

**BRMES First Quarter PTA Membership Meeting:**  
**September 14th, 2023 at 8:15am at BRMES room #263**

## **Agenda**

**Meeting started: 8:18 am.**

**Welcome and THANK YOU to our new and returning members!**

**Introduction of Board Members:**

- **President:** Anna Kinney
- **Vice President:** Elise Bitton
- **Treasurer:** Kristina Paulson
- **Secretary:** Beth Wadlow

**Members attending and introductions:**

**Michelle Blank, Terri Soelberg, Kristina Paulson, Karina Tacuna, David Greenwood, Elise Bitton, Beth Wadlow, Anna Kinney, Jenn Gray, Katie Marthens, Leigh Brown, Jodi Currie, Katy Jones, Brooke Caldwell, Susie Rubner, Shannon Milner, Valerie Berg, Tara Sanders and Lisa Westendorf.**

- **PTA Business**

- Review and accept budget - Kristina
- Kristina mentions we will set the budget after we are finished with T & H.
  - \$1000 outstanding for yearbooks; waiting for a bill.
  - We are starting with a little higher balance than past years.
- PTA memberships - currently we have 24 members (26 total in 2022-23) - Anna
  - Members can join until November 1st. Link available on website.  
[www.brmespta.com](http://www.brmespta.com)
  - Question about grandparents joining; anyone can join!
  - Fees help pay for things we do each year as well as cover fees and membership with Idaho PTA. We would not be able to be an official PTA if we didn't have dues with Idaho PTA. Cut off for membership is due to the Idaho PTA cut off date.

- **Yearbook - Katy**

- 2022-2023 yearbook was distributed last year, and a motion was passed at the 4th Quarter Meeting in 4/2023 to proceed with making a 2023-2024 yearbook.
- Katy Jones to chair Yearbook Committee
- Seeking 3-4 volunteers to join committee
- Questions or suggestions

- Katy indicates we need 3-4 volunteers. We also need to sign a contract for the current year. Katy proposes we allow online payment only for ease of accepting payments. A deposit is required for contract commitment. Jostens is the company we are using.
- Approximately 250 yearbooks were ordered last year.
- Anna motions to approve ordering through Jostens. Brooke seconds. All approve.
- Katy will collect names of those interested in participating. Those on the committee will be announced at our next meeting. Some participants will be used for distributing and some will be utilized for creating the yearbook.

- **Upcoming Events:**

- **Tortoise and Hare Walk/Jog-a-Thon - Anna**
  - Only PTA fundraising event of the year. Anna gives an overview of the event.
  - Prizes this year:
    - Each student raising over \$20 - BRMES Bracelet
    - Most Laps per Class (One Boy, One Girl) - Special Treat and BRMES Hat
    - Class raising the Most Funds per Grade - Special Treat and Extra Recess
    - Class raising the Most Funds School-Wide - Pizza Party
    - Tie-dyed shirts for Every Student and Staff if over \$10,000 total is raised
      - Val gives an overview of the reason behind the request and the event. The goal is to get each student an item. Suggested we call it a surprise gift!
      - Membership vote to approve prize shirts. Tabled this until we know costs of items.
      - Date: Wednesday, Sept. 27th (~10am-2pm)
      - Discussion about the benefit of being able to pay via paypal & venmo. Suggested to add an option to indicate child's name.
  - Volunteers needed for bracelet distribution
  - Sign-up is in e-mail, on [www.brmespta.com](http://www.brmespta.com), or linked in Val's September newsletter
  - Questions or suggestions:
    - Suggestion to limit younger kids time a bit.
    - Reminder: Great chance to see your kiddo and meet new parents, all are welcome. Don't have to sign up to volunteer to be there.
- **T-shirt contest - Beth**
  - Theme - "Retro"
  - Contest details go home with students the week of October 9th
  - Submissions due Wednesday, October 25th
  - Watch for online voting via email October 26th/27th.
  - Vote for the winning design at the next meeting.
    - **Thursday, November 2nd, 8:15am @ BRMES room #263**
  - Questions or suggestions:
    - Winner receives a complimentary t-shirt. The whole school has the opportunity to purchase as well.

- Information will be sent home with students.
- Holiday Craft Fair
  - Date Thursday, November 30th, 2023, @ 3:30-5PM
  - Mandi Tyler will be coordinating volunteers
  - Questions or suggestions
    - Clarified that the items being sold are made by the kids. Items for cents to dollars in cost.

#### Other business:

- **Swag Store** - Elise
  - Purchase BRMES spirit gear
  - QR code/link on website and social media, flyers to be sent home with students, and text reminder coming next week.
  - Store closes for orders on September 22th, 2023.
  - Questions or suggestions
    - Sweatshirt, t-shirts, baseball caps, beanies. A fun way to show school spirit, especially for spirit Fridays. The check out process has options to save for a gift if you'd like to purchase a surprise for your child. We have streamlined the ordering process this year.
    - There is not a minimum order amount we must meet. .
    - Extended the date to Sept 30.
    - Elise will add an additional couple of hat/shirt options.
- **Budget Committee** - Kristina
  - Chair: Kristina, Treasurer
  - Seeking 3-4 volunteers to join the committee, which would help set budget and evaluate specific funding requests from staff, etc.
  - Questions or suggestions
    - Val reviews how it has been done in the past. These requests are above and beyond basic classroom budget needs. Typical requests include things such as paint night, incubator, fruit snacks for field trips, pizza for chess night.
    - Kristina passed around a sheet for those interested in being on the committee. Those on the committee will be announced at our next meeting.

#### Spring Semester Events: **Anna tabled for later meetings.**

- **Spring Color Fling/Field Day** - Last week of school
  - In coordination with Sean Jefferies
  - Questions or suggestions
- **1st Day School Supplies** - Pre-ordered school supplies

- Questions or suggestions
- **Q & A with Principal Berg**
  - Val reviews the biggest concerns last year with parents, was the parking lot. Lots of changes have taken place for the better this year.
  - She often receives inquiries about our disciplinary system. She explained pieces of their approach. And discussed how they use lots of “give backs” for basic disciplinary issues. We focus on Eagle Eyes at school to reward good behavior. Would love support at home praising kiddos for small success at school.
  - She tries to limit texts from office to no more than two a week. That does not include individual classrooms so we might receive more than that.
  - Overall, great first start to the school year!
- Meeting adjourned: 9:25.

Notes taken by Beth Wadlow, PTA Secretary. 9/14/2023