PTO Meeting Minutes, 3/13/18

Kelly Sevier, Steve Coco, Magan Chyko, Janell Cowley, Anna Wong, Jen Leineweber, Kim Mentzer, Brian Hoffmaster, Mallory Kola, Daniel Weedman, Xilin Chen, Amy Madsen, Gene Curran, Karen Wolfe, Marcella Bryan, Natalie Russell, Sarah Lange, Katie Murray, Tricia Guildener, Heather Nace, Elisabeth Hoppe, Irene Angelos, John Angelos, Marna Burch

1. Call to order and Introductions
2. President’s report
   1. More happening. Full calendar. Looking at how much PTO should be doing.
   2. Read a thon. ~$7200 profit.
   3. Elections. People interested should let Kelly know.
3. Treasurer’s Report
   1. Individual donations were down this year
   2. Read a thon helps get back us on track
   3. Overall on track
4. Key Discussion topics
   1. Mays Bash—April 28, 7-11. Facebook page. Fazzini’s. Dinner. Silent auction. Ideas for donations for silent auction should be directed to Marcella. Tickets $40, early bird discount for $35 before 3/31. Limited space, gets tickets through Jen Leineweber.
   2. Elections
   3. Outdoor classroom—two outdoor learning spaces, suggested by the school. One is a picnic area in a mulched bed, and other is a tiered stone wall. Concerns about engineering. Significantly more investment necessary. Janell Cowley moves to hold off on hill space. Jen Leineweber seconds. All in favor. Motion passed.
5. Principal’s Report: Steve Coco
   1. School Safety Awareness and Protocol
      1. The safety and security of students is our number one priority.
         1. Safety measures in place
         2. Professional development
         3. Partnership with the BCPD. Staff assigned to provide consultation on an on-going basis.
            1. More potential outreach/visit from officers
         4. Each school principal has developed safety plan that includes prevention and response protocols. Reviewed/updated each year. Practiced throughout year.
         5. Err on the side of caution and follow protocols. Parking, sign in/out, etc.
         6. Digital citizenship education is important/comprehensive
         7. Incident command, public safety liaison, student accounting coordinator, facility access coordinator, triage coordinator: filled by staff within school until commander from first responders arrive
         8. Command post locations: primary-main office, evacuations all go to sports field.
         9. Master list is maintained of students and staff that may need special assistance in an emergency.
         10. Hazard Hunt: Identifying potential hazards that exist that are unique to building. Mays Chapel: Impound Pond— off limits to all.
         11. Assembly areas on activity fields by grade level. Rally points for children separated from class: Flag pole, gazebo, hard court.
         12. In an emergency children can all be moved. Alternate building locations: Graul’s, Padonia Park Club, Timonium Fairgrounds (for the central area).
         13. 10 fire drills, 2 severe weather drills, 2 lockdown drills, 2 AED awareness trainings, 2 emergency evacuation drills (500 ft), Active scenario Drills-1 per marking period.
             1. Lockdown drills: shelter in place. Classroom doors lock. Glass in door is covered. Class is moved out of sight. All children accounted for. Distribution list that staff is responding to via email. Hallways are swept for moving kids.
             2. Procedures likely to evolve given recent events.
             3. See something, say something. SRO is responsive.
             4. Building Safety Features: raptor, door buzzers with cameras, swipe card access, HVAC Emergency Shutdown Switch, security cameras throughout interior (33), and exteriors (11). Emergency generator, numbered exterior doors, walkie talkies, school security alarm (2 zone allows for community to use portion of the school).
             5. Irene Angelos moves to start discussion of spending PTO money for security. Updating walkie talkie batteries. Jen Leineweber seconds. Motion passed.
   2. Teaching and Learning Environments at Mays Chapel
      1. MCES is Lighthouse school started with K-5 with computers. K moved to pods of 5 computers. At the end of 2019, all BCPS students would have access to online learning.
         1. Helps to level instructional playing field, help with acceleration for accelerated students, collaborate/communicate
         2. Despite bad press, bottom line is how the technology affects the kids
         3. Lighthouse schools outperforming others, indicating success of technology in the classroom.
         4. These are learning tools, not recreational tools: an important element of digital citizenship in modern life.
         5. March 20 BOE will vote on future of program with Baltimore County. Computers would be out of schools as of June 30. Bid is out to renew contract for another 7 years. Budget issue and philosophical issue.
         6. Creates a responsive teaching environment. Creates equitable access. Hopkins research supports beliefs.
            1. What can parents do? Call, write letters, email board members, show up at board meeting. Loss of computers would impact the way that teachers can impact and customize student learning. It would be losing the ability to responsively reach every single student on a daily basis.
            2. Kelly to send email with more information on action.