

Beaumont Home and School Association Meeting
Wednesday September 19, 2012
Large Group Room

Board Members:

Present: Michelle Parisi, Marianne Marquet, Amaya Green, Stephanie Nichols, Tory Stagnaro, Jane Martin, Lesley Dente

Also present:

Dr. Demming, Jane Anthony, Trish Plunkett, See attendance sheet for parents in attendance

Michelle Parisi called the meeting to order at 9:15am.

Michelle made a motion to approve the June meeting minutes. Amaya Green and Wendy Markind seconded, minutes were approved.

Dr. Demming gave an overview of ERB (Education Review Board) testing. It is a comprehensive testing program mandated by the state of Pennsylvania given to all 2nd, 3rd and 4th graders. Testing occurs October 1-5 with make-ups held on October 8-12.

Jane Anthony, Beaumont reading specialist, discussed the school's reading curriculum called *Literacy By Design*. It is the second year Beaumont is utilizing this program. It follows a 3-step process beginning with whole group introduction, followed by small group direct instruction, culminating in independent practice and follow-up. There are eight key strategies: make connections, determine importance, infer, ask questions, synthesize into main idea, create images (visualization), monitor understanding and use fix-up strategies. The program utilizes these strategies throughout the 16 different thematic units which are introduced. There is a large variety of texts used and there are assessments (or check-ins) conducted in the fall, winter and spring. The program also utilizes additional components throughout the thematic units such as spelling, phonics, vocabulary and writing.

Trish Plunkett discussed the new math curriculum which Beaumont is rolling out called *Math In Focus*, an Americanized version of Singapore Math. The program is being introduced in kindergarten and 1st grade this academic year and will be introduced in 2nd grade next year and 3rd and 4th the following year. It is based on a three-prong approach to learning math: Concrete, Pictorial and Abstract.

Stephanie Nichols gave the Treasurer's Report. She made a motion to approve the \$165 variance on the teacher/principal line item under Expenses. Wendy Markind and Debbie Ridder seconded and the motion was approved. The Friends of Beaumont capital campaign results were discussed. It has been a huge success, already exceeding its initial goal of \$5000. All donations are tax-deductible and donors will receive a written receipt via email. Some of the HSA capital purchases were highlighted such as a frame for a piece of art for Mrs. Walsh, the World Book online subscription which is open to all Beaumont students and their families, the cultural arts assemblies, etc. Steph closed by making a motion to approve

a variance in the Expenses to cover an overage in assignment book costs. Amaya Green seconded and the motion was approved.

Marianne Marquet discussed the amendments to the HSA Bylaws. A motion was made to approve the no term limit for VP of Communications. Heather Entricken and Debbie Ridder seconded. Motion approved. Marianne then made a motion to approve that the signing of contracts be allowed only by the President and the 1st VP of the HSA. The motion was seconded by Heather Entricken and Amaya Green. Motion approved.

Jane Martin gave an update on email blasts and the HSA website. The blast is sent out to the entire Beaumont community every Sunday night and has a 60-70% open rate. The website is being updated this fall and Jane is excited to roll out the changes soon. Please email Jane with any questions or content for the blast. Her email is jcmartinblast@gmail.com.

Tory Stagnaro and Lesley Dente gave a report on volunteers. We have had an overwhelmingly positive response from the Beaumont families offering their time and efforts. We are still in need of more volunteers but our greatest need is for the parent social, teacher appreciation and Play Day. Tory mentioned that the teachers have requested that we give the faculty bathrooms a facelift this year and we will work on implementing that. Homeroom parents will be announced today and there will be a meeting for them in the large group room on Thursday, 9/27 at 9 am. They also spent a lot of time assigning party volunteers and tried to give everyone their first choice where they could.

Michelle Parisi gave an update on Upcoming Events. The Parent Social date has been moved from November 3 to a later date due to a scheduling conflict with the T&E Cares event. Stay tuned for the new date. Play Day is being held on May 16th and we are looking for volunteers to take it over after this year for our longstanding chair, Nikki Kent, who has been running it for several years. Kristen Baker and Lori Naser mentioned that they may be interested in helping. The yearbook chairs are looking for more photographers. Please contact Dawn Poeta and Susan Cantando. The Fun Run is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3rd at 5:30 pm. There will be staggered starts based on age this year. The chairs are looking for volunteers to be course marshals and help in other areas as well. Walking Club is starting soon and needs volunteers. After School Clubs are starting in October. Chess Club also starts in October and meets on Mondays at 7:30 am. The fall book fair is being held the week of October 22nd and will need many volunteers. Cultural Arts has scheduled an author visit with Brian Pinckney on October 16th. There will be morning and afternoon sessions for the students with a teacher luncheon in between. At our next HSA meeting on November 7th, Lisa Lukens, Teacher on Assignment for Instructional Learning will be visiting.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.

Minutes submitted by Marianne Marquet.