



BCE Parents Club Meeting

April 24, 2025 (Hybrid) 6:00pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome

Roxann called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm

2. In attendance:

3. Michele , Elizabeth Egbert, Mia Dube, Michele Childs, Melissa Chavez, Maura Callahan, Jason A, plus attendees in person

4. Approval of Agenda: Agenda was circulated online. Jason asked if there was any objection to it.

Ms. Egbert asks if voting is for all the items.

No objection to approval.

5. [Approval of March Minutes](#)

Jason asked if minutes approval should be postponed to May meeting so meeting time should not be used. No objection to postponing. It will be on the May agenda

6. Principal Report:

Gerri reports that the school is diving into testing. Teacher Appreciation is coming up and teachers are excited about it. Open house is next week which is a huge event. There is a kids performance and the teachers have been getting the rooms ready. Talent show is next week on Tuesday. Book Fair is next week. Lots of events are coming up. Volunteers lunch is coming up as well. Roxann thanks her for her report.

7. President Report

a. Upcoming Elections

Roxann talks about the upcoming elections. Every year, on a non-profit board, you vote for new board members. Elections are open to BCE Family members. No extensive

experience is needed. In the past there have been hours associated with positions but its more of what you make of it. You don't have to be a member to

be a volunteer. A lot of parents and community members help out with community events.

Jason asked for a vote for all elections to either be together in May or have the President's election in this meeting. It is not according to bylaws and he just wants to record the response.

Few of attendees are asking about the confusion about the voting based on the flyers out in public. Micah chimes in to not wait into September. Jason suggests that given the confusion, let's not hold the President election in this meeting but wait till May. Everyone agrees that May would be an ideal time to elect all positions. Jake motions to elect all officers in May. Passed with unanimous consent.

Available Positions:

Floor is open for discussion about the open positions.

Micah suggests that anyone who wants to run for a certain office to talk to the current person in office so they know what the actual responsibilities of office.

Question was asked about how many positions are open? Roxann responds that every position needs to be voted on every year. Micah responds saying that there are co-presidents, vp or secretary. Jason responds that there is no term limit, there can also be midterm elections.

Roxann reports that the next meeting might be on May 8th. Everyone chimes in that that would be a favorable date. 22nd is the next best.

22nd was motioned by Sarah K, seconded by Dawn H.

Jaime's question is raised again - who all are running again. It does help to have a slate of officers nominated by the incumbent board but any one can nominate themselves.

Dawn asked since the next election is on the 22nd, will we have promotional material available and posted. Everyone agreed to it.

8. Committee Reports

a. Gala Auction

Roxann thanks all the staff and volunteers. There was an overwhelming amount of donations.

There is a second chance auction for those who could not make it. We are planning to showcase the kids' art to the kids next year as well. She thanks the art volunteers.

Ms. Thomsen talks about the teachers and staff left out from sponsorship and how it didn't feel right. She suggests that the Gala committee keep that in mind for the next year.

Roxann responds that there was an option to sponsor teachers. But the Gala is charged per head so we have to have a more accurate count. There was a teacher who volunteered to get a count of teachers who wanted to go, then we had a group of families work together to help fundraise together for their ticket. and that was not accurate.

Michele chimed in, apologizing to staff and teachers who were left out. She explained that the effort was put in but it should also be fair so the families who sponsored a certain teacher don't lose money when the teachers decide to not attend

Roxann and Jason explain that it was a complicated event to plan. Gerri chimes in to say that if we sponsor, we sponsor all or none and that it is difficult to fund over 80 staff and teachers.

Attendee suggested that we put an option for donation but Roxann explained that there is an option for the donation and for sponsoring a staff or teacher. Attendee suggested that there be another solution to sponsor a certain teacher. Micah suggests that we need to find a better approach. Roxann reports that 18 tickets were sponsored.

b. Readathon:

Readthon was extended this year to 3 weeks to coincide with Read Across America. We had more participation and more donations. Maura encouraged the registered kids constantly. Hoping to increase participation next year. Attendees praise Maura's efforts. Gerri also applauds Maura for all her efforts this year. 19516 minutes of reading this year vs ~16000 minutes last year. There will be a celebration for Ms. Herrell's class.

Pie to the face on May 30th: Ms. Blalock, Ms. Jaime, Ms. Thomsen and Ms. Wilson have volunteered!

c. Family Art Night

Michele and Sarah give a report on Family Art Night: over 160 attendants (120 last year). There was a lady who demonstrated ukelele music, there was string story telling, watercolor, hiphop and everyone seemed to have enjoyed it. Gerri says it was the best one ever - Everyone applauds! Michele reports that Melissa and Ms. Egbert helped a lot as well.

d. Open House

Everyone who performs will be there at 5. Ms. Anderson and her have been working with the kids on the BCE song, will be at 5. Dinner throughout; Garden, art show from 5:30 onwards. Classrooms are open from 5:30-6:30. Dawn thanks all teachers and volunteers for seed planting. Sale of plants is in front of room 22. All funds go to oncoming 5th graders. All food sales will go to 5th grade science camp.

Ms. Thomsen said that although we are locked for October for Science Camp but we are still on the waitlist for April and March. You have to put dates from Fall, Winter and Spring. We got our 9th choice this year. Hopefully we will end with a Spring date.

Anyone with a 4th grader should reach out to Roxann to do Carnival fundraising.

e. Carnival

On Friday, May 16th 4-8pm. There will be a crew that builds the games and spends the night on campus. Gerri comments that the games are supposed to be not crowded for fire safety so they are spread out on the tennis court. We will have vendors.

f. Bookfair

Maura thanks the volunteers. She reports all the library money comes from BF. Last fall we profited \$4k. Spring is a little slower. Roxann provided clarity on gross vs net fundraising amounts and explained as a board we need to be consistent on which we decide to use for announcing fundraising amounts raised. Maura reports about the gross money earned. Melissa asks more people to volunteer! Maura thanks everyone for their support.

9. Vote

4th grade pool party and 5th grade dance were forgotten from the agenda and they were added.

Micah mentions that there needs to be a Treasurer's report. She also suggested that the non-emergency items be tabled for the next board to decide on.

Gerri says they are in the process of planning 25-26 and the items on the agenda are non-negotiable because they are being funded at the moment. The site budget is already allocated 95%, and so the things need to be voted on or it can't be projected on the budget.

Micah responds that we have about \$175k and outstanding liabilities are about \$86k. The agenda items will be a total of ~\$67k and if everything is approved, the incumbent board will have ~\$20K left.

Gerri goes over the items she put on:

- Ibu, 3 sessions will cost ~\$25K - slightly higher since we added a 6 week session.
- Principal's Fund line item: About \$3-\$5K every year. Summer books, Bounce houses, bagels, popsicles, conflict manager's pizza, candy for teachers, teacher's leis.

Transparency: Gerri purchase, turns in receipts. It all goes to school based activities and teacher's morale.

- Smore: newsletter generator is \$1050. It is also shared by PC. PC newsletter is also based on it.
- Running club: Smore and RC is paid by PC to district.
- Staff room: Line item in restricted fund about \$3k.
- 4th Grade/49ers: Ms. Jaime paid it so reimburse
- 4th grade pool party: at YMCA, more this year because of lifeguards
- **2025 Science Camp:** Ms. Thomson steps in. She introduces herself and mentions she has organized SC in 9 years. She says she has never had the need to speak to PC so far and PC has had no issues with fundraising or payment or check collection. It is not PC role to decide who gets the scholarship discounts. She delineated the process of scholarships. She met with Roxann and Micah and there were objections that were never a problem in the past. They were also concerned about fundraising without approval. It all seemed bizarre and then a meeting had to be called with the superintendent to mediate. 4 members voted to approve funds and 3 didn't and then after the meeting, lies were spread about the principal and teachers that they picked favorites. This was a terrible experience and she would not work with PC anymore and would like the district to handle SC in the future.

Micah pointed out that there was miscommunication on both ends and PC was not involved in any of it and no correct numbers were provided. There was a heated discourse between Micah and Ms. Thomsen on the same lines.

Ms. Thomsen reported that it is a lie that families were not informed about available scholarships.

Attendee asked what was different about this year for there to be a dispute. It was mentioned that it's because Micah is a lawyer. Dawn responds that in the past, CPAs were handling it and they were never worried about the issues. Jason reports that all board members voted to pay, not just 3. There were concerns, some not resolved, but the vote was unanimous.

Roxann remarks that she has tried to improve the process over the years.

Micah and Jason comment that maybe the scholarship was not the correct word to use.

Roxann comments that this was a new board and knowledge transfer is important going forward. Gerri comments that she is there to use as a resource and should be consulted when people are unclear. Gerri says that we need not earmark ~\$31k for science camp and should just shore up when we get the bill. There has never been more than \$5k needed for SC funds.

Micah clarified that we have to be prepared for every student to go for free. Melissa claimed that its a wonderful community and no one would take advantage of the school system. Ms. Thomsen says she sends out a very specific email to families to let them know that they can get help and Gerri works with Ms. Thomsen to ensure that the students that need the assistance, get it.

- Jason asks if some of the agenda items for voting can be tabled. SC was postponed. Jake motioned to voting on every line item one by one except SC, was seconded.
 - a. Carnival Tickets: Wristbands are the same as last year (\$25 beforehand, \$30 at door). If there are issues, Roxann asks people to speak up and Micah has brought out the idea of suggested donation at the table. Ms. Dennis is going to reach out to all teachers to get a list of kids who need financial assistance. There is a plan to have an hour of sensory friendly activities before the carnival and those kids would get to go first in line.

Jake asks there to be info available in advance.

Roxann asked for \$5k to be approved. Attendee asks for numbers on how much Carnival made last year. Micah reports it to be \$15,674. Roxann proposes that part of pie and dunking go to 4th grade funding.

Unanimously approved.

- b. Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week: \$35/head for 65 people at scopazzi. Roxann is requesting \$3500 for all the spending. Attendees have suggestions for signing up for donations. **Unanimously approved.**
- c. Drumming: **Unanimously approved.**
- d. Principal Fund: Micah has an objection to approving it without discussion. Everyone joins the discussion.

There is a call to vote. there needs to be a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to end debate and discussion. One vote opposed to ending debate. So we vote on the actual item - one vote against. **Item approved.**

- e. 2025 Science Camp : **discussion postponed**
- f. Smore: \$1050 - **Unanimously approved**
- g. Running Club: \$550 - **Unanimously approved**

- h. 4th Grade/49ers: coming from restricted funds - **unanimously approved**
- i. Staff Room: **already approved**
- j. 4th grade pool party: coming from restricted funds - **unanimously approved**
- k. 5th grade Dance: \$950 - **unanimously approved.**

10. New Business

- a. Grade Level Family Dinner Nights - never discussed
- b. Parent Advocacy:

Sarah B introduces Abigail Vargas from the Rainbow Resource in SC. It caters to neurodiverse kids. Abigail offered BCE an opportunity to take a training focused on what neurodiversity or disability is and how to interact with individuals affected by them. There are dialogue focused presentations that we can choose from. We can talk about inclusive classrooms, family concerns, how to talk to kids about disabilities and ND. It's a very knowledgeable org. Abigail thanks us for our time and signs off.

11. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. Thank you!

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