

# Byrom PSO General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** November 18, 2024    **Time:** 6:00 pm    **Location:** Byrom Library

## Attendees:

Brooke Auvil-Young, Eileen Brandt, Kelley Cameron, Kailina Don, Krystle Gard, Morgan Larwick, Mariah Mattoon, Nancy Petit, Eliza Turner, Kimberly Vande Voorde, Jesse Vassar

## Approval of the Minutes:

- Eliza Turner approves. Kelley Cameron seconds.

## Principal Report:

- Testing went great. The kids are doing good. Everyone is excited for the holidays. Ms. Bowker has been a great added bonus as dean of students.

## Treasurer Report:

- We are working on a more detailed report of budget and current spend.
- Unfortunately, we can't easily remove petty cash and scrip from the budget in an easy way but will work on it for next report.

## Volunteer Reports:

- Volunteer Coordinator: no update.
- Art Lit:
  - Second training is done, and the project is underway. It is the Art-to-Remember project and we want to make sure they are really solid so it is a good fundraiser. The money raised helps to supplement the Art Lit funds. Orders arrive in time for Mother's Day.
- Assemblies:
  - Wednesday is the first big one by Alex the Zaniac. The theme is art and literacy. The STEM one will be in spring. Cost is \$1700 for the two assemblies.
- Backpack Program:
  - Received a week's worth of food during the food drive. We are low on fruit. Kelley is going to do a big buy later this week.
- Book Fair:
  - The Barnes and Noble Bookfair raised \$380. It is being delivered as a gift card that will go to Heather Roberts. Prizes from the drawing have been distributed.
  - Scholastic Book Fair is schedule for April 21-25.
- Family Nights:
  - Blazer Night: Family night was November 12. Feedback was positive. Kids that went had fun.

- STEM Night: Slated for March.
- Stuffy Night: This event has been pushed to January 22 or 28. The plan is for kids to bring stuffies with them to school. We will have labels for them. Kids leave them at their desks at the end of the day. We will pick various stuffies for the “activities” with Ms. B, Ms. Arnold and Ms. Roberts. We will have some extra stuffies on hand for kids that might not be able to bring one so that every kid will have a stuffy.
- Fifth Grade Party and Legacy Project:
  - Planning is underway. Two out of 4 projects have been approved so far. Dates are under review for the event space.
- Garden:
  - We are waiting for them to officially dissolve. Krystle might have someone to take over the maintenance.
- Fundraisers:
  - Pies: March. Scheduled for delivery on Pi(e) Day.
  - Hanging Baskets: Waiting to hear if we get this in January.
- Halloween Bash/Trunk or Treat:
  - Event went really. Volunteers need to submit receipts if they have any.
- Jog-a-Thon:
  - The event raised about \$24K. We need to evaluate if we want to use the same donation system for Read-A-Thon. The high fees on Boosterthon are the biggest concern. Allaire is giving a report to Kelley on the financial breakdown.
  - Chairs are working on a bad weather contingency plan for next year.
- Lobby Wall:
  - Tree is going up soon. Also, Kailina will include something for Winter Wonderland, perhaps something that looks like yarn art a star or snowman.
- Missoula:
  - Scheduled for April 21-26. Play is Alice in Wonderland. Will be asking soon if people have a room for the Missoula staff to stay in.
- OBOB: Program is underway.
- Read-a-Thon:
  - New target start date is April 30.
  - Biggest issue right now is deciding on what donation engine to use.
- Redemption: no update.
- Restaurant Nights:
  - Dave’s Hot Chicken night on Nov. 20. This is the last fundraiser of 2024. The Bobcat will be there at 6:30 p.m. Flyers doing home tomorrow.
  - Trying to make the Hot wing challenge work. Timing makes it hard to do it before the event. If we can’t do it before, maybe we can do it after at the spirit assembly. If we can’t do it this year, it could be saved for next year.
- Room Parents: no update.
- Staff Appreciation/Hospitality:
  - Teachers got their ticket sign up for the Blazer game. There have been 15 responses so far. Ticket signups will be cut off by Dec 20. We will raffle off remaining tickets.

- Webmaster: no update.
- Winter Wonderland:
  - Event is scheduled for Dec 20. Volunteer sign-ups will be sent out soon.

## **New Business**

- Bingo Night:
  - There is some interest in a bingo night from parents. Maybe it could be scheduled for January? Would anyone want to run it? Or maybe a Valentines bingo night? A friendship bingo night, with a friendship bracelet station?
- Family Social:
  - A family social could possibly be done with a bingo night, or closer to end of the school year. The board did discuss having a family event with an auction but it is probably not good timing after the read-a-thon and with the bond coming up. Also, the PSO did not mention an auction earlier in communications about this year's fundraising.
- May Bond Measure:
  - There is a proposed \$421 million dollar bond for the May ballot for major school facilities improvements/facelifts. Byrom is one of the schools on the list. Fowler Middle School will be completely rebuilt. It is going to the school board in a couple of weeks. The cost would be \$1 per thousand of tax value per household.
- Parent Square:
  - We are only group that gets to test the PSO version of Parent Square, because we raised our concerns. We will begin testing with a small group of parents in mid-April and then adopt it for next year if successful. Parents will have to opt-in to the Byrom PSO Parent Square. The PSO doesn't have to pay licensing. Some users have trouble accessing Parent Square on the phone app so we need to address access concerns.
- Whole School Yearbook:
  - School administration has expressed some interest in having a whole school yearbook. Individuals would have to buy yearbook. The price is not yet known. There is concern over inequity and it being an expense to families that was not communicated before. The PSO has \$3K for teacher grants and that could go to yearbooks and Mr. Coleman could supplement the remainder. The PSO could vote in December on the expenditure. A decision needs to be made quickly since it could impact the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade yearbook plan.
- Pajama Night:
  - About 90 kids and parents attended, mostly from the younger grades. The library got \$250 worth of books on gratitude. The next one is in February but no theme yet.
- Movie night:
  - The licensing the PSO bought last year was excessive. Plus, the district has a filter that blocks the streaming. A better plan for a movie night is to buy the DVD and play it. It is ok because there is no charge for admission.

Next General Meeting December 16, 2024 at 6:00pm, Byrom Library