a Chinese Family Committee in recognition of the school community and the International languages offered, and also consider other language-based committees to encourage participation from all highly represented groups within the school.
- Someone needs to create an Organizational Chart (Dave maybe?) that shows the board structure.

PTA Executive Board is (and all these vote):

- Susie Murphy, Principal ?
- Maythia Airhart, Co-Pres
- Leslie Stewart, Treasurer
- Michelle Peterson, Secretary

Committee Chairs are part of the PTA Board, but not Executive Committee (and all these vote):

- Jill Davies, Membership chair (to create nominating committee of 3+)
- Allison Delong, Co-Fund Raising chair
- Erin Musser, Co-Fund Raising chair
- Dave McGeoy, Legislative Chair

Do PTA members vote?

Other positions of importance to document and list on website, etc.

Boun (last name?) & Jason Zinschlag as “webmasters”

Molly Hasson, new Newsletter person

Others?