

## **PTO General Meeting**

Date: August 22, 2018

Location: BMES Conference Room

17 in attendance (Listed at bottom)

### **6:02 pm: Meeting Called to Order by Jessica Spencer-**

- a. Brief introductions of everyone in attendance

### **6:05 pm: Special Guest – CCUSD Superintendent Dr. Debbi Burdick**

- a. Front Office Safety Measures – BMES is the prototype for the new measures that will be implemented at all the schools
  - i. Question: Any additional security measures planned for the school? *Not at this time. Rather than more physical security, district has asked for more counselors to cover social/emotional side to help identify students in crisis.*
- b. November Elections for CTED (Career and Technical Education District) measure on the ballot
  - i. Partnering with East Valley Technical Institute ( <http://www.evit.com/> ) to establish a program at the former Desert Arroyo campus.
  - ii. If passes, program scheduled to start 2019-2020 school year.
  - iii. Question: would using the Desert Arroyo building preclude it from reopening as a middle school again? *No, it would not preclude Desert Arroyo from reopening as a middle school in the future again, if needed.*

### **6:31 pm: Principals Report- Matt Owsley**

- a. Social/Emotional Learning:
  - i. Studies show a foundation for safety is an SEL curriculum. BMES is using the “Second Step” program, <http://www.secondstep.org/> (one of top 5 programs available)
  - ii. After two years of grant writing we were finally able to get BMES coverage for this in all classes
  - iii. Curriculum helps students to learn how to deal with bullies and other relational problems so parent don’t need to “do it for them”
  - iv. Staff will get initial training in September.
  - v. Question: is there a parental component? A way to involve parents? *Matt will contact the counselors to look into parent partnerships.*
  - vi. Question: any plans for mentorship programs? *Some talk but no set plans at this time.*
- b. Project-Based Learning:
  - i. PTO purchased multiple years of a Project Based Learning (PBL) program for the school to use
  - ii. Trying to prepare kids to do more than pass a standardized merit test, trying also to prepare them for life!
  - iii. Question: will this be available for all grades? *Yes.*
- c. General Q&A:
  - i. Matt addressed the parking/drive-up/pick-up issues we experienced in the first days of school.
  - ii. Michael Marcinko reminded us that entering through the exit lane may result in a ticket for reckless driving and a fine of up to \$750. Drive carefully!

### **7:25 pm: Treasurers Report: Maren Youngberg**

- a. Operating Budget = \$40,000
  - i. Right now only at \$23,000
  - ii. Looking for Booster-athon and Direct Donations as well as other fundraising events to help meet budget
  - iii. Spending Report: security devices that slide over the door closer arms (to secure doors in event of active shooter situations) were purchased for all classrooms; PBL software purchases with multi-year license.
  - iv. If you have any questions for concerns regarding budget and spending, contact Maren.
  - v. Reminders:
    - 1. Drama and dance programs and teachers are fully funded by the PTO, not the district.
    - 2. We have largely 1:1 technology/student ratio because of PTO fundraising efforts.

**7:30 pm- Old Business- Jessica Spencer**

- a. Back-to-School Kits: parent response was higher this year, but teachers not 100% pleased with items that came in kits quality of some items were low or not quite as requested; will work with vendors on this in future
- b. Boo-Hoo/Yahoo Hospitality Event: successful event as always

**7:36 pm- New Business- Jessica Spencer**

- a. Back-to-School Minute-to-Win-It Event: good number of families RSVPd; a big thank you to teachers who have signed up to help
- b. Booster-athon Fun Run: we will be doing this event again just like last year; pep rallies will be held earlier in the week with the Glow Run on Friday September 7<sup>th</sup>. We have a goal of \$25,000 profits for this year.
- c. Spirit Night at Rubios: first Spirit Night of the school year; 2-8 pm is the current schedule but Maren will be working to have that bumped up to start at Noon.
- d. Community Partnerships: Reconnect your Fry's VIP card to BMES PTO (even if it says yours is still active) so that it will roll over into the current payment cycle.
- e. Grandparents Breakfast: free event coming up for Grandparents
- f. First Responders Breakfast: Sign-up Genius will go out for food donations; will be putting together baskets for responders to take back to offices/stations
- g. Fall Festival: will be held earlier this year (September) so that can accommodate Trunk-or-Treat event in October; flyer contest forms went out to teachers this week.
- h. Oktoberfest at Harold's Corral: support a local business as you support BMES
- i. Trunk-or-Treat: Its back!

**8:00 pm Meeting Adjourned by Jessica Spencer**

**Meeting Attendees:**

Elise Snyder	Matt Owsley	Jenifer Maximoff
Stefni Esquibel	Danielle Zilly	Sherri Wales
Jessica Spencer	Maya Johnson	Debbie Burdick
Maren Youngberg	Jen Rinkes	Ashley Flowers
Michael Marcinko	Janet Taylor	Joann Paradies
Alissa Letendre	Carla Leneis	

