

Benjamin Franklin Middle School Home and School Association

Meeting Minutes – March 15, 2023

Attendees:

Anna Salerno, Claudia Fortunato, Maria Penava, Sarah Traband, Devletsah Ozcan, Kristin Massey, Angela Atehortua, Jahae Kim

Welcome:

The meeting was called to order at 7:16 PM. The BFHSA Co-President Anna Salerno welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Agenda Items:

- **Principal's Report- Mr. Orsini**
 - Assistant principal Lauren Carr came back from Quebec with Eight Grade French class. Experience was cultural and a huge success.
 - Mr. Wu is planning the Eighth Grade trip to Boston, itinerary being tidied up
 - Parents should look out for email regarding Spirit Week so that students do not feel excluded
- **Student Council Report**
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Treasury balance is healthy at over \$18,000
 - HSA spent \$4,650 on speakers this year for assemblies and enrichment
 - Thank you to parents for various fund raising efforts

- **President's Report**

- Federated Report

- There are 40 candidates for the Superintendent position
- We are looking to shortlist the candidates to 9 with an offer going out as of April
- Wizards game raised \$29,900 which will continue next year
- HSA seeks reimbursement of \$2,000 from the Wizards game last year, and the proceeds can be used for an event in May

- Nominating Committee for 23-24

The HAS Nominating Committee is working on the slate of candidates for the BFHSA for 2023-24. Please reach out to Kate Freeborn, Kelly Nakasone, Angela Lee or Kelly Ashford if you are interested in volunteering. HSA is looking to fill chair positions for next year, for example, Eighth Grade chair responsible for overseeing all eighth grade events.

- STEaM Day report

STEaM Day was a huge success. About 20 parents volunteered. The luncheon for the parents were covered by HSA & breakfast by Claudia Fortunato.

- Spring Merchandise sale

The store can be accessed through the link provided on E-News. Items such as a tie, pajamas & vest are on sale until next week.

- Yankee Tickets

Yankee Tickets are on sale till March 21st. The game is on April 22nd at 1:05 PM at Yankee Stadium as the Yankees play the Toronto Blue Jays. The ticket price is \$80 each and include admission, a hot dog, drink and a Yankee bag. This is a family event, transportation is not included. Kids cannot attend alone.

- Collection for Turkey/Syria

The BF Student Council continues to collect new school and art supplies to be shipped and distributed to Syrian and Turkish school children.

- DEI Report

The DEI Committee is working on a Spring Food Truck Festival with fun activities in May. Stay tuned for more information. The DEI Committee has been providing a list of suggested cultural events in the NY/NJ area every month.

- Tim Shoemaker Assembly

- Event was held on March 14th
- Message was focused on best practices for middle school students using social media and insight into algorithms used by companies such as Snapchat and Instagram

- **New Business**

- 8th Grade parent meeting -April 26th

- Anna Salerno and Claudia Fortunato to hold a Q&A session for Eighth Grade parents regarding the transition from middle school to high school

- BF Players – Show scheduled for May 4 and 5. Volunteers needed

- Book Fair -May 8- May 12, Kristen Massey to co-chair with Anna Salerno.

- Melissa Straub Parent Assembly – May 9. HSA targeting Fifth Graders transitioning to Middle School who may also begin using mobile devices and social media. Melissa to review impacts of digital footprints.

- 5th Grade parent meeting – May 15

Rising 6th Grade parent meeting. Short introduction of the HSA and volunteer opportunities will be shared.

- Wellness Day – May 19

Students will spend the day learning about good sleep and nutrition habits and how both of those important concepts affect mental health. The HSA is sponsoring assemblies and a snack table for the health fair. We are seeking for parent vendors to be a part of the in-school health fair and to help sponsor a table and give information at the health fair.

- Cailin Bracken: 6th and 7th graders
- Snack Table

- **Open Discussion**

The meeting was concluded at 8:17 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jahae Kim, Board Secretary