PTO Minutes

November 6, 2019

Attendance- Mary Virginia Mandell, Amy Moore, Ashley Seligson, Sumner Rives, Stephanie Brown, Bethy Allen, Garland Darden, Hill Weathers, Kitty Brown (present via phone)

Principal Ashley McCombs and Assistant Principal Brannon Aaron came to meeting at 12:45

Mary Virginia called the meeting to order

President- Mary Virginia Mandell

-Updated the board on discussions regarding the calendar committee meeting at the BOE for the school calendar year of 2021-2022. Discussion was mainly involved around Columbus Day/ E-Days/Start days.

-6th Grade meetings with Joan Short and Kelly Holbert were held with each person in charge of individual 6th grade events regarding budget etc.

-Donation of candy made to Hayes Elementary from extra Boo Bash material.

-Holiday gift cards will be given to MBE staff members at December meeting. Classroom teacher gifts cards are given directly from money collected to Room Mothers. All other staff, administrative gifts are given by PTO and total over $7,500. Stephen Faust was kind enough to wave transaction fee for all faculty gift cards.

Finances-Kate Mather

-A lump sum check of $60,000.00 made directly to MBE was voted on and discussed based on -Lancer Sponsor fundraising success and current financial standing. This will bring the current fiscal year total to $120,000.00 payable directly to MBE for the administration to use at their discretion.

-Mary Virginia made a motion to give $60,000.00 to MBE. Ashley Seligson seconded the motion. The motion passed with full support.

Events-Ashley Seligson and Sumner Rives

-Boo Bash was a success even though the weather did not cooperate. Events were moved to under the Cambridge carpool pickup area and the gym. Positive feedback was received from teachers, parents, and students. Keeping the location for next year due to any unexpected weather was recommended. Samford student teachers were an enormous help during the event and during clean up. A volunteer check-in table was an idea for next year’s Boo Bash to manage volunteers efficiently.

President- Mary Virginia Mandell

-Boo Bash-commended Caroline Henderson and Erica Neel on a job well done

-Mary Virginia took boxes of goodies to Haunted House volunteers (Ginger Busby and Nikki Still).

-Prior to today’s meeting, Mary Virginia and Ashley McCombs discussed how we could show love to our teachers throughout the year. Lora Rethorford (Hospitality Committee Chair) and Mary Virginia have spear-headed those times throughout the year. For example, surprise happies distributed at Thanksgiving and at Valentines (coffees and cookies)

-MBE is hosting School Board District and All In (Elementary) this month

-Small tokens of appreciation will be given and refreshments served during those

-Veterans’ Day Event (5th Grade)

-was an outstanding and moving event

-Mary Virginia took pictures for the yearbook and asked us to encourage friends to download the yearbook app—send pics to Casey Moore (chair)

PTO President Mary Virginia Mandell presented a $60,000 check to MBE Principal Ashley McCombs and Assistant Principal Brannon Aaron

-Mary Virginia thanked Bethy Allen (Lancer Sponsor Campaign Chair) and her team for an incredible campaign

-Number of givers significantly increased from the previous year

-Bethy Allen suggested that Ashley McCombs write a letter around Christmas— telling some ways the money will be used

-Ashley and Brannon mentioned three year projects can now be two year projects

-Mr. Aaron thanked the PTO for previous contributions: examples--flexible seating for students, painting hallways, etc.

-Mary Virginia said some teachers expressed an interest in awning for Heathermoor carpool

-Ashley McCombs mentioned an addition of a “historian”/ historian groups –since 90th Birthday recently --to prepare for 100th Birthday

Events-Ashley Seligson

-Expressions Art Competition is in January, and Cami Myers is the chair. She has attended district meetings and said other schools offer incentives for participation.

-She has a $400 budget and has asked for a $675 budget—an increase for incentives such as donuts, popcorn, ice cream party for class who submits the most. Judges’ payment is $125.

-Kitty Brown made a motion to approve the increased budget from $400 to $675. Bethy Allen seconded. The motion was passed with full support.

Secretary-Garland Darden

-Made motion to approve the October 9th minutes which were approved. Relayed that five thank you notes from the October meeting were written and mailed for 90th Birthday Celebration and Sportswear Sale.

-Mary Virginia asked that several thank you notes be written related to Boo Bash:

- Caroline Henderson and Erica Neel for serving as Boo Bash Chairs

- Nikki Still and Ginger Busby for their work on the Haunted House

-Samford supervising professor to recognize the hard work of the Samford interns

-List of grade level fall socials (dates/locations) was passed around

-Lindsey Druhan provided parent email addresses list for 2nd Grade and is doing for 4th Grade, which was a huge help to the reps.

Volunteers-Emily Heide

-Chair of Holiday Program, Lauren Adams, has been working on this event.

-Budget of $500 for program and Mr. Piltz was appreciative for this budget

-Book Fair Nov 19th and 21st

Technology-Stephanie Brown

-Directories are distributed-huge thanks to Lindsey Druhan for her work

-Encourage friends about resources: Membership Toolkit, Website, Yearbook app,

President elect-Hill Weathers

-In December, the Nominations Committee meets (Ashley McCombs , Brannon Aaron, Suzanne Perkins, two moms who will not be on board). Hill asked that board members email her if interested in serving next year.

President Mary Virginia closed the meeting.

The next meeting is December 4th at 1:30.