

JR Briggs PTA Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2018

President: Alisha VanHillo

Vice President: Michelle Parkinson

Treasurer: Greg Belkin

Secretary: Jeraldine Lumbert

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm.

Welcome and Thanks

Principal's Report

Mrs. McGrath, principal, reported that 5th grades MCAS 2.0 started today. The internet and app safety presentation will take place on April 25, 2018.

During March 2018, our PE teacher, Mr. Berg, who has been spearheading the fundraising for an adaptive playground, made a connection with a fantastic group based out of Marlboro, the Stevens Family Foundation. With their vision for supporting children, the Stevens Family Foundation has generously committed to helping us fund an adaptive playground over the next three years. This generosity will allow us to design and build an outside structure/space where all students can play together. The Ready, Set ,Glow event will become the maintenance fund for the playground.

During early May, the teachers will be starting to generate the class lists for next year. We are now accepting parent letters regarding your child's learning style, emotional needs, and academic strengths and weaknesses for us to take into consideration as we begin to discuss the placement process for the 2018-2019 school year. If you have information you wish to share regarding your child's needs, please submit a letter to the attention of Mrs. McGrath prior to May 11, 2018

The school council has 3 parent openings with two year terms. They participate in the budget input process, handbook, and school improvement plan.

Secretary's Report

Jerri Lumbert, secretary, presented the meeting from March's meeting for approval. Notes were approved with the noted corrections.

Treasurer's Report

Greg Belkin, treasurer, presented the treasurer's report. He reported that we received out tax exempt number which means we are in good standing with the state. The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

Bunny Breakfast

There was a tremendous turnout at the breakfast along with positive feedback. We had positive feedback about the Bunny's interaction with the children. She did a wonderful job engaging them when taking pictures and handing out eggs to the children.

Bags to School

Natalie Nelson is organizing the bags to school project. A flyer is going home on soon. The event takes place on May 20th. The truck will come to pick up our bags. We get paid by pound, so don't hold back! Anybody can participate, so let family and neighbors know about it! Please drop off bags by 5pm on May 20th. If you can't make it on that Sunday, you can drop off your stuff at the school on Friday, May 18 during school hours. The organization accepts: clothes, footwear, jackets, hats, belts, towels, bags, backpacks, and linens. Unfortunately they will NOT accept stuffed animals, pillows or comforters this year. All proceeds go to supporting student programs and field trips at Briggs! Talk about motivation to start that Spring Cleaning!!! The Girl Scouts will be helping to unload cars in the afternoon. They will also be collecting cans and bottles, so bring your bags AND cans! See you May 20th! Any questions, please email Natalie Nelson at ncoggeshall@yahoo.com."

Open Forum

Mini Grants

The 4th grade teachers requested to \$350.00 for the field trip to Beaver Brook which ties into the science curriculum and common core standards.. PTA approved the request for \$400.

The 3rd grade teachers requested a mini grant for the field trip to Old Sturbridge Village. PTA approved \$650 for the grant.

Extra Funds

We have extra funds from the sale of JR. Briggs apparel items. We discussed possibly purchasing a popcorn machine to have during events. However, storage is limited.

Buddy Bench

Mrs. Megan Caforio presented an idea of possibly having a Buddy Bench for the playground area. Mrs. McGrath reported that SCPAC got a grant to have one installed. Oakmont High School will build it. It is slated to go in about 3 years from now after the completion of the adaptive playground. The staff will be trained on the bench.

Election for PTA President

Elections will be held at the next meeting for the president position that will be open due to Alisha VanHillo stepping down from the position. Jason Stanton was nominated for the position.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12

Next Meeting is on May 9, 2017 at 6:30 pm