September 2013 Meeting Minutes
Educational Services Center, Bloomington Public School District
Bloomington, Minnesota
September 11, 2013
11:30 a.m.

Attendees: Linda Batterson (PTSA Council President, JHS), Karen Cook (PTSA Council Vice-President, oGE), Bonnie Beery (PTSA Council Treasurer), Betsy Longley (PTSA Council Secretary), Stephanie Nicholson (IM), Christina McAndrew (PB), Brenda Wytonick (VVE), Tiffany Shermak (RV), Jennifer Taffe (VVM), Kelly Winston (HC), Andrea Bonney (OLE), Laurie Witherby (KHS), Stacey Johnson (WB), Beth Maiwurm (OLM), Jill Oldenburg (OLE), Carissa Meierdierks Wall (NH), Heather Starks (ECFC), Kim Harste (WW), Les Fujitake (Superintendent), Rick Kaufman (ESC), Steve Abrahamson (RV Principal), Andrew Wilkins (WB Principal), Brian Cline (OGE Principal), Dick Bergstrom (School Board), Maureen Bartolotta (School Board)

Les Fujitake, Superintendent, presented the Superintendent’s Report:

1. Referendum 2013: Safe & Innovative Schools: Provided background information as it relates to the proposed Capital Projects levy. Presented the Community Leaders Presentation, as found on the district website detailing the Levy’s components: Safety & Security, Technology and Financial Plan. Linda Batterson noted that individual school PTAs & PTSAs donated funds during the 2007 Referendum campaign. Monies donated by school PTAs & PTSAs to the 2013 Referendum will be used for the “Yes for Bloomington Public Schools” campaign efforts. Details as to who to make checks out to and where to mail checks will be provided at a later date.

2. NEA President Visit: Dennis Van Roekel, the National Education Association (NEA) President is visiting BPS on September 11, 2013. He will visit Hillcrest Elementary during the day and end at Olson Middle School, where a forum will be held from 3:30-4:30. Teachers, school board members and parents are encouraged to attend.

Rick Kaufmann, Community Relations, presented the Community Relations Update:

1. Referendum 2013:
   a. District staff are currently presenting referendum information at PTA & PTSA meetings. 7 buildings either have been visited or are scheduled to be visited. 8 buildings remaining to be scheduled.
   b. There is a large percentage of BPS parents who are not registered to vote. Efforts can be made to register voters & encourage voting on November 5. PTA & PTSAs can register voters at parent-teacher conferences. PTA & PTSAs could also organize and provide child care for voters on election day (outside of regular school hours)

2. Community Survey Results: Survey results, from the July 2013 Community Survey, were presented and can be found on the District website at:
   http://www.bloomington.k12.mn.us/sites/default/files/content_file_attachments/130819 BPS Community Survey Results.pdf
Steve Abrahamson (RV) gave the Principal’s report:
  Introduced 2 new principals: Brian Cline (OGE) & Andrew Wilkins (WB)
  Brian & Andrew gave personal introductions.

Bonnie Beery, PTSA Council Treasurer gave the Treasurer’s update:
  1. Very little treasury activity since it’s early in the year
  2. 2013-2014 budget provided. Bonnie clarified that the budget for the Scholarships expense line item includes last year’s $3,000 budgeted amount in addition to the current year’s $3,000 budgeted amount. The 2012-2013 scholarship amount was awarded, but has not yet been paid by the PTSA Council.

Linda Batterson, PTSA Council President gave the President’s report:
  1. 2013-14 PTSA Council Meeting Topics handed out at the beginning of the meeting
  2. 2013-14 PTSA Council Meeting Executive Committee introduced
  3. 2013-14 PTSA Council Roster (passed at beginning of meeting)
  4. 2013 Leadership Academy Report: Event was successful. Provide any feedback about the event via email directly to Linda
  5. Proposed PTSA Council By-Laws will be voted on at the October meeting. Proposed By-Laws have been distributed to the PTSA Council members via email.

Karen Cook, PTSA Council Vice-President gave the Vice-President’s report:
  1. PTSA Council will sponsor a School Board Candidate Forum on Tuesday, October 1st at the ESC from 6:30-8:00. Each school is asked to provide at least 1 volunteer to help with the forum. Further details to come from Karen.
  2. Parent Academy topics still under discussion. Could possibly invite Detective Heather Potter to address the District’s parents about internet dangers and social media safety.

Detective Heather Potter, Bloomington Police Department spoke on the topic: Adolescents and Social Media Safety.
  1. Discussion focused on cases she has seen involving ISD 271 students using technology and social media to:
     • Bully others
     • Intimidate and violate others’ sense of safety and security
     • Become victims of Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC)
  2. She stressed the importance for all social media users to understand the permanency of images and messages posted on the internet.

A motion to adjourn was made by Stephanie Nicholson, seconded by Andrea Bonney. Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Next PTSA meeting: Wednesday, October 2nd, 2013.

Minutes recorded by Tiffany Shermak (RV Rep).

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Longley (PTSA Council Secretary)