

BOULEVARD PTO
Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2014

In Attendance: Jeff Isaacs, Rich Vadnal, Kate Bennett, Beth Day, Scott Gearity, Nicol Coxon, Erin Zelin, Tony Peebles, Traci Carpenter, Naomi Hollander, Mary Wilkinson, Ramona Lowery, Angela Bailey-Sundahl, Barb Horrigan, Colleen Longo, Melissa Becerra, Lauren Rollins, several others who arrived late

Call to Order: Jeff Isaacs officially called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Approval of April 9, 2014 Minutes

The Slate of Officers for 2014-2015 was sworn in

Boulevard PTO 2014/2015 Slate

President - Kate Bennett

President - Beth Day

First VP - Traci Carpenter

VP Communication - Barb Horrigan

VP Educational Enrichment - Naomi Hollander

VP Financial Management - Nicol Coxon

VP Outreach - Marcie Mennes

VP Parent Education & Advocacy - Angela Bailey-Sundahl

Treasurer - Tony Peebles

Secretary - Ramona Lowery

Nominating Chair - Erin Zelin

Principal and Teachers' Report: Colleen Longo

The Fourth Grade Exhibition trailer video was viewed, and everyone was encouraged to attend exhibitions the evening of June 4.

Thank you for the delicious food during Teacher Appreciation week.

OAT (Ohio Achievement Test) is finished, no one was absent.

Next week second graders will be given the MAP test. Those in the 95% and above nationally are considered "gifted" by the state of Ohio. This is the first layer of testing and more will be given in the fall.

New state kindergarten readiness testing will be done in the fall. Colleen will train kindergarten teachers on how to give tests and instruct students in late May. Students must be in school at least one day before they can be tested, and teachers will probably wait at least a week so they can observe students and develop a relationship first. They then will have until November 1 to complete these assessments. Students will not be

reassessed on these criteria at year-end as the purpose is to evaluate the effectiveness of preschool programs.

In answer to parents questions:

- Fourth graders who qualify for enriched programs at Woodbury based on scores of the MAP test should receive a letter from Woodbury over the summer inviting them to enriched classes.
- For all grades, M-Comp and M-Cap tests are screens for students with problems as opposed to identifying gifted students.
- One class per grade in each Shaker elementary school piloted Envision Math this year: Benton, Chung, Strachan, Fagan, and Shaw at Boulevard. Envision teaches deeper knowledge of fewer topics. Early feedback was mixed but by now most like it. Over the summer several Boulevard teachers will be part of a committee that determines the math program going forward. Woodbury and the Middle School already use Envision.
- Math is not required by the IB program to be integrated with IB as they don't want, for example, shallow word problems. However, math can be used with IB (e.g., graphing).
- The state's new common core standards are more rigorous.
- Ms. Goulden's class is not looping with her to fourth grade.

Mrs. Carfagna had her baby last Thursday, Catherine Quinn, all apparently went well.

Melissa Becerra will no longer be a representative to the PTO next year.

Thanks for a great year!

Melissa and Lauren: Sweetie Fry fundraiser was fun and delicious, thanks for a great year!

Outreach: Jeff Isaacs for Marcie Mennes

The Ice Cream Social is coming up, a volunteer sign up sheet is going around.

Communication: Jeff Isaacs for Cindy Rakow

The Friday Flyer as well as other Shaker Schools' newsletters will be moved to Constant Contact next year. PTO Council's license covers enough users for all the schools, so there will be an umbrella account for all schools. Jeff Isaacs and Tracy Peebles will be co-presidents of PTO Council next year.

Educational Enrichment: Erin Zelin

Field day is Tuesday June 10. Mary Wilkinson will be emailing for volunteers.

Financial Management: Tony Peebles

The Sweetie Frye fundraiser was held April 29, 30 and May 1, and brought in \$155 for the PTO. Next year it may increase attendance if teachers mention it in class.

The Kalahari fundraiser is scheduled for June 12-13. Boulevard families will have a discount rate of \$119/night (regular rate over \$200), and \$10/room will go to the PTO. Currently we have 12 rooms reserved.

Nicol Coxon: We still need Carnival volunteers. We will have a sign-up sign and table at Ice Cream Social. We are using sign-up genius for volunteers to sign up, which so far has generated about the same number of volunteers we had at this time last year with less data entry for the volunteer coordinator.

Treasurer: Scott Gearity

Scott is still fulfilling teacher reimbursement requests. There has been confusion with the Huntington Bank Account related to the name similarity to PTO council, and PTO is getting letters that account will close. Thought was resolved before but need to look into again. There should be an audit at year-end.

Shaker Elementary Schools want to participate in Play Works, and organized recess activity with lessons on certain topics, e.g. anti-bullying. Boulevard's share would be \$3,000, of which \$800 is needed before school is over and is now requested from PTO. Funding \$800 was approved subject to Scott and Tony determining where this would come from in budget.

Parent Education and Advocacy: Angela Bailey-Sundahl

Low turn-out at International Families pot-luck dinner. Several international parents present mentioned excitement dies and life in new country gets tough after first six months or so, may be good to reach out more to these families: small non-intimidating volunteer jobs, read in native language in classrooms, etc.

President's Report: Rich Vadnal and Jeff Isaacs - Thanks, it's been a great year!

Adjourned: 8:30 PM