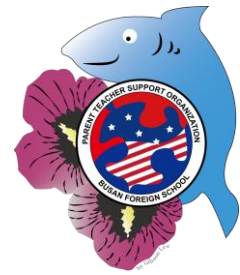


March 3, 2017



## PTSO Minutes - 5th meeting of the 2016/2017 school year

Thank you to Brian Armstrong for providing us with salted caramel tea, sugared coffee, and rice crispy treats...*[they were almost as good as my Nana makes].*

*[After sitting for some moments in awkward silence], Suzi Suchyta called our meeting at order at 11:35.*

### Introductions (Suzi):

- ❖ Suzi Suchyta (PTSO Chair) *[It should be noted that in this moment, when faced with the reality that the “Co” had been removed from the word “Chair,” Suzi finally came to terms with the fact that she does not now have, nor will ever need, a second individual to head this organization. You go girl!]*
- ❖ Vanessa Allepuz (Treasurer)
- ❖ Sarah Sánchez Armstrong (Secretary)
- ❖ Brian Armstrong (Concessions Coordinator and Social Media)
- ❖ We also welcomed into our presence:
  - Iain MacFarlane (BFS Principal) and
  - Lauren Harvey (BFS Vice Principal)

### Old Business:

- ❖ **Thank You** to all who helped with Valentine's BINGO! It was a huge success.
  - Wrangling, feeding, and entertaining a room packed with sugar-fed Elementary students is no small feat.
- ❖ Brian and Vanessa gave us a KISAC League Tournament update:
  - STUCO student involvement (for this particular event) was neither high, nor reliable. Thus, it was decided not to donate funds to the club at this time.
  - The question was raised, as to who runs the STUCO organizations.
    - **Answer:** Angela Suk - MS STUCO and Alam Virgen - HS STUCO
    - Brian noted that he already spoke to Mrs. Suk about the low student

involvement for this event.

❖ Update on PTSO funding (Vanessa):

- It is important for everyone (parents and teachers) to have a say in the investment of the PTSO funds.
  - As of today, March 3rd, the majority of those who have voted are teachers, which by no fault of their own, have swayed the votes in their favor.
  - Vanessa brought a tablet so that all those in attendance could vote before leaving.
  - *If YOU (yes, I'm talking to YOU) haven't voted, please take a moment to [follow this link](#) and rank the items therein from 10 (most desirable) to 1 (least desirable)*
- We then “prematurely” addressed the following items which are NEW requests for PTSO funding :
  - “Breakfast with a Book” (Tuesday, March 14th) and
  - The purchasing of 20 books for the library
    - *[Before either request was discussed too in depth, I iterated that these items had in fact been scheduled farther down on today's agenda, (at which point all parties in attendance turned their agendas over to see that we had in fact “jumped the gun”). Thus, we tabled this discussion until said time.]*

❖ School Update Discussion by Mr. MacFarlane and Mrs. Harvey:

- **NEW course sign-up process** for MS & HS students for the coming 2017/2018 school year:
  - ◆ Due to the expanding programs of BFS (such as Spanish *[my personal favorite]*, Coding, and a variety of AP options), it has become very important for students to sign-up early in order to best design these courses to meet the needs of the populations they will serve.
  - ◆ Mr. MacFarlane noted that ALL secondary students and parents would be receiving a very detailed email *[Which should have arrived by now! Check your inboxes people!]* outlining graduation requirements, course offerings, and the NEW course registration process.
  - ◆ On **March 8th**, the school will host a **Course Fair** during advisory, giving all MS & HS students the opportunity to speak to and fire questions at teachers about the courses they will be offering.

◆ On **March 15th** during advisory, students will begin to request their course choices, according to the following specifications:

- Students will place 1st and 2nd choice requests
  - Middle School students will have 2 choices
  - As grade levels increase, required courses decrease, and choice options increase
- The number of students/course is limited
- The school will review and approve all schedules for all students and cannot guarantee that all students will receive their 1st choices

◆ Mr. MacFarlane then opened up the floor for questions.

- Will outgoing students be required to register for courses?
- It was then clarified that outgoing students will not be required to complete this process.

→ **Discussion of safety environment at the school:**

◆ We want to make sure that every student is safe at the school

◆ The school takes accidents very seriously

◆ Accident process review:

- Is the individual student safe and cared for?
- How are all students supervised?
- What does our communication process look like (between all parties involved)?
- How can all of these areas be improved?

→ **Parent Teacher Conference scheduling feedback:**

◆ PTCs are coming up at the end of Quarter 3.

◆ Traditionally these have been held on Friday evening and Saturday day.

◆ In the fall we held PTC on a Thursday evening and all day Friday.

◆ Are evenings better than a Saturday morning option?

- The two choices on the table are (approximately) as follow:

- (Evenings) Thursday 5-8pm and Friday 12-8pm

- vs

- (Days) Friday 9am-5pm and Saturday 9am-2pm

- ◆ The audience (*perhaps a bit confused*) remained largely silent.
- ◆ However, while no official vote was conducted, evenings seemed more popular than days (as noted by 5 parties in attendance).
- ◆ Susy noted that the online sign-up process was a royal pain...
  - Especially with multiple children
  - She requested that room numbers be listed next to teacher names on the online sign-up form.
- ◆ Mrs. Hillary Dysart then offered the teachers' perspective.
  - We are willing to work with parents if you cannot make the allotted times. All you need to do is self-advocate.
  - Communication between the parties is paramount.
- ◆ BFS recognizes areas where growth is needed in order to improve these meetings for all parties involved.
- ◆ Admin and NHS students will be at the door to welcome and greet parents.

### Priority Planning:

- **Egg Hunt** (Early Childhood and Elementary only): *Thursday, April 13th*
  - This event is labor intensive. Below is a list of needs for the event:
    - Donation of goods to stuff eggs.
    - People (preferably parents) to stuff the eggs with the donated goods.
    - People (preferably parents) to put eggs out on the field in 2 shifts
      - 3 people will be needed on 1 field
      - 2 people will be needed on the 2nd field
  - An email, outlining the above items, will need to be sent to Early Childhood and Elementary parents.
    - Suzi has several prizes (including rose face masks, Trump socks, and Obama socks) for parents who are willing to coordinate.

*[Vanessa then spoke up to elect two parents that were in attendance, at which point Suzi also gifted them rose face masks]*

- Bae (Hani's mom)
- JeeUn (Un-sn's mom)

#### ❖ Family Day / End of School Party on Saturday, May 20th:

➤ Explanation of the chosen date:

- SAT exam- June 3rd
- Prom - May 12th
- Memorial Day - May 27th
- The only conflict on May 20th is that Model UN will be traveling to Seoul

*[If you help with the event, you can have the aforementioned Obama and Trump socks]*

➤ Event time: 9am-1pm (approximately)

➤ Inside:

- The **PTSO will host a Garage Sale in the gym, but we need a Garage Sale Coordinator** to complete these tasks:
  - **Compose an email** with the following information.
    - ◆ Anyone can have a table at the event, free of charge, in order to sell their own goods.
    - ◆ PTSO will be selling used uniforms for 5,000 won/item
    - ◆ PTSO politely requests donations be made to the PTSO from any proceeds raised.
  - **In addition** to the email, the **Garage Sale Coordinator will be in charge of physically taping the gym** (based off a template) in order to make the spaces for the sale.
  - The Coordinator will also **coordinate with the main office** to set up tables on the morning of the event.

➤ Outside:

- **We need PTSO members to come up with 3 student & parent appropriate games/activities for the day.**
- There will be a Bouncy House
  - Can we get teachers to help supervise?
    - ◆ Sign-up in 2 hour shifts

◆ Lauren Harvey volunteered to recruit and coordinate teachers volunteers

- NHS / STUCO have activities like games and facepainting
- PTSO purchases the food and Oscar takes charge of the preparation and serving.
  - We sell a food combo.
  - We need to start stocking food (like chips and cookies) for the combos.
    - ◆ In order to understand food quantities needed, the PTSO will pre-sell tickets for the event.
    - ◆ We will also have a booth to sell tickets on the day of.
    - ◆ **NEW Wristband Idea:** Pay a flat fee and receive a wristband to have full access to everything (food and games).
- Will there be music? *[You cannot host a large party without music]*
  - Susy volunteered to ask Sharky's if we can borrow their speakers so that we can have music.

*[I then clarified that by "I" she meant herself, as she has the habit of saying "I" when she actually means PTSO, i.e. someone other than herself. She confirmed that this time she was using the pronoun properly in order to refer to herself.]*

*[12:21 pm... running behind schedule]*

- ❖ Tuesday, March 7: MS Volleyball Finals
  - Brian will skip the soup kitchen to coordinate the concessions.
  - He will coordinate with Mrs. Suk to get STUCO member volunteers to work this all-day event
  - **Susy needs to go to Home Plus on Monday for buns**
- ❖ **Saturday, March 11:** ES Basketball Divisional (will not be hosted at BFS but increased parent and student participation is desired).
  - BFS admin and STUCO are working on logistics to make this possible.
    - This will include:
      - Meeting at BFS.
      - Facepainting.
      - Learning cheers.
      - Then boarding a bus in route to event in order to show our school spirit.

❖ **Thursday, May 18: MS Basketball Finals**

**NEW funding request:**

→ “Breakfast with a Book” (Tuesday, March 14th):

◆ Event needs an estimated 100,000 - 150,000krw

◆ HS Student Council serves and cooks the food

- Funding was approved.
- We need to contact Mr. Virgen and Mrs. Suk in order to inform them that they have been approved.

→ Purchase 20 books for the library: approx 150,000 - 200,000 krw

- All books were approved.

★ We now have a **suggestion box** in the school lobby.

- While the box is available, you are always welcome, and highly encouraged, to make an appointment with Mr. MacFarlane or Mrs. Harvey to express your comments, questions, concerns.

★ **Reminders:**

- **Spring Break** is March 25th - April 2nd
- **Talent Show** is Friday, April 21st from 5pm-6pm in the BFS gym
  - Encourage your children to enter the talent show
  - PTSO should participate in a flash mob for the talent show  
*[Seriously folks, how cool would that be?]*

*[Suzi noted that coordinating a flash mob in matching Mickey Mouse jammies could bring joy to certain students' hearts]*

★ **Next Meeting is: Friday, April 7th @ 11:30 in the auditorium**

★ Vanessa then proceeded to pass around her tablet in order to allow all parents to take the PTSO funding survey

**Meeting adjourned @ 12:40, [which I cannot confirm because I had to leave]**