

Barnsley PTA
General Membership Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2016

PRESIDENT: Lisa Shine, PTA President, gave an introduction to the PTA, invited meeting attendees to become official members, discussed volunteer opportunities/benefits, and mentioned events sponsored by the PTA – such as the Spooktacular Halloween party and International Night.

- A Vice President of programs is still needed on the PTA board.
- Fundraising: No student sales are used to raise funds, but the PTA asks that parents contribute to “buy nothing” fundraiser and contribute directly.
- Lisa invited parents to continue to attend PTA meetings to stay involved with the school and stop by the volunteer tables that had been set up around the room. She asked that parents please sign up to be a part of the school directory as well and to “like” the Barnsley PTA Facebook page to get updates on events.
- Introductions of all current PTA board members.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT: Mr. Andrew Winter, Principal, welcomed attendees and said that it had been a great start to the school year. 714 students are currently enrolled. Mr. Winter also introduced April Longest, the new Assistant Principal. April introduced herself and stressed that her door is always open. She is excited to have a great year.

Mr. Winter’s updates included:

- October 10th is visitation day. Parents are invited to visit their childrens’ classes from 9:30 until about 11:30.
- There’s a new volunteer policy: All prospective volunteers must complete an online training module in order to volunteer. Once complete, a confirmation email is sent. Please submit a copy of this email by either printing it or forwarding it to the Barnsley main office.
- Interim reports went home today. We are halfway through the first marking period.
- There are three options for setting the school calendar next year. The decision will be made by the Board of Education by the end of December. Their next meeting is December 9th and they will make the decision based on policies and procedures, but it will also be conditional on what happens with the governor. Options include:
 - Start Tuesday after Labor Day, finish June 15th. Meets requirements, but shaves other days and allows for only three snow days.
 - Start Tuesday after Labor Day, finish June 20th. Allows for four snow days.
 - Monday before Labor Day, finish June 14th.

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- The next edition of the Barnsley Bulletin is coming soon.
- There is a GT program informational meeting on Monday, October 10th, at Northwest High School at 7:00. Another meeting will take place on October 20th at Northwood High School, also at 7:00. There is a hard deadline of November 4th for submitting applications.

- Logistics of the new addition to the school were discussed at a meeting last week. A three-story addition will be built, with twelve rooms and a dual-purpose room. The main office will be bumped out and its current location repurposed. The difficulty is: How do you do all of this and provide a safe environment for kids and staff?
 - The original plan was to dig during the first summer, build the multipurpose room out, and have a makeshift entry.
 - An alternative possibility is moving to North Lake for one year in order to avoid construction, contractors, difficulties with practicing fire drills during construction, etc.
 - No matter what we do in 2017 and 2018, it was going to be a disruption – whether we stay here or move offsite. The superintendent will make a final recommendation on Oct. 27th. They will have a hearing and then make a final decision on November 21st.
 - The North Lake facility is small. There are only 20 classrooms in the building. Half of the school would be in portables. If the plan to move becomes official, Mr. Winter will discuss class placement with staff and PTA. He wants to get everyone’s input, but it will not be a vote. One promise is that kindergarten classes will be located inside the building. There is no gym at the school, but Mr. Winter is already problem-solving this issue with Mr. Stevens. Will still have all the technology – Promethean boards, etc. Class sizes would not change and all special programs would remain.
 - Construction will take one year - including two summers, so in fact a little longer than a year. Would break ground in January and start moving in equipment. The funds are already appropriated. The project will begin, so it is just a question if it takes place while we’re here or while we’re at another school.

- The new mascot is official – we are the Barnsley Bears.

TREASURER: Lindsey Heeszal said that the book fair report will be coming soon. She offered to answer any questions about the budget, which was passed out to all meeting attendees. No questions were raised.

The meeting was adjourned.