

Boylston Elementary School

PTO Membership Meeting

March 4, 2021

Note: This meeting was held virtually.

Agenda:

Item #1: Principal report

Mr. Thompson reported that the BES community reading day was a success. There were many guest readers including Representative McGovern, Sheriff Evangelides, members of the Board of Selectmen, and others. Classes were able to visit an internal website containing all guest reader videos, which allowed them to enjoy more than one book/reader.

Mr. Thompson said that teachers are now eligible for the Covid-19 vaccine in the state of Massachusetts. Around 1/3 of the staff have already received vaccines or have appointments scheduled. Mr. Thompson said securing vaccine appointments is a challenge, and district office staff will help try to find appointments for teachers and staff.

Mr. Thompson said that the school district's full-time in-person reopening plan will be shared and reviewed at the next school committee meeting. There will also be a town hall-style meeting at a later date to answer families' questions related to the reopening.

Item #2: Upcoming PTO elections

Libby Dumais, co-chair, said that PTO elections will take place at the May meeting. Positions up for election are co-chair, currently filled by Jackie Hoffses, and co-treasurer, currently filled by Cindy Mackenzie. Anyone is welcome to run for a one of those positions, and should contact the PTO board.

Item #3: Virtual talent show

Jackie Hoffses, co-chair, asked attendees for feedback regarding a virtual talent show for this year. Last year the talent show was cancelled due to Covid-19 so students emailed videos to Mr. Thompson, who compiled them into one talent show video that was shared in his blog. Several attendees felt that this would be a good option for this year as well, and others felt that it could also be turned into a voluntary fundraising opportunity. The group decided that late spring would be the best timeframe for the virtual talent show, and specific details would be worked out at a later date.

Item #4: Hollyrock assembly update

Libby Dumais, co-chair, said that virtual Hollyrock trivia assemblies are planned for Wednesday, March 31. Each grade will have their own 45-minute Zoom assembly with student participation.

Item #5: Race For Education update

Jackie Hoffses said that the Race For Education committee is working on details for this year's Race For Education. Instead of the usual celebratory concluding event with multiple grade levels together, there will be an outdoor scavenger hunt available for classes to complete on May 21. Remote learners will be welcome to complete the scavenger hunt after school. The committee is working on other details at this time.

Item #6: Other spring fundraising

Jackie Hoffses said that the magazine drive will be cancelled this year instead of rescheduled for the spring.

Libby Dumais asked for feedback regarding a possible team trivia fundraiser. Participants would make a donation to the PTO and receive a link to play the game, with prizes for the winning teams. The group felt that this would be fun activity for families and a possibly a good source of fundraising, and that April would be a good timeframe for the event.

The next meeting will take place virtually on April 1, 2021 at 6:30.

Meeting adjourned 7:15 pm.

Respectfully signed,

Kristin Milton, Secretary