

Boyden PAC Meeting Notes
February 15, 2024 7:00pm
Co-Chairs: Julie Hassler and Lisa Conroy
Treasurers: Kelly Artamonov and Kristen Jefferies
Secretary: Elitsa Molles

- **Welcome**
- **Battle of the Books: Mrs. Moses**
 - James Ponti author event sponsored by Unlikely Story huge success
 - Battle of the Books did not take place last year with shifting media/STEM role, teachers and students want it back
 - To access Battle information, go to Boyden school/menu/student home page/Boyden Media website; left-hand menu includes Battle of the Books 2024, link brings you to the website
 - Battle will take place on April 12, the Friday before April vacation
 - This is a reading incentive program to get students excited about reading
 - 13 titles included with careful selection to include diverse authors, characters, genres, reading levels
 - Trivia questions asked of teams of 3rd, 4th, 5th graders with the answer being one of the 13 titles
 - Students do not need to know details and character names but need to know the book and author name
 - 1 team from each grade wins and receives a prize, with teams from each grade only battling their peers from the same grade and multiple teams per class
 - Teams have been formed and are meeting in classrooms or all together Tuesday afternoons
 - A lot of the reading and work happen at school, but families should encourage their readers at home too
 - Sneak peak link provides a document with the 13 books and information like genre, author, a short blurb about the book to help students and parents decide where to start
 - When students finish a book, they should fill out a google form with the book name, teacher etc., as well as a short assessment of the book to provide data for future Battles or to adjust questions and focus on the most completed and beloved books of the 13
- **Treasurer Report: Kristen J.**
 - Expenses like donation of books for James Ponti visit, ~\$500 for teacher self-appreciation gifts for Valentine's Day; Parents Night Out registered a loss of about \$100
 - Profits include \$177 from Box Tops; cookie sale profit: \$4800, Someone Special Dance generated ~\$2330 (before expenses for photographer, etc.)
 - Two \$250 Sunshine Fund contributions to teacher/staff families going through a rough time approved
 - Budget approved

- **Cultural Events: Kelly A.**
 - Len Cabral, a storyteller from RI will come in person on May 16th
 - Kelly is looking for a third reasonably priced event for the year but there are few options
 - There are great options for the start of next year
 - Kelly will coordinate with other elementary schools
- **New payment platform database: Kelly A.**
 - Zeffy as an option, Kelly will introduce it at the next PAC meeting in March
- **Providence Bruins game: Kari D.**
 - The game is on March 24 and there are still 155 tickets left
 - PAC will help publicize via social media and direct email to those in the Friendship Directory
 - Principal Dearborn will include in weekly update
 - Kari cannot attend, Kristen J will be the contact for Nick, the marketing person
- **METCO bowling outing: Kari D.**
 - March 8, half day, Kings in Dedham
 - Atisha secured a grant from Boston Bridges, a program dedicated to fostering connections in the school setting (great place to look for grants for future Boyden programs)
 - 100 spots, 50 reserved for METCO families, 3 families at OPR also included
 - What is the best way to fill the other 50 spaces? Start with classrooms where there are METCO students
 - PAC does not need to fund the outing but can help advertise if needed
- **School kits: Lisa C.**
 - Headphones from previous kits broke quickly so a new company will be used where headphones sold separately and no option for bulk purchases to donate to classrooms (concern that those come in bulk and might go to the wrong classroom before)
 - Base prices are as follows: K/\$24.99, 1st/\$21.99, 2nd/\$32.99, 3rd/\$37.99, 4th/\$35.99, 5th/\$37.99
 - As this is a fundraiser for the school the meeting approved charging \$30 for K-1st and \$40 for 2nd-5th
 - Kits will be delivered week of 8/18
- **Fundraising updates: Ali L., Lisa C.**
 - Wheel will return after February vacation
 - Lots of magnets are left
 - For next year, have a magnet/ornament fundraiser but place on them a drawing that won a contest among the students, do not include year
- **Basketball clinic: Amanda H.**
 - The clinic will take place on 4/2 and 4/9, 3:30-4:30
 - Maximum 50 students/day from 3rd-5th grade; two different groups of students; set up sign-up genius in such a way as to only allow students to sign up again for a second day if there are spaced available
 - Amanda will check whether the times can be moved to 3:45-4:45 to not interfere with dismissal; whether students need to sign a waiver; whether the coaches can run the same drills each date as to accommodate two sets of 50 students

- High school coaches will be running the clinic, will set up four stations at two basketball hoops inside the gym and two outdoors and run drills with help of high school coaching staff and varsity players (both female and male)
- A nurse might be needed on site, school will provide that
- Ready to run another clinic in the fall and include 2nd grade to train for travel teams, likely in early October
- **Teacher Appreciation updates: Julie H.**
 - Chocolate and body scrub delivered to teachers in February for Valentine's Day
 - Chateau dinner will be delivered to teachers on March 6, at 4 pm, before conferences
 - As budget is limited, ideas for Teacher Appreciation Week are welcomed that move away from food options or from a specific theme
 - Julie is running a school-wide supply drive during March: she reached out to teachers to ask them for supplies needed and will ask families to donate and then distribute supplies
 - Julie will divide donations and provide all classrooms with commonly used supplies like glue sticks, dry erase markers, pencils, along with tissues, etc.
 - Specialists did not submit lists but will receive the same supplies as other teachers
 - Does Mrs. Granata need specific supplies? Last Year Boyden PAC donated ~\$100 to a town-wide nurse collective – do the same this year?
 - Supplies will be provided to the teachers for one day of Teacher Appreciation Week
 - Other ways to donate supplies like Amazon wish list PAC can create where teachers can add items
 - Another day of teacher appreciation will include an ice maker for the lounge
 - Other inexpensive ideas: flowers from Trader Joes
 - How about gifts directly from the students where they fill out a form (Etsy?) or create something for their teachers (parents to help), create a video using Memento?
- **Hybrid meeting (March 13, 2024): Principal Dearborn, Lisa C.**
 - Mrs. Carroll has set up for a hybrid meeting on March 13, there will be a link for parents to join; a test will be done with a non-Boyden computer
 - The link will be included in the weekly update announcement, but PAC members will have to admit any online participants to verify they are Boyden parents and maintain safety
 - Alternatively, parents might be asked to register to verify identity
- **Docent: Stef H.**
 - Docent presentations are in progress in grades 2nd-5th
 - MFA field trip for fourth graders is scheduled for May 24
 - Jackey Delaney will be sending out a volunteer announcement to current K parents who can join the program in first grade
- **Principal updates: Principal Dearborn**
 - Conferences will take place March 6, March 8, March 14
 - There is no longer a virtual option apart from individual alternative arrangements
 - Conferences will take place from 5-7 pm instead of 6-8 pm to allow teachers more flexibility

- The MCAS schedule is announced in the weekly update and the tests start next month
- 3rd-5th grade complete 2 ELA and 2 Math modules, 5th grade completes an additional 2 Science/STEM modules

**Thank you for coming! Please reach out to us with any questions.
The next PAC meeting will be held on March 13, 2024 at 7:00pm.**

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