

BOSTON HARBOR PTA

October 16, 2015

- 1.0 Welcome and Introductions - The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm in the Boston Harbor School Library by Angela Harmeier. Refer to sign-in sheet for attendance. All officers present except Tracie O'Brien.
- 2.0 Presentation by Kendra Belson- PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention Strategies) Coordinator for OSD. Kendra is also the BHS school psychologist. She reviewed the theory behind PBIS. Impact of behavior on student performance: Single most common reason students are removed from classroom is behavior. This results in disengagement. There is correlation as early as 3rd grade of poor behavior and graduation rates.

More than 30% of teachers leave due to student behavior. Poor behavior can consume more than 50% of teacher/admin time.

The achievement gap is highly correlated in research to the discipline gap. Bottom line for teachers and OSD is to have students be successful academically. With the direct correlation to behavior, a focus on behavior intervention is needed.

Punishment, including exclusion, suspension, and expulsion, doesn't work (research supports this). So, what do we do? PBIS – “Defined as a framework for enhancing the adoption and implementation of the continuum of evidence-based interventions to achieve academically and behaviorally important outcomes for all students.”

Kendra showed a graphic (triangle) showing a RTI Model illustrating interventions for tier 1, 2, and 3 for both academic and behavioral systems. Tier 1 interventions are school-wide and benefit all. Tier two are more specialized and focused on specific behaviors. Tier three addresses significant individual behavior needs.

Essential Features of PBIS: A school leadership team, school-wide expectations, teach the expectation, provide feedback (reinforcement) when students meet expectations, system for handling problem behaviors (office vs. staff handled), data driven decisions, family awareness and involvement.

Benefits of PBIS: Promote positive climate, reduce problem behavior, increase student engagement, improve academic performance, improve family involvement.

At Boston Harbor, our PBIS is centered around the Bear Basics. Mrs. Brotherton elaborated on the use of the Bear Basics, Bear Paw Tickets, Bear Paw Assemblies and the Bear Paw Store as components of the BHS PBIS system. She reiterated that our kids are extremely engaged with the Bear Basics and the activities of our PBIS meet most kids behavior needs at a Tier 1 level.

- 3.0 Secretary's Report - The September minutes were presented by Angela Harmeier. Minutes were accepted as written.
- 4.0 President's Report – November meeting will be on November 18 at 9:20 a.m. in the music/computer room.
- 5.0 Treasurer's Report- Betty presented the report. Only change was the addition of Mr. Hargrove to the teacher allotments.

- 6.0 Membership Report – Heather Myers reported approximate new PTA members at 83. Friday December 11th is a planned Family Movie Night at the Fire Station. Polar Express theme with jammies, hot cocoa, and cookies.
- 7.0 Communication Report – Beth Wilson reported on the new website. It's live and people are accessing it. Members can let her know if there are missing items or suggestions for changes. Facebook page is engaging more community members and we are encouraging people to go here for information to help us reduce the number of emails from the school and PTA. Directory is close to completion.
- 8.0 Principal's Report – Mrs. Brotherton presented upcoming dates in a document including events through December. BHS Teachers will be collaborating with other schools this Friday for their in-service. Be Kind is the first focus for the Bear Paw Assembly. Suggested viewing is the Angela Lee Duckworth video on GRIT to help parents understand the focus of the school wide use of the word as it relates to students.
- 9.0 Grant Requests –No grant requests submitted for consideration.

10.0 Committee Reports

- 10.1 Halloween Carnival – Scheduled for October 24 at 5:30 p.m. Volunteers are being logged online on Sign-Up Genius. Band is booked - Yodelady. Invitation going home tomorrow. Games and food being organized by group of co-chairs.
- 10.2 Fall Fundraiser – Equal Exchange –November 2 - 20. Catalog (40% back) and online (25% back) orders. Look for more information coming home soon.
- 10.3 Teacher Appreciation – Brad is coordinating monthly events.
- 10.4 Book Fair – Orca on track for October 27 – 30.
- 10.5 – Sportswear – Small order with complications related to order size. Membership proposed refunding the \$75 “profit check” since the vendor did not actually make any profit, instead losing money on our order. Motion made by Kate Scriven, second by Nicole Lockwood. Passed unanimously.

11.0 New Business

10.1 – WSPTA Standing Rules of Affiliation (SOA) – Angela presented the new contract addressing the changes to the standing rules for the state as well as our BHS PTA standing rules. Changes to our standing rules to include annual signing of the contract. Kate Scriven moved to add the paragraph to amend the standing rules. Nicole Lockwood seconded. Approved by unanimous vote.

10.2 – Annie Hankins presented information about the reduction of our librarian from .5 FTE to .3 FTE. She has presented a letter to the school board and shared her concern for the school community as a whole and for student learning. Annie has written a letter and encourages others to follow suit. The next school board meeting is being held on October 19. A contingent of parent advocates is planning to attend. PTA cannot coordinate efforts, but can help to get information out.

Letters can be sent to OSD Board and the Superintendent.

Next Meeting November 18, 2015

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 7:38.