

**Manning Elementary
Parent Council Meeting
01/08/2019**

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 8th, 2019, 6:30-8:00 pm (meeting #5 of school year)

In Attendance:

- Ethan d'Ablemont-Burnes (aka Mr. DB)
 - Parent Council Co-chairs: Beth Schwartzapfel, Malikka Williams, Amanda Lapham
 - Other executive committee members present: Gabe Shapiro (treasurer), Hez Norton (school site council rep), Ian Rea (social media chair), Aimee Rives (citywide parent council rep), Lisa Connor (fundraiser committee chair)
 - Other parents – thanks to everyone for coming!
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Principal's Update

- Budget
- Expansion
 - Nate Cooter and co from central office (Al Taylor), some folks from enrollment and someone from facilities doing an evaluation of space
 - Good to be on radar
 - Small glimmer of hope
 - Architect considering taking down walls and different configurations – was a promise made as result of Murphy meeting
 - Manning was ID'd as being a physically expandable school
 - We could add a wing while other schools could not
 - Not going to happen for September
 - DB thinks it's possible to have 5th & 6th on first floor and some more shifting maybe eliminating secondary classrooms (homerooms?). Maybe \$100k to remove some walls (School Fund will pay)
 - Other issue is impact on other BPS schools, primarily BTU
 - Only 12 kids come from Manning, waitlist for 6th grade is 8? (Jane will send numbers to DB)
 - Maybe Mendel and others (without inclusion populations) that would want to feed into BTU
 - Also Rozzie schools who have to feed into Irving would prefer BTU and Irving is closing

- BTU's school community is not really our problem
- DB asked how does school quality fit into their efforts?
- DB pressed on the urgency for 2019 – If there is a chance to get it next year, we need to get it. New superintendent next year, maybe new mayor eventually
- Jane: another argument is that budgeting has started, but seems pretty resolvable – Haley did it after getting approval last week of April
- Where will six graders go?
 - Looking at private schools
 - Other schools
- Much bigger changes necessary to get up to 8th grade – we'd probably need to merge with another school
 - Talking to Lyon about two single strands feeding into inclusion high school
- For JP meeting. –
 - 5:45 to 8:30 at English High, Thursday, Jan 8
 - (Jane) Punk Post – fancy beautiful cards
 - We can all go online and they mail a nice looking card'
 - We can send them to a BPS official
 - Tagline "Let's Talk About Sixth" – a full parody version of "Let's Talk About Sex" has been written and can be performed.
 - We can follow this up with social media
 - **Everyone is in favor of empowering Jane to do this. She will send a plan to Parent Council leadership and Tonya**
 - We might not need as huge a show of force, but we should send a bunch of people there
 - Everyone there should be updated about the meeting from today
 - Will there be media?
 - Bay State Banner
 - Focus messaging on fairness of our kids going from Manning's great social / emotional program to sub separate classroom in another school.
 - A lot of kids who need our services don't even find us until 2nd grade (during the year)
- Jane would like to partner with Harvard-Kent parent council
 - Big housing / ELL population
 - Also want to expand on-site
 - Also have been told 4-5 years that they could expand but are now getting the same message as Manning
 - **Everyone is in favor of Jane reaching out to H-K Parent council to collaborate**

Events / Calendar Update

- Craft Night: Friday Jan 11th. (Amanda is organizing)
- Bingo Night: February 8, 2019 (Paige is organizing)

- Burger Slam: Saturday May 18, 2019 (Erin is organizing)
- Inclusion Night: Some weeknight in January
- YMCA Community Dialogues: 5 Thursdays in March
- Screenagers Film viewing: TBD (Amanda)

Social Media Committee Update (Ian)

- Should we make Parent Council FB group private?
- Should we be promoting publicly?
- Should we be showing pictures of kids?
 - We're not systematically doing this
 - Some parents have posted group shots onto the page (we don't want this)
 - Solutions
 - Could make PC FB page private
 - Admins would have to verify if people who wanted to join were parents
 - Maybe doesn't solve the problem
 - Could say "no posting of pictures of kids" on page
 - Admins would then remove pictures
 - Could say "please do not post pictures of children without permission of parents/guardians"
 - Admins could screen pictures and communicate with posters to confirm permission was given
- Do we need a separate school page and a parent page? Outward / inward?
- Formal proposal
 - Create new private group
 - Keep current FB Page to invite caregivers to new group
 - Lock down posts to only admins
 - Admins need a screening mechanism – maybe coordinate with Ms Cheryl
 - Also put the "please do not post pictures of children without permission of parents/guardians" messaging on new private page

Treasurer's Update (Victoria/Gabe)

- Raised \$14k to date
- The letter didn't let people know to who to make the check out to
 - Website gives clear instructions
- Paypal link is not working
 - This is a known problem and messaging is updated on website
- Parking Lot – starting a google drive to share info and
- Craft night is Friday
 - Pizza from JP House of Pizza OR
 - Pick up from Comellas
- Bingo Night
 - What are goals for turnout?

- What is the budget?
 - \$147 for facilities Fee
 - + Pizza
 - \$50 to JR (janitor)
- “Fun”raiser – goal is to at least break even
- Need to e-mail Cheryl to get permit
- Raffles are popular? Yes 50/50 raffle
- Haven’t connected on 501c3, but it is going to happen
- House parties have been great
- Friday April 28 is Red Sox night!

Other News

The Bulletin Board has been liberated!

- We all agree we can, should and must post notices of upcoming events there
- Someone should own this going forward

Upcoming Calendar Events:

- **Parent Council Meeting:** Tuesday February 12th 6:30-8:00pm @ Manning cafetorium.
- **February Break:** No school, Monday February 18th through Friday Feb 22nd.
- **Bingo Night:** February 8, 2019
- **YMCA Community Dialogues:** 5 Thursdays in March
- **Red Sox Night:** Friday April 28
- **Burger Slam:** Saturday May 18, 2019. Save the date!