

**Bethel Elementary PTA  
Board Meeting Minutes  
9-7-2017**

**Attendees:** Eric Cilli, Ashley Whitfield, Rebekah Rose, Dawn Luckey, Dana Jones, Lyndsi Dreckman, Melissa Hucks, Farrah Stephens, Mrs McCuen, Mrs Skelton, Mrs Lewis, Kelli Pellerin, Lori Flaherty, Stephanie Yearwood

**Welcome** - Lori Flaherty

**Approval of Minutes** - Eric Cilli (Stephanie - First, Kelli - Second)

**Principal's Report** - Nerissa Lewis

- Back to School: Smoothest opening ever! Thank you teachers and parents for making the first few weeks of school a wonderful experience for our students!
- Afternoon Dismissal We implemented a new dismissal system this year. The dismissal system is designed to be safer for students, and is part of the uniform car number system used in Greenville County Schools. The program is called SMS (Student Accountability System). It tells us what time a student left school and which method of transportation they used. This information is valuable every day, but particularly in an instance where a student isn't home on time or is reported missing. We can now immediately check records and provide parents with timely information.
- Summer Reading Party: We just celebrated our Summer Readers with a Luau themed party. Students enjoyed a snack and participated in several fun activities.
- MAP Testing 2017-2018 School Year- MAP now referred to as MAP Growth, will be administered to all students in grades 2, 5 and 8 in Reading and Math during the winter administration only (December 4-15). Gifted and Talented (G/T) Testing for selected students will occur for students in grades 3, 4, 6, and 7 during winter window (December 4-15).
- New GCS Attendance Policy: Students are counted present only when they are actually in school, on homebound instruction, or are present at an activity authorized by the school principal. A student is considered in attendance when present for at least three (3) hours of a school day. [Click on the link](#) for additional information.
- New District-wide Assessment System- Mastery Connect/TE 21 is the new assessment system. It is an online resource that helps teachers identify and track student mastery of State Standards to inform teaching practice. Elementary Testing Schedule: Math (2nd, 3rd 4th, 5th), English (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th), Science (4th), and Social Studies (5th).
- Benchmark Testing Dates: Benchmarks are given at the end of each nine week. The dates for the benchmarks are Benchmark 1 — October 23—November 3 Benchmark 2 — January 10—January 24 Benchmark 3 — March 12—March 30 (Mimics the State Assessment)
- New logo and new hashtag were discussed - #CardinalsFlyHigh

- New STEAM Lab: What is STEAM? STEAM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math! This year fourth and fifth grade students will come to the Science Lab once a week to engage in science and engineering practices and learn more about the world.
- Volunteer/Visitor guidelines were discussed. Greenville County Schools (GCS), in an effort to ensure the safety of all of our students, has implemented additional security checks for school volunteers. All volunteers must submit an online application to the district and receive clearance from the district before volunteering at any school/center or chaperoning any school field trip.
- The Library reading well will be filled in.

#### **Treasurer's Report - Stephanie Yearwood**

- The proposed 2017-2018 yearly budget was submitted to everyone in attendance and was reviewed in detail.
- The original Art program is gone this year and will be replaced with a new program called Art to Me.
- The forecasted income for Carnival was decreased this year and the forecasted income for Gingerbread Shop was increased.
- Mix bags will be coming back this year.
- Murals will be a major project undertaken by the PTA this year. The project should begin late in the school year and may not be completed until after the students are out for the year.
- There will be no mini grants this year.
- New line items added this year are STEAM Lab and also School improvements
- Current actuals for where the budget currently stands year to date were reviewed with everyone in attendance. Current income is \$6,439.79 and current expenses are 4,631.91
- Budget was voted on and approved unanimously. (Motion - Eric, Second - Melissa)
- A Financial review audit was scheduled to be completed prior to October 1st. A panel of Lindsey, Eric. and Kelli were assembled to complete the audit.

#### **President's Report - Lori Flaherty**

- This year's PTA calendar was given out and reviewed in detail with everyone in attendance.
- This year's spirit night participants were reviewed and will be disseminated to parents.
- Board meeting dates were reviewed.
- School app sponsors were discussed. The app allows for 5 sponsors.
- So far 554 people have signed up for PTA memberships.
- The school scrapbook which was completed by Angie Hinds.
- A request for a new sound system for the gym along with a new bluetooth speaker was submitted to the board. It was decided that a new sound system should be put on hold to be discussed and evaluated further. The request for the purchase of a \$249 bluetooth speaker was approved. (Motion - Stephanie, 2nd - Eric)
- A request for a portable projector for the gym at a cost of \$589 was submitted to the board for review. It was approved (Motion - Stephanie, 2nd - Rebekah)

**Bethel Bash Update** - Rebekah Rose, Ashley Whitfield

- Bash will be on Friday Sept 22nd
- Corporate sponsors are Parkside, Snipits, Hucks Financial, Brain Balance, Kids R Us
- Additional auction items are still needed.

**Volunteer Report** - Melissa Hucks

- The beginning of the year volunteer meeting was completed and was a great success.
- The room mom meeting was also completed and went very well. There are still a few room moms that were not able to attend that Melissa will reach out to personally and give them all of the information that they need.