**Bryant PTSA meeting minutes**

**October 12, 2021**

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| **Time** | **Item** | **Owner** |
|  7:00 | **Welcome to October’s General Membership Meeting!** | President |
| 7:05 | **Approval of June 2021 Meeting Minutes*** Motioned by Ann Sonnen, seconded by Maureen Bhak
* Approved as submitted
 | President / Vice President |
| 7:10 | **Expectations for General Membership Meetings*** Quorum check (10 members of the PTSA present)
* Standing Rules changes; Membership Vote
* Proposed changes – membership fees increasing from $12 to $15
	+ *The membership service fees for this PTSA shall be fifteen ($15.00) per person when paid online by credit card, plus applicable fees when paid online.*
	+ *When paid for by check, membership service fees shall be fifteen dollars ($15.00).*
	+ *Sponsoring the membership fees of a teacher or staff member by another member shall be charged fifteen dollars ($15.00) per teacher/staff member sponsored plus applicable fees when paid online.*
* To see the Standing Rules in Complete, go to: https://www.bryantschool.org/bryant-ptsa-standing-rules/
* Bryant PTSA Home > Bryant PTSA > PTSA Standing Rules
* Motioned by Dave Chapman, seconded by Ann Sonnen.
* 16 voted yes, revisions to Bryant PTSA standing rules are approved.
 | President |
| 7:15 | **Principal’s Update*** Our half time social worker Georgette Carter is staffed and in the building. They are tasked with interfacing with students who are experiencing anxiety or having trouble with friend groups or social interactions. Parents will receive a consent form to sign before their child is contacted. In the building M, T and every other Wednesday.
* Fully staffed for playground supervision.
* Still looking for part-time covid site supervisor. ($25/hr, 20 hrs per week)
* Social Emotional Learning (SEL) – themed by month
* Enrollment numbers have changed enough that we were given a new 4th grade teacher – Laurie Macy. She has been here for a week, but only started teaching on Monday 10/11. Transition is going well.
* Questions from the group
	+ Are there any updates on when/where we could volunteer other than at lunchtime? The precautions were originally set to be in place through October but have not received notification that those would be changing. Some volunteers in the library, but need more volunteers needed at lunchtime. Link to volunteer sign ups - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090a4aaea922a7f94-october>
	+ Artist in residence are they, or other volunteers, in the building? No, none of that is currently happening.
	+ How many families are choosing to have their children eat outside? What is the plan for days when eating outside is a logistical challenge? The majority of K is inside, vast majority of 1st grade is outside, 2-5th grades are generally half and half. We are going to be very careful when we’re bringing children inside. Anytime they are able to play outside for recess then they will eat outside. Only where it is not safe to play outside (too rainy/icy) will they not be able to eat outside and we will open up the gym to allow for more space. All children please bring jackets because it’s cold with windows/doors open during lunch.
	+ Just for clarification, can students who do not have an IEP or 405 see our new social worker? Yes, definitely. Just need parental permission to do so.
 | Principal Marshall, Assistant Principal Snookal |
| 7:25 | **Laser Updates*** Not any major updates - Still have a waitlist, still practicing covid safety policies. Waiting to expand and admit more students but priority is being as safe as we can. Hopeful that in the next month or two would be able to take more students off of the waitlist.
* Have you been able to fill your parent board? Haven’t heard for sure, but will likely find out next week. If you are interested please reach out to Bryant@laserchildcare.org
 | Robby Saunders – Director of Laser @ Bryant |
| 7:30 | **PTSA 101: What does our PTSA do?*** Strong history of volunteerism at Bryant - Bryant PTSA was incorporated over 35 years ago in 1982. In 2018-2019 we estimated that 662 community members volunteered time at Bryant, for a total of 16,323 hours
* Bryant Elementary PTSA is incorporated as a Washington state 501(c)3 nonprofit organization affiliated with National PTA, Washington State PTA Region 6 and Seattle Council PTSA.  (As a reminder: PTSA stands for Parent Teacher Student Association)
* Our Mission: Unite our community to support the well-being of every student at Bryant
* Our PTSA works to
	+ cultivate an inclusive community and sense of belonging at Bryant;
	+ advocate for the well-being and education of all children in our community;
	+ eradicate the structural racism that marginalizes our Black, indigenous and people of color communities;
	+ connect families with teachers, staff and administrators in support of our students’ social, emotional, and academic development; and
	+ enrich the learning environment through volunteerism and sustainable funding in alignment with PTSA membership priorities.
* Our Goals
	+ Each Bryant student is thriving academically, physically, socially and emotionally
	+ Every member of our Bryant community feels welcome and engaged in our school
	+ Our school has the support of our community to achieve its goals for continuous improvement
* When you volunteer at Bryant, donate funds or become a member of our PTSA, you’re directly supporting these goals.
* What does it mean to be a member of PTSA?  Going online and joining PTSA as a paid member adds your voice to our advocacy effort.  When PTSA leaders meet with legislative officials they are able to say that they represent 300 or more members of the Bryant Elementary PTSA (at the local level) or 4 million members at the National level.  Membership also gives you a voice in matters such as our PTSA leadership vote, budget approval, and standing rules for how we operate our organization.  With your membership fee you’re supporting PTA scholarships and programs.
* So, what does having a PTSA mean for Bryant?  Essentially, the PTSA provides the foundational support for families to get involved at the school.  As a PTA we’re able to provide a body of leadership that partners with Bryant’s administration and faculty. PTA helps us amplify our voice as child advocates. As a nonprofit entity, we’re able to provide the Treasury, Fundraising and Insurance required to operate as a community organization. And last, but not least, we’re able to convene as a community and coordinate the hundreds of volunteers who give so generously of their time.
* Based on this foundation, our community is able to lead numerous committees, clubs, and celebrations during the year.  (Examples: Communications team, Equity Committee, Community Service, Chess Club, and the Ice Cream Social) They put on Field day, science fairs, and the annual Play.  They chaperone field trips and the 5th grade trip to outdoor school. They support multiple Arts and Enrichment programs at Bryant.  The annual Writers’ Celebration and Blast carnival in the spring.  And the ever-popular Bike to Bryant and Walktober events. These are just some of the many programs that are supported by the PTSA.
* 2021-22 PTSA Budget - $227,003 expenses in 2021-2022, approved in June 2021 General Membership meeting. 70.5% of our budget goes towards staffing (reading/math, library/technology, music, tutoring, recess supervision, etc)
* Fundraising: Our budget is funded primarily by our Annual Campaign with add’l support from special events, such as online auction and the carnival.
* Board of Directors
	+ Executive Officers – elected at the Spring General Membership meeting
	+ Board Chairpersons – appointed at the Spring General Membership meeting.
	+ Any PTSA member can be nominated for a Board position.  Our monthly meetings are open to the public.  Attendance is mandatory for board members and optional for everyone else.  The Board standing rules, budget and meeting schedule are available at BryantSchool.org under the Bryant PTSA heading.
* Membership
	+ Volunteers - thank you!
	+ Advocacy actions - thank you again!
	+ Your voice in the process:
		- Tell us what’s on your mind:  Contact us directly & participate in surveys
		- PTSA Standing Rules (Oct)
		- PTSA Budget (June)
		- PTSA Executive officers elections (June)
		- Volunteer and staff recognition (June)
		- Approval of funding non-budgeted expenses of $5,000 or larger
 | Ann Sonnen |
| 7:40 | **Teacher’s Update*** Classrooms have been finishing assessments
* Kids doing well on playgrounds and in cohorts, biggest challenges in social skills
 | Ms Johnson, Ms Holley |
| 7:50 | **Treasury Updates:*** Monthly update summary
	+ Continued activity with School Supplies.
	+ Quickbooks subscription payment this month.
	+ Renewed Gambling license (so that we can sell raffle tickets)
	+ Need to renew Insurance Coverage.
* Key Details
	+ Income: Interest of $13 brings us to: $43
	+ Expenses:
		- Membership Related fees bring us to for membership income: $225.
		- Quickbooks subscription: $2139
		- Classroom supplies: $362
		- Families in Need: $300
		- Staff appreciation: $275
		- Gambling license: $65
		- Bank fees: $7 brings us to $88
* Restricted Accounts:
	+ School Supplies: $6240 cash in and $309 out with previous $12,063 brings total to date $17994
	+ AC: $640 this month along with $2665 previous brings total-to-date $3305.
	+ Walk/Bike to school: $2000 cash in minus $335 in expenses brings total to date: $1665
* Insurance dues
	+ Insurance expires December 1. Coverage by Association Insurance Management, Inc. Paid $495 for 2020-21. Budgeted $660 for 2021-22
	+ Policy Includes:
		- General Liability: $2,000,000, fire damage: $50,000 (any one fire)
		- Extended Medical Payment: $50,000 (for one person)
		- D&O (Directors and Officers Liability): $1,000,000
		- Fidelity Bond (Crime): $50,000
	+ Treasurers to consider alternative insurance bids, consider whether coverage is sufficient and vote on final decision in November meeting.
 | Terry, Raphe & Carly |
| 7:55 | **Annual Campaign*** Two week campaign starts Friday this week, donate online at BryantSchool.org
* This is our only direct appeal for funds, raises 75% of all Bryant PTSA expenses
* These are funds for next school year
* Is there a recommended or average contribution for the Annual Campaign for members that can be noted? Recommended donation is $550
 | Jennifer DuHamel and Sarah Fenzl |
| 8:05 | **Advocacy Committee Update*** WA PTA Legislative Assembly Oct 23/24
	+ This is where new resolutions and amendments are determined, sets the priorities for WA PTA
	+ Special Meeting: Discussion of WA PTA Resolutions - Week of Oct 17th
	+ More Info: WA PTA: Resolutions: <https://www.wastatepta.org/focus-areas/advocacy/resolutions/>
* SPS School Levy
	+ February 2022 - School Levy expected on the ballot to replace expiring Educational Programs and Operations Levy (EP&O) and Buildings, Technology, and Academics/Athletics V Capital Levy ([BTA](https://www.seattleschools.org/glossary/bta/) V)
	+ Inviting SPS staff to Nov/Dec Bryant PTSA meeting
	+ Bring forward recommendation for Bryant PTSA to endorse school levy Dec/Jan
	+ Engagement to support get out the vote for Feb 2022 ballot
* PTSAs are allowed to advocate for ballot measures, but not individual candidates
 | José & Carrie |
| 8:20 | **General Q&A*** We fund the recess monitor position because we used to have a hard time finding volunteers, would we want to consider funding the lunch volunteer positions in the same way? It would make a big difference for our administrator, their time could be better spent with others in this role. Would need to look at costs before proposing to the building. Would need to review our ability to use unallocated funds in this way. Kathy to take next steps on this action.
* Saw notice that school was not going to do Halloween prowl – the parade worked well last year, is something similar going to happen this year? Can PTSA help organize this? Carrie Lee willing to help. Potential equity concerns to consider.
* About PTSA volunteer opportunities -- I submitted Google Forms about 2 weeks ago, but have not heard back. Should I submit it again? Any issues with volunteering reach out to volunteer@bryantschool.org
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| 8:48 | **Adjourn*** Raphe moved to adjourn, Dave seconded.
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**PTSA Slides**









