

**Blach Intermediate School  
PTA Meeting  
September 15, 2011  
7 p.m. in the Library**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Elizabeth Maciag called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with 17 members present.

**WELCOME INTRODUCTIONS**

Co-President Elizabeth Maciag introduced herself and the following board members:

Co-President: Cheryl Bystrom

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Liz Malone

2<sup>nd</sup> VP: Laura Fenger

Secretary: Michelle McCauley

Treasurer: Tracey LeMoncheck

Auditor: Rita Martin

Financial Secretary: Terri Buchner

Historian: Susan Arrillaga

Parliamentarian: Audrey Fox

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The May 19, 2011 meeting minutes were approved, with one correction: the April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 date at the top of the minutes was changed to May 19, 2011.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Co-Presidents distributed and reviewed the PTA 2011/2012 calendar. Susan Arrillaga made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded, and the calendar was unanimously approved.

The Co-Presidents distributed and reviewed the list of chairs for the 2011/2012 year. Susan Arrillaga made a motion to approve the list, which was seconded, and the list was unanimously approved.

The Co-Presidents distributed and reviewed the proposed PTA Goals for 2011/2012. The proposed goals are as follows:

1. Support staff, principal, students and curriculum - through money raised for equipment, materials, music, supplies, staff appreciation and technology upgrades;
2. Support a safe and positive school environment - through programs which enrich academics, life skills, community building, and family outreach;
3. Facilitate communication between Blach staff, parents and relevant communities (elementary, high schools); and
4. Maintain and improve Blach Technology standards.

Audrey Crowley made a motion to approve the Goals, which was seconded, and the Goals were unanimously approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Tracey LeMoncheck distributed and reviewed the Treasurer's Report for May 1, 2011 – June 30, 2011.

Susan Arrillaga made a motion to ratify check numbers 4184-4260 from May 1, 2011 through June 30, 2011, which was seconded, and the checks were unanimously approved and ratified.

For July, the opening balance was \$94,795.53, and the ending balance was \$88,996.44. See the report for details of expenditures. The highest expenditure in July was for hot lunch bills that remained outstanding from the previous academic year and totaled approximately \$6,000.

Cheryl Bystrom made a motion to ratify check numbers 4261-4279 from July 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011, which was seconded, and the checks were unanimously approved and ratified.

For August, the opening balance was \$88,996.44, the ending balance was \$193,706.69, and the net income was income \$104,710.25. See the report for more details.

The proposed budget for 2011/2012 was distributed and reviewed. The projected income from the Direct Appeal and District Appeal came in as expected. Looking forward, the PTA expects to net \$50,000 from the hot lunch. The PTA also expects to net a little more than last year from Spirit Wear because the PTA has left over inventory. There is a negative balance showing for the 2010/2011 hot lunch program and the 2010/2011 year book. This is because a few bills came in late in the year and were paid out of funds from this year. There is sufficient funding in this year's budget to meet these expenses.

There is one Eagle Scout campus improvement project planned for this year: building raised planter boxes. The PTA will pay for the materials. The \$15,000 budgeted for Campus Improvements is set aside for emergencies.

There is a line item for District Expenditures, including printing and paper, and school supplies. Blach PTA budgeted for these expenses in the amounts requested by Randy Kenyon. The funds set aside for school supplies will cover every day supplies for the office and classrooms. Unlike past years, the funds for school supplies will no longer be applied to utility and custodial costs; the District will pay for these costs.

A report comparing actual to budget was distributed and reviewed. Almost all of the income comes in at the beginning of the year. We are on target. If the actual income exceeds the projected income, the PTA has the discretion to adjust/restate the Budget to allocate additional funding where needed or wanted.

Susan Arrillaga made a motion to approve the 2011/2012 Budget, which was seconded, and the 2011/2012 Budget was unanimously approved.

#### **PRINCIPAL'S REPORT - Leslie Crane**

Principal Leslie Crane reported that the school is having a great start. The first progress reports will be distributed next Friday. Parent Portal is up and running.

Khan Academy is being introduced in a few math classes this year to supplement the curriculum. The program was introduced to the District last November and has been piloted at Egan, Covington and Santa Rita. It is a computer based program that will enable students to test their proficiency and will give the students fast feedback about what they know and do not know. The PTA purchased an iPad cart for the math department to support the Khan Academy program.

The students took their first Green Town survey to determine the number of walkers, bikers, etc. The survey will be conducted periodically to get a sense of what is occurring on a day-to-day basis.

The ongoing construction near Blach is part of a 2004 grant to improve safety on the roads near and around school. Blach is the first school to have the construction begin, which will entail creating new cross-walk areas and installing lights. Construction should be completed by November. Principal Crane anticipates more congestion on the roads in the future due to the new housing development near Covington and Grant. Those households will feed into Graham Middle School and the students will probably travel down Covington to get to Graham.

To kick off Spirit Week, the school will host a dance on Friday, September 23, from 7-9 p.m. The theme is Super Heroes. School dances are chaperoned by staff; parents are not allowed.

Parents are invited to attend a presentation by Stacy Pena entitled "Common Sense Media" on October 11, 2011 at 7-8:30 p.m. in the Blach library. The subject of the presentation is personal responsibility in the digital world.

An emergency drill is scheduled for next Thursday. The school will simulate an emergency situation and both the fire department and police department will be present. As part of the emergency preparation, the students will be instructed to take their cell phones with them in order to text their parents.

The school's website has undergone a major update thanks to this year's webmaster, Colleen Hawk. Thank you Colleen!

#### **AUDITOR'S REPORT:**

Auditor Lee Dinneen presented her report for the six-month period December 31, 2010 - June 30, 2011 and certified the records to be correct. Laurel Iverson moved to accept the auditor's report, which was seconded, and the report was unanimously approved.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Terri Buchner: 425 Blach families used the Back to School online system. Of those, 420 made financial contributions and 5 entered personal data. Of those who made contributions, 56% used Paypal and 44% wrote checks. To date, 8 of the 420 have not made their payments. Terri has contacted the families to follow-up. 528 individuals, including teachers, joined PTA. 372 Blach families (88%) made contributions in response to the Direct Appeal.

Adele Fredricksson: Hot lunch is in full swing. As of tomorrow, the hot lunch team will have served 4,635 meals in just 14 days. The kids like the food. There have been a few snags, but the program is overwhelmingly successful. PTA is on track to make \$50,000. Pasta Market is contributing \$3,391/year towards the free hot lunch program, which is a much bigger contribution than the school is able to provide through its hot lunch scholarship program or through PTA.

Laurel Iverson: Family Dinner Night is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The band, orchestra and chorus will be performing. Other groups will also be putting on fund raising activities. Dinners may be purchased by submitting an order form on line or in the office. The deadline for submitting an order form is September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Laurel needs more volunteers to set up and clean up.

LAEF: Laurel Iverson reported that LAEF has committed \$2.3 million to the District, and Sticky Man is on the first step. An LAEF ambassador training program is scheduled for Sunday, 7 p.m. in the old gym. All parents are welcome to attend to learn more about LAEF.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Kristen Brown is running the grad party this year, which will be held on May 11, 2012. There is a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 28th at 9:00 a.m. in the old gym for eighth grade parents who are interested in planning the grad party.

The first staff appreciation event is scheduled for September 22, 2011. Please contact Kristen Brown or Kari Niehaus if you are interested in helping out.

Last, but not least, Happy Birthday to Principal Crane!

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle McCauley  
Blach PTA Secretary

**Next PTA Meeting – October 20, 2011, 7:00 p.m. in the Library**