

Bells Mill Elementary School Parent Teacher Association

Meeting Agenda – May, 20 626, 6:30 pm, BMES APR

34 Participants - Meeting Commenced at 6:32

Welcome and PTA Year-End Report- Amanda Klueger

- Mrs. Over was the recipient of the MCCPTA Shining Star Award for Support Staff of the Year
- Highest membership year in the past 4 years - 273 Families and 43 Teachers
- Supported Academic Improvement
- 3 cultural arts assemblies & 2 take home projects
- Teacher and Staff appreciation throughout the year
- New recess equipment
- Plenty of events and fundraisers

Treasurer Update and Budget Vote- Lis Patterson

- Balance Sheet as of 4/30 available
- While we show a deficit we actually have a budget surplus from COVID years that we are drawing down on
- SY2026-2027 Budget was approved unanimously (1st motion: Amanda Klueger, 2nd motion: Erin Penfold)
- SY2026-2027 Budget includes changes such as \$2000 from scholastic book sales being returned to the PTA vice the school, increase in membership fees from \$35 to \$40 due to remittance of fees to MCCPTA and FREE State PTA, and smaller planners which are more cost effective.

SY2026 PTA Board Vote- Nominating Committee

- The following members were voted in unanimously (1st motion: Christine Tilkens, 2nd motion: John Sorrenti)
 - **President:** Amanda Klueger
 - **Treasurer:** Lis Patterson
 - **Secretary:** Erin Penfold
 - **Vice President—Membership & Fundraising:** Shara Reiter
 - **Vice President—Community Events:** Jenna Cooper
 - **Vice President—Communications & Family Engagement:** Natalie Malloy
 - **Vice President—Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Community:** Zina Segal
 - **MCCPTA Delegates:** Nathalie Babou and Adam D'Angelo
- Non elected positions were also announced

Membership and Fundraising- Shara Reiter and Danielle Somers

- Final Numbers for SY2025-2026
 - 273 Family Memberships
 - 43 Teacher Memberships

MCCPTA Delegate Report- Nathalie Babou and Adam D'Angelo

- MCCPTA has engaged on the following topics and will continue to advocate
 - Boundary Study and Program Analysis
 - Policy
 - Equity and Inclusion
 - Parent Engagement

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Community- Zina Segal and Natalie Malloy

- 3 cultural assemblies, 2 take home projects
- Engagement with sister school Southlake Elementary
- International Festival

Communications and Family Engagement - John Sorrenti and Lauren Koubek

- Website is being updated and refreshed for next school year - including new calendar function
- Kindergarten summer playdates: July 19, Aug 1, and Aug 22 (will include all new students)

School Community Events- Jenna Cooper and Claire Andrews

- All events are only possible with volunteers!
- 8 events total in the year

After-School Enrichment- Natalie Malloy

- 24 activities offered, 350 kids enrolled in SY2025-2026

School Updates- Dr. Smith, BMES Principal and Mrs. Tilkens, BMES Assistant Principal

- MCAP testing will be conducted in May for Grades 3-5 as well
- K - 2 have MAP testing in May, 3-5 in June
- New security features in place, additional ones still being worked
- Safe Routes to School observation visit will be June 2nd at both drop off and pick up
- Dates for Instructional Leadership Team summer meetings to be announced. Parent involvement requested.
- Staffing changes and articulation are underway.
- MCPS Central Office reviews numbers on the 15th of every month
- Dr. Taylor has indicated that July 25th will be the cut off date to freeze staffing so there wont be any last minute changes
- Right now a 4th kindergarten has been added as well as another autism class.
- 2nd grade remains at 3 classes but advocacy work by parents may be requested
- Enrollments are counted once all paperwork has been completed in synergy
- Rules and expectations for recess play have been reiterated to children and all

classes should be released upon arriving to recess to maximize play time. There are to be no whole class penalties.

Upcoming Activities

- Teacher and Staff Appreciation
- In School Assembly
- GeoBowl
- Bells Mill Bash
- Kindergarten Play Dates