

BMHS Parents' Club Minutes  
September 13, 2010

The meeting was called to order by Lynn Massey at 7:10 p.m.

**Secretary's Report** – Minutes of the May 10, 2010 PC meeting will be circulated and approved at the next meeting.

**President's Report** – Lynn Massey and Karen Pace

- Lynn read the PC mission statement
- Karen spoke about the importance of communication
  - Email blasts approximately twice a month
  - Sign up sheets – available at the meeting
- Lynn introduced the Board
  - Delphine Latham – Vice President
  - Joe Lacovara – Treasurer
  - Kathy Seiden – Secretary
  - MJ Chironna – PTO Council Rep
  - Jen Farris – PTO Council Rep
  
- Lynn reminded everyone of the SAT coming up in October
- Thank you to Tracy Holder, Kathy Seiden and Carol Watson for heading up volunteers for the Oyster Festival. Tracy and Kathy worked the Ben & Jerry's carts for which the PC will receive \$900. Carol worked on the ID bracelets which will help fund the PGP.
- Lynn introduced Suzanne Brown Koroshetz, principal, who is now in her 4<sup>th</sup> year.

**Principal's Report** – Suzanne Brown Koroshetz

- School is off to a good start with 1,720 enrolled students, an increase of 30 students from last year.
- Very tight in scheduling due to budget cuts. We cannot afford any more staff cuts.
- Per NCLB, BMHS continues to be a school in need of improvement but this is just one measure of our school's progress. There will probably be a reevaluation of the standards for NCLB, which requires 100% proficiency by 2014.
- In state of CT high school reforms are underway and starting with the class of 2018 (current 5<sup>th</sup> graders) graduations requirements will be more difficult than the current standards. Probably CAPT test will be replaced with exit exams similar to NY State Regents. Requirements will increase from 20 – 25 credits for graduation.
- All Fall sports have started and games begin this week including football led by new coach, AJ Albano.
- Celebration of Sound is a week from Saturday.
- New Drama program will include workshops and a Mystery Night fundraiser. Details will follow.
- Pepperidge Farm volunteers will build an edible school garden on Sept. 29. This was an initiative from Norwalk Children's Foundation. BMHS won a \$1,500

grant to fund the garden. This will not be a club but will involve various classes such as biology (planting), business (marketing), and art (labels).

- School Growth Plan was presented with a Power Point presentation.
  - Presented to teachers during Professional Day on August 31
  - Developed learning communities of teachers
  - Reflected on work achieved in 09-10
  - Discussed expectations of 10 – 11
  - Monitored both data for outcomes and how adult actions change behavior
  - Discussed trends at McMahon
- Raise the Bar Day will take place November 4.
  - Freshman will take PSAT
  - Sophomores will take CAPT
  - Juniors will take SAT provided by Kaplan
  - Seniors will participate in workshops
- A goal for the school is for students to have increased access to higher level classes by reducing level 5 classes and increasing AP classes.
- Staffing: the school is fully staffed with 12 new faculty members. The quality of applicants was high due to the economy.
- Through September there is no access to the library during Study Hall unless the student has a specific project. There is a plan to change Study Halls to subject specific learning centers for additional help.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Joe Lacovara**

- Preliminary budget \$6,200 in fundraising.
- Last year 6 scholarships were awarded for \$500 each.
- Balance in Parents Club account is \$2,075.
- Balance in PGS account is \$5,800.

#### **New Business**

- Clothing Drive – Suzy Aubry
  - Will take place Saturday, Oct 23 from 10 a.m. to 1p.m.
  - Last year we raised over \$2,000.
  - Need volunteers to work 1 hour shifts.
  - Flyers will be sent out – please make copies and post in public.
  - Pack clothes in clear (preferred) plastic bags.
  - Pack shoes separately.
- Fashion Show – Julie Begos
  - Carol Hinnant and Barbara Rotante are also co-chairing.
  - This fundraiser is to raise money for PGP.
  - Looking for volunteers for either advance work or night of work.
  - We need people who might have store contacts to help.
- Sign Up Sheets
  - Please sign up for any of the committees.
  - We are looking for someone to research signage options for the school.

The next BMHS PC meeting is on Monday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. Guest speaker Scott Hurwitz will talk about the attendance policies.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Seiden