



September 2017 Meeting Minutes

Educational Services Center, Bloomington Public School District
Bloomington, Minnesota
September 13, 2017
11:30 a.m.

Attendees: Jaysen Anderson (Principal JHS) Roberto Cantu (Principal PB), Les Fujitake (Superintendent), Rick Kaufman (Community Relations), Becky Lechner (OLE), Molly Lueck (PTSA Council President), Beth Maiwurm (JHS), Kate Martin (Community Relations) Jodi Syrjamaki (WB), Jason Thiel (WW), Sheri Brezinka (PTSA Council Treasurer), Kristi Wesolowski (PTSA Council Secretary), JC St. Onge-Holm (NH), Carla Ries (PB), Thuy Ros (VVE), Jen Rasmussen (OGE PTA President), Steve Searl (VVE Assistant Principal), John Weisser (ESC Technology), Charlotte Westby (IM, PTSA Council Vice President)

Welcomed by Molly Lueck.

Rick Kaufman presented the Community Relations Update.

1. Stong Schools, Strong Community Referendum
 - a. Goal is to motivate/motivate for Yes4BPS
 - b. Early voting begins n 9/22 and will go weekdays from 8 am to 4:30 pm up to Election Day.
 - c. Jefferson PTSA, per Beth Maiwurm, is working with students to get current students old enough to vote out to vote.
 - d. Predicting 25-26% turnout due to off year election. Encouraging parents to vote and former students to vote, hoping for above 30%.
 - e. Had tables and information at all school Back to School nights.
2. Yes4BPS Citizen's Committee Update – Jason Thiel
 - a. Biggest obstacle is getting the information out to the public
 - b. We want the yes, explain why we want the yes vote.
 - c. Looking to tap into PTA Groups in September and October.
 - d. To volunteer and for information, you can visit yes4bps.org.
 - i. Volunteers needed for phone bank, mailings, staffing tables
 - ii. Monetary donations also accepted here for mailings, printing, misc costs
 - e. Also have a Facebook page Yes4BPS
 - f. Will have a presence in the Heritage Days parade
 - g. Also searching for PTA endorsements. In order to have your PTA endorse Yes4BPS, need to take a vote at your meeting, with a quorum, and approve endorsing the committee and the project
 - h. Right now most contacts are on a gathered email/phone list of those from the last referendum, those who have expressed an interest in this referendum and those that have been highlighted as a vested interest in Yes4BPS

Roberto Cantu, Principal Representatives Report

1. All schools are getting into their routine
2. Kennedy Hall of Fame Game at the Stadium on 9/8
3. Jefferson Hall of Fame Game at the Stadium on 9/15
4. MAP Testing at the Elementary and Middle Schools will be starting in October
5. PTA Meetings are underway, everyone will have one in September
6. Poplar Bridge Construction...All complete, Flex Space is working great, determining how to best utilize the flex furnishings, 5th grade classrooms have the flexibility of being broken into smaller classrooms or becoming one large classroom, Meeting with other schools up next for construction projects to talk about what PB has learned

Sheri Brezinka, Treasurers Update

1. Kristi Wesolowski and Sheri completed the summer audit and all looked in line.
2. We have carried over just under \$4600
3. Most expenses for the 2017-2018 school year will be the same.
4. We use to do Free Will offerings for our speaker series, may want to consider doing that again as it did help offset some of the costs.
5. We do have a reserve fund but also have up to 3 schools who have indicated they may have trouble paying their dues this year. May need to make adjustments moving forward.
6. For now, we will plan for similar spending, minus the cost of the print project which was a one time cost,
7. Sheri Brezinka motioned to have the 2017-2018 budget approved as presented. Charlotte Westby seconded the motion.

Molly Lueck, President's Report

1. The Feedback Loop which has been established as part of the PTSA group will continue this year, information talked about and shared at our monthly meetings with the intent of it being brought back to school meetings. The first Wednesday of the month will once again be the PTSA meeting date as most PTA's do not meet until the second week. If there are questions or comments on any items discussed or presented at the District PTSA meeting, they can be brought back to the next meeting for clarification.
2. 2017-2018 PTSA Council Meeting topics was handed out.
3. 2017-2018 roster was presented, reps were encouraged to look at their information to make sure it was all correct.
4. We reviewed the reps roles and responsibilities and reviewed the documented purpose of our group.
5. We had great attendance at the PTSA Leadership Academy and want to thank everyone for making the time to attend the meeting.

Charlotte Westby, Vice President's Report

1. Our first speaker series presentation will be on 9/26 from 7-8:30 on School Funding 101. Mary Cecconi, former Director of Parents United, will lead the discussion and the question and answer period. The Bloomington League of Women Voters will be on hand to register voters. Childcare available by reservation. There will also be a Yes4BPS Information table. Flyers will go out on Peachjar. According to Rick Kaufmann, this is one of the most asked questions, questions regarding school funding, that the school gets. This will be held in the Oak Grove Auditorium.
2. On Tuesday, October 3 from 6-9, we will have the Candidates Forum in conjunction with the League of Women Voters. City Council Candidates will be available from 6-7:30; School Board candidates will be available from 7:30 – 9:00. Forum will take place in the Council Chambers at the Bloomington City Hall. NO CHILDCARE available.
3. We could use volunteers from our PTA's for our Speakers Series.

Back to School Updates

Les Fujitake, Superintendent

1. We are off to a great start, getting great feedback from schools.
2. We had 7 collective bargaining groups up for negotiations this year, all have settled.
3. School Revenue is determined by the number of students enrolled in the district. All schools across the state are funded the same. Our projected enrollment for 2017-2018 is 10,150, on the high end of our optimistic projections for 2017-2018. October 1st is when our numbers will be calculated.
4. School Board Candidates
 - a. We have 11 candidates
 - b. 4 seats open
 - c. One incumbent whose seat is opening is not running, 3/11 candidates are incumbents looking to stay in their seats.

John Weisser, NTL and HUB Updates

1. Based on the 2013 Referendum, we are in our third year of roll out of technology. Goal is to prepare students for the 21st Century. Grades 3-12 have a 1:1 ratio on technology PreK – 2 is a 1: 3 ratio.
2. 75.5% in grades 3-12 use digital content in 3 or more classes a day
3. So, what are they doing:
 - a. Content – Good Instruction tools
 - b. Communicate – Encouraging active citizenship and good communication
 - c. Creation – Get actively involved, teaching more than just regurgitating facts

4. Making sure that all kids have access

- a. Only 2.8% of BPS kids have trouble with internet access

John Weisser/Jaysen Anderson - Flexible Instruction - Getting out of rows and one size fits all education plans

- 1. About 50 teachers applied for and received flexible instruction grants for furniture and other flex space items.
 - b. Poplar Bridge – 3 classrooms all connected with glass walls; freedom to have individual rooms or one large room
 - c. Kennedy -Redoing the Media Center; working on collaborative space, taking out some lockers, every kid carries a device and kids are not visiting their lockers anymore.
 - d. Jefferson developed Jefferson Commons, two halls near Media Center, 280 seats. Also removing some lockers, all 9th graders get lockers, sophomores, juniors and seniors can request lockers. Plenty of lockers remain to cover all of this years requests, not many requests received.

Next meeting topic: Targeted Services and Personal Growth Plans, October 4th @ 11:30AM

Next meeting location: ESC Room 610A

Respectfully submitted by Kristi Wesolowski, PTSA Council Secretary