

**Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA Meeting Minutes**  
**September 13, 2018- 6:30 PM**  
**Louisa Boren STEM Library**

**I. Called to order at 6:35 by President Melinda Luke-White with 46 present**

\*Introductions by grade band: lots of primary grade parents, fewer middle school

**II. Principal's Update**

1. The PTA sponsored a daylong workshop about Project Based Learning (PBL) for our teachers prior to the school year beginning

-Consensus on perceptions, definitions, expectations of PBL

-Allowed time for teachers to work together and support each other

-Looked at components that go into PBL: student voice and choice, key elements of PBL, time to plan by grade band. Discussed sharing process of PBL more in the future, rather than just results.

2. Focus School Plan- building on commitment to equity: main focus on special education, ELL (English as a Learning Language), and African-American students

-Grade 4-8 Math performance (4/5 math short frequent assessments- Rethink mathematics)

-Grade K-3 Focus on Literacy

-Challenge of teaching different abilities simultaneously – lots of kids missing basic skills- bigger challenge in math skills than literacy- how to be more effective? Moving forward while doing catch up work as needed

-Indicator of success? Per state, it's the ESPA. For us, several things, ongoing discussion: some indicators are built into the curriculum

3. RULER- social and emotional curriculum has 3-year implementation plan

-2 teacher/ parents gave positive feedback about the program

4. Equity Committee has been working around structural racism and culturally responsive teaching (CRT and the Brain book- how does it affect brain processing?) Goal is to focus sequence across time

5. Center for Collaborative Learning- content based curriculum is difficult to use with PBL

6. Middle school math curriculum is new- Envision Math (SPS rollout that LB STEM needs to try – cannot ask for waiver in the first year)/ (K5 still using Eureka math- sent some staff to training)

**III. 6/13 meeting minutes: motioned (Margo), seconded (Shawna), approved by vote**

**IV. Nominating committee- Rebecca Garcia (7/1-6/30 fiscal year)**

President- Melinda Luke-White

VP- Charles Cutter

Treasurer- Margo Bergman

Co- Treasurer- Julianna Rook

Secretary- Tina Clere

BLT K-2- Alison Li

BLT 3-5 and SPED- Rebecca Garcia

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BLT middle school- Leah LaCivita

Nominating committee has confirmed that all nominees meet the requirements at WSPTA Uniform bylaws, Article 5, Section 6

No nominations from the floor, so nominations are closed  
Motioned (Chris), seconded (Robin), approved

**V. Executive Committee Reports**

Financial Budget Review, Margo Bergman, Treasurer

1. Discussed PTA mission/ values because we spend our money to support these values  
-Enrichment, PBL, enhance STEM learning, school/teacher/ staff support, community building, help create a safe place
2. \$185,000 budget for the year
3. Thoughtful process, open budget meetings, budget presented monthly with updates
4. Financial review committee needs 2 people- meets twice a year to review records
5. Question about sharing funds with other schools that don't have much fundraising  
-Ways we help are more direct: loaning auction software and know-how, sharing nights out with other schools (funds go directly to them)

**VI. Committee and Coordinator Reports**

Fundraising update, Robin Graham, fundraising chair

3 main types of fundraisers: small things like Amazon Smile/ Thriftway/ Box tops; bigger things like Chinook/ Dine-outs (one coming up at Mod Pizza for Islandwood), Direct Give in Oct/ Nov (goal of \$37K); Auction 3/23 (discussion of ticket prices and accessibility- time, talent, money, give what you can). Goal is to raise \$90,000

Advocacy update, Alicia Every, Advocacy Chair

1. Schools should be fully funded, this fundraising/ budget shouldn't be necessary
2. Big picture of advocating to the legislature
3. Announced a meeting 10/9 – Support for and by families of color – Advocacy committee is not directly involved but can share info
4. Variety of jobs available on committee

Enrichment update, Ashlee Lyman, Enrichment Chair

1. Registration opens tomorrow for 26 available classes
2. Scholarships available (eligibility based on free/ reduced lunches and other extenuating circumstances)

**VII. New business, Questions, Comments**

BEX V Update- Randy White (Building in Excellence)

1. One of the 3 capital levies that SPS uses to fund schools

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2. 6-year cycle levies- this is #5 for BEX
3. People are to get involved through letter writing, etc. (Flip Herndon, Leslie Harris, Eden Mack, and Richard Best at SPS), via emailing Melinda. We can provide a template for an email advocating for our needs.
4. STEM was left out of BEX 1-4 because of history as an interim school. 2009 and 2014 Ming analyses identified \$12M in needs for our building.
5. District is considering a few plans. We are left out of 1A, but 1B gives us a boiler.
6. WS Blog just had an informative article about BEX V. There are levy community meetings coming up, open to community.

Guidance counselor will present with the Navos intern at an upcoming meeting

Meeting adjourned at 8:05

Respectfully submitted by Tina Clere, PTA Secretary