

Bells Mill Elementary School (BMES) Eighth PTA Meeting on 5/6/14

BMES Media Center

The Eighth BMES PTA meeting was called to order by PTA President, Mandy Lemar, at 7:00 p.m. at Bells Mill Elementary School. The Following PTA Board Members were present: Mandy Lemar, President, Stacy Ganz Kahn, President-Elect, Kurt Shanfield, Treasurer, Kakki Lewis, Vice President of Student Affairs, Cristin Caine, Vice President of Fundraising, Greer Bautz, Vice President of Communications, Lang Lin, Delegate, Diana Gallagher, Delegate, and RobBee Fredricks, Secretary.

Mrs. Lemar welcomed all to the final PTA meeting of the 2013-2014 school year. She announced that the BMES PTA Board will be donating \$300 to MCPS to give to GIVE BACKpacks, an organization which MCCPTA and PCPS are partnering together to support. The backpacks will be filled with school supplies for kids in need in Montgomery County for the 2014-2015 school year.

Thanks to Adriana Marquez and her committee for a great science fair. The daytime viewing made the night time set-up so much easier.

The 4th grade participated in the Poet-in-Residence program, which was sponsored by the PTA. Thank you to Thanh Duckett for all of her hard work.

Thank you to Min Liu, Sam Coleman, Sugum Garg, and Lina Deschiara, who worked really hard on the year book. The PTA is able to provide yearbooks to all of the full-time teachers. There are only 7 year books left to purchase.

International Night was held last Friday. Thank you to Audre Park and Stefi Heideman for all of their hard work. It was a great, well organized, evening.

Mrs. Lemar and Mrs. Oglesby (Mrs. O) went to the PTA Awards dinner. Bells Mill was recognized for the largest membership at the elementary school level, and for the greatest ratio of PTA members to students, which serves a proxy for community involvement.

Mrs. Lemar thanked all of the board members, chair people, room parents, and volunteers who worked so hard to create and execute fun and educational events for the kids and our community. Each year the creative and passionate parents at Bells Mill outdo themselves. The events and ideas get better and better. She said she is very proud of the work the PTA did this year to engage our community. A great big extra thanks to Vice President of Fundraising, Cristin Caine, who passionately took the challenge of the "No-Fundraising" fundraising, and made it an incredible success. The increases in our PTA membership numbers means that we are

representing more families and that is so important because Bells Mill is a special school with a very diverse population. Mrs. Lemar encourages next year's board to continue to outreach into our community, to continue to serve all community groups, and to continue our great strides to represent all the families in our community.

Mrs. Lemar gave a special thank you to Mrs. O, Ms. Hall-Bell, the teachers, staff, and especially to Mrs. Demarino, for their support of the PTA this year, as well as for their flexibility and helpfulness.

Mrs. Lemar further thanked Bar-T for generously babysitting, so that parents could attend the PTA meetings.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kurt Shanfield reported that the PTA has spent money on International Night. We have a net income of \$11,000. There is still a lot of spending to do. Please get your receipts for re-imbusement into Mrs. Shanfield by June 15th.

Mrs. Shanfield further reported that Mrs. O has asked that the PTA help pay for a portable promethium board for Mr. Romans, which will also be shared with the All Purpose Room. A motion was proposed for a budget amendment of \$2,500 to help fund this promethium board. The motion was seconded and all were in favor via voice vote.

The proposed budget for next year was approved for next year by voice vote.

MCCPTA DELEGATE REPORT: Diana Gallagher reported that the appointments were made for MCCPTA and the clusters for next year's positions. The By-Laws need to be revised. The option to visit the revisions was discussed. The meeting was very tense. The revisions to By-Laws will be addressed in October.

VOTE IN SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR 2014-2015 PTA BOARD: The Nominating Committee thanked the current board and wished the incoming board best wishes for a great, upcoming academic year.

Nominating Committee member, Ashley Finke, moved to announce the proposed slate for the 2014-2015 PTA Board:

President-Stacy Ganz Kahn

President-Elect-Kysha Pierre-Louis

VP Communications-Greer Bautz

VP Fundraising-Traci Levine

VP Student Affairs-Kelli Zuba

Secretary-Saira Aslam

Treasurer-Jocelyn Ulrich

Delegates-Lang Lin/Diana Gallagher

A call for nomination was made. The motion was seconded and all were in favor by voice vote.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mrs. Oglesby reported that we are entering a very busy time of year. Lots of field trips are coming up. Field Day is May 15th. The Chorus concert is this Thursday. Please keep up with the Spotlight.

Mrs. O thanked the PTA for its support with the technology updates and help with purchasing the 2 sets of laptops. Technology upgrades in the buildings will be necessary this year, as the building has been operational for 5 year. Mrs. O will keep us posted on the upgrades.

She also thanked the PTA for its support with the Promethium Board on wheels for Mr. Romans. This will be able to be used in other places in the building, as well.

The teachers were very appreciative of the breakfast that was ready for them on Monday morning and notes that were given to them this week. They are looking forward to the rest of the week.

The annual Volunteer Breakfast will be coming up. The staff wants to take the opportunity to thank the parents who have come to support the school. The staff is so fortunate to have such a great PTA.

Mrs. Easton will be retiring at the end of this year. She has been at Bells Mill for 38 years. There will be a special recognition for her at the end of the year, so everyone can thank her for her hard work.

Mrs. O thanked Mrs. Lemar for an incredible year. She acknowledged all of the hard work and dedication that Mrs. Lemar has put in for the students. Mrs. O looks forward to working with Mrs. Kahn next year.

UPCOMING EVENTS (SEE ON-LINE CALENDAR FOR ADDITIONAL UPDATES)

May 5-9th **PTA sponsored Teacher Appreciation Week:**
5/5 Breakfast provided, 5/6 Bring your Teacher a Note Day,
5/7 Tiki Hut Smoothie Bar during lunch, 5/8 Lunch provided, and
5/9 Dessert Bar Provided.

- May 15th **Field Day**- 9:30 to 11:45 (rain date is May 28th)- wear comfortable clothes, sneakers, bring water bottle
- May 15th PTA Sponsored- **Parent Resource Meeting**- 7pm- APR- Supporting your child's needs through the IEP with a 504 plan.
- May 19, 20, 21 PTA Sponsored-**Geography Bowl**- for grades 3,4, and 5-Volunteers needed. Sign up at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F044EACA6292-geography2>
- May 26th **Memorial Day**-no school
- June 6th PTA Sponsored **BMES Annual End of Year Bash**- 6-8pm-questions or want to help? Contact Mary Tousi at marytousi@yahoo.com. She needs a co-chair to help on the actual night of the Bash (a right hand man person). Also, if anybody has ideas for art projects, please let Mary know!
- June 10th PTA Sponsored-**5th Grade Picnic**-Questions? Contact Lisa Stackman at lisastackman@2sgre.com
- June 11th **5th Grade Promotion**-7pm at Churchill High School
- June 13th **Last Day of School**-1 pm dismissal

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

-School Supply Kits Pre-Order Program-Orders will be accepted until May 30th. Pick up will be held at the Back-to-School events. Flyer went home via backpacks. You can check www.bellsmill.org for the link. Questions? Contact Debi Denney at debi@denney.com.

Questions? Contact PTA president – Mandy Lemar – mhlemar@verizon.net, 301-204-1393.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

RobBee Fredricks, Secretary