

BETSY ROSS ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL
PTSO Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 9, 2014

PTSO Officers in Attendance: Maureen Ulsamer, President; Victoria Gaughan, Vice President

Other Attendees: Shawn True, Lou Tanyu, Lisa DeRiu, Jill Cipriano Cheryl Kerison, Angela Brunson, Theresa Butler

- A. **Welcome** Maureen Ulsamer called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.
- B. **Mr. True's Corner:**
 - Eighth grade students will receive a schedule within the next couple of days, with the dates and times for the end of the year events.
 - June 24 and June 25 will be early dismissal days for all students.
 - Smarter Balanced testing will begin on April 21, 2014. This is a pilot year, but it is being taken seriously. Students are expected to try their best.
- C. **Secretary Report**
 - Minutes were read from the March 12, 2014 meeting and accepted and approved with correction.
- D. **Treasurer's Report**
 - See attached treasurer's report for March, 2014. They were accepted and approved.
- E. **Fundraising**
 - **Free Cash/Merchandise Programs:** Next deadline for BoxTops for Education deadline is April 11th. The final deadline for the school year will be June 6th. Please continue to collect BoxTops over the summer.
 - **Nature's Vision Fundraiser:** Profit this year was \$1,577.80, less than last year. All orders have been distributed.
 - **School Year 2014-15:** We will discuss which fundraisers we will hold during the next school year at the May, 2014 meeting.
- F. **Old Business**
 1. Citywide Parent Leadership Team Meeting was held April 3, 2014. Anyone interested is able to attend. Dinner is available. Childcare is available for children ages 3 and older during the meeting.

- Parent University will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2014 at Gateway Community College in New Haven. Flyers are available online and in the office.
 - On May 1, 2014, beginning at 5:00 pm, there will be a “Summer Educational and Recreational Opportunities for Students and Parents” and Parent Involvement Best Practices Display Expo at Wilbur Cross High School. This event will be followed by the Citywide Parent Leadership Team Meeting (CPLT), which will begin at 5:30. All are invited to attend.
 - CPLT is adapting a new policy at their meetings of setting aside some small group time for people to meet with different task forces. The task forces will include areas like: Transportation, After School Programs, Common Core, Snow Removal, Zero Tolerance Policy and Recess.
2. Agendas for the next school year have been ordered and delivered to the school. They will be available for purchase at Orientation in August and at the office during the school year.
 3. Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week is May 5-9, 2014. Flowers will be distributed May 5th. The Luncheon will be held May 6th. We are looking for volunteers to assist with the luncheon.

G. New Business

1. Elections for Executive Board positions will be held at the next meeting. All positions are open. A description of the jobs are attached. In addition, copies are available in the office. Any interested party should contact the PTSO via email or by sending in a note to the office.
2. Dr. Kerison inquired if there was a special form or protocol to follow if someone wanted to request funds for a special event from the PTSO. Mr. True indicated that we have nothing formal in place. It was agreed that requests will be considered on an “as needed basis”. There is also a “Principals Fund” that Mr. True has available to assist with special requests. PTSO does budget some PTSO funds for the “Principal’s Fund”.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 6:00 PM at the BRAMS Library

Motion to adjourn was made at 7:20 p.m. and was passed unanimously.