

**Bodkin Elementary PTA
General Meeting Minutes
November 18th, 2015**



- Meeting called to order at 7:00pm by PTA President Michelle Fakeri.

In attendance:

Dan Lahart - A.A.Co. Office of School Operations

Chris Williams - Environmental Manager for AACo Schools

Bill Deaton - A.A.Co. Health Dept

Joe Wright - Regional Supervisor for Maryland Environmental Services (contracted for 20+ years, well operators for Chesapeake Complex)

Justin - Daily plant operator

Information discussed regarding brown water:

- We have 3 schools on one well in our complex

-Our well was completely renovated in 2008 (Filters, pumps, etc)

-Iron is natural, not harmful (aesthetics)

-How system works: Water comes in, oxidized, air scrub, add chlorine, tanks fills, settle for 20 min, then filters out iron that floats to surface. Chlorine, pH, levels tested.

-pH recently dropped but has been resolved.

-Pump repaired Friday, still broken on Monday.

-Testing through Martel laboratories and MES (Md. Environmental Services)

-Disinfection annually - last tested in September 2015

-5 samples required based on school population. These samples have been taken from Health Room sink, kitchen sink, - water fountains have NOT been a tested source.

*Parents raised concern about not testing the fountains that serve as drinking water due distance from well, pipes, soldering, etc.

-Parents raised: 20 years ago bottled water provided for the same concerns, why has this changed, as no improvements have been made to correct the problem?

-Sample offered to guests to drink, declined.

*Well depth - 590 feet

*Type of filters - sand filters

*Radium testing has been done.

*Plan right now is better control of software, looking at the engineer to look at back-flushing schedules, aeration schedules, etc.

Announcements from Ms. Amstutz and Mrs. Nee-Jackson:

-Pilot PARCC assessment results not in yet, article in Gazette distributed. Results in perhaps by January PTA meeting.

-Later start times:

County addressing concerns of early start times, impact on health of adolescence. Early stages, but more information will be coming out regarding this. Concern is bus schedules, etc. Board members seeking feedback. Could start as early as next year. Agreement made by Board last year for the high schools to start at least 30 minutes later next year. Software purchased, consultants hired, but still a lot of work to do.

Schedule change regarding first/last day of school and holiday breaks.

Dates to remember:

-Wednesday, December 9th - Chorus performance

-Tuesday, December 15th - 6:30 for Strings, 7:45 for Band

Treasurers Report:

-See report

Updates on Old Business:

A. New Funding Requests: Water filling station, one main central location. Waiting on more answers from County.

B. Update on track project: Ms. Corey still working on estimates for blacktop track. Current estimate projects \$10,000.00. Aiming for Spring if approved.

C. Mr. Al - NOT retiring!!!!... yet. But we are still taking about doing something special for him because we feel that when he leaves, he will try to slip out quietly. Idea raised of naming the new track after Mr. Al.

New funding requests:

1. Carpet cleaner request by Mr. Bob.

New Business:

Teacher Contracts: Teachers unhappy with terms of contract for past 7 years.

Countywide Work-to-Rule in effect starting last week.

Contact County Executives to support our teachers!!!

Teacher of the Year nomination - Mrs. MAJOR!!!! Waiting to hear back from A.A.Co. Chamber of Commerce for their selection.

Committees:

- **Yearbook** - Send any pictures for 1st day of school, McBodkin Night, Halloween parade. Email to Tina Schneider tbhasin424@Yahoo.com
- **FunRun** - Raised \$24,049.74!
- **Hospitality** - No update.
- **Recycling** - No update.
- **Indoor beautification** - No update.
- **Outdoor Beautification** - Nothing planned yet, weeding being handled.
- **Membership** - Aiming for directories to be printed by the end of the month.
- **Environmental Fair** - April 30th 10:00 - 1:00. To join/volunteer, come Jan 12th 7:00 pm teachers lounge.
- **Math Superstars** - 1st session (5 worksheets) has been wrapped up, but students can still participate by turning in their completed sheets over the next month and a half. Second session will start in January.
- **5th grade promotion** - No update.
- **Box Tops** - In two months, students have sent in 11,200 Boxtops!
- **Labels for Education** - No update.
- **Scholarships** - No update.
- **Cultural Arts** - Comedy end of year confirmed. Artist ready to participate- works with bottle caps.
- **Spirit Wear** - Looking for opportunities to sell remaining shirts. Considering hoodies, sweatshirts, sweatpants. Standard Bodkin line, not theme.
- **Wastefree Wednesday Tshirts**- No update.
- **Technology** - Happy with Chromebooks. Ms. Amstutz receiving emails from students.
- **Mom-Son Night** - Working on choosing a date. Looking at Feb/March
- **Daddy Daughter Dance** - Working on choosing a date.
Looking at Feb 26/March 4
- **Nominations** - Mrs. Major was nominated for Bodkin's Teacher of The Year!
Waiting to hear back from A.A.Co. Chamber of Commerce for their selection.

NOTE: NO MEETING IN DECEMBER.

- Meeting adjourned: 8:15pm.

Jennifer Mace
PTA Secretary