

PTA Meeting Notes
Meeting @9AM
February 16, 2022

Board Members Present:

Kate Rubin (Co-President), Dr. Meryem Bencheikh-Ellis (Co-President), Meredith Franco Meyers (Recording Secretary), Terri Desai (Treasurer), Julie Underwood (Fundraising Coordinator), Peg Fox, Principal Samantha Schmoeger, Miguel Negron (AP), Meghan Casey (AP)

At least 8 association members, including a minimum of 2 board members and 6 parent members present; a quorum was reached.

CALL TO ORDER Meeting was called to order by Co-President (Middle School), Kate Rubin, at 9 am.

Co-President/MS Kate Rubin pta@k497.org

Introduction to the meeting - IB principle is OPEN MINDED

- Announcement that the Equity Team is taking over the meeting today with updates.

Treasurer's Report by Terri Desai (ptatreasurer@k497.org)

- Monthly profit and loss review (link?)
- Money that was raised last year is finally coming in. Thank you 2020-2021!
- Also starting to get some of the 30 Days of Giving fundraising money from November. Thanks to Julie Underwood for that amazing 30-day push.
- Balance sheet looks great. Strong total assets.
- Even though the PTA hasn't been able to fund the things that the PTA historically does fund - due to Covid over the past two years - (field trips, etc.), once the PTA is able to do this again, it's ready to go.
- New proposed budget shared. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered time to the budget committee and thank you to AP Negron for helping answer all the questions.
- Budget has been streamlined into 4 main categories: Academics, Community Events, Administrative and Fundraising
- Reallocated some funds to better support teacher grants, community events, teacher appreciation etc.
- Email ptatreasurer@k497.org if you want to help out, see any spreadsheets or help on the budget committee.
- Kate Rubin (PTA co-president) motioned to approve the new budget. Motion was seconded by Meredith Franco Meyers (co-secretary). Budget approved.

Equity Team presentation (Peg Fox, Meghan Casey, assistant principal, meghan.casey@k497.org)

- Peg Fox began the discussion about what the Family Equity Team has been up to, shared a powerful mission statement (link to mission statement) and land acknowledgement.
- Co-facilitators are Kim Jawanda, Carla Triplett, Jamal Igle and faculty advisor is Meghan Casey (many returning members and new members as well).
- Meryem Bencheikh-Ellis (PTA co-president) shared her perspective as a parent and member of the PTA.
- BHS Family Equity Team sub-committees: Cultural Celebrations, Parent Workshops & Community Building, Equity Bias & Prevention Taskforce
- Some great upcoming events. Please stay tuned and look at Konstella.
- Save the date: Everyone is invited to the Equity Symposium: June 17th @ 5:30 pm.
- There are three branches of the Equity Team (Student, Family, Teacher) as well as our Restorative Justice Team
- Meghan Casey (AP) shared how the equity teams at BHS are trying to do the very deep work of creating a school that supports all children and creates democracy. “We don’t hide our ugly. We’ll go there.” It’s uncomfortable work, but with a deep understanding that every member of the BHS community is loved and supported. She then gave an example of how the Equity team (& anti-bias task force), has already facilitated a meeting to help support a mom whose son was expressing some very racially-hurtful language. Really lovely meeting in the library and the team helped the white mom with ways she can support her son at home and in not creating harm. Lots of care and support.
- Hoping to bring back family academies soon. Stay tuned to calendar.
- Three members of the PTA are on the FET which helps build that bridge

Kate Rubin (PTA co-president, MS) moves to vote in the new co-treasurer, Regina Thompson (mother to a 6th grader). Regina introduces herself. Motion is passed.

AP Miguel Negrón update (AP.negron@k497.org)

- Thank you to the PTA for the amazing staff luncheon yesterday. Perfect teacher attendance today! The power of Chipotle & Meryem’s kosher and halal food. :)
- Respect for All week. Workshops on anti-bullying & anti-racism, etc.
- “No child eats alone” (now Vegan Friday) on Friday, so teachers and staff eat with kids.
- Last week was Black Lives Matter week.
- Open Mic happened last Friday.
- Candy Grams were a huge success.

Other Announcements:

- Look out on Konstella for all announcements.

- Save the Date for the Spring Auction (May 5th, 2022)

TO BE APPROVED BY MEMBERSHIP AT MARCH MTNG.