

# MINUTES

## Border Star Montessori General PTA Meeting

Thursday, February 6, 2020 6 p.m.

Time	Item	Owner
5:30 pm	<b>Dinner</b>	Comica
6:00	<b>Call to Order</b> - Called to order at 6:07	Jessica
6:00	<b>Approval of Minutes</b> -	Jessica
6:05	<b>Principal's Report - out w flu</b> Registration concerns Attendance Limiting the spread of germs Other	Mr. Rhyne
6:20	<b>Proposed 63rd St Corridor Improvements (KCMO public works)</b> - PM w public works dept - Genesis was concern from neighborhoods about public safety in the neighborhood. Corridor is from Wornall to The Landing just east of Troost - 63rd St is essentially crumbling and will need to be rebuild in next 5-10 years so this project is how do we work to rebuild it - There was app based survey and then surveys of people at bus stops to see what main areas of concern are - Highest Priority: Pedestrian/ Traffic Calming/Continued Trolley Trail - GET POWERPOINT AND/OR SUMMARIZE FROM HANDOUT I GOT - KCMO.ORG/63RDSTREET - Project estimate is \$35MM (no money for it presently) - Project would probably start at Troost and/or Wornall and move towards Main	Mario Vasquez
6:40	<b>Committee Reports</b>	Chairs
	Book Fair - Started Feb 6. Open Feb 7 8am-6pm, Mon/Tues open after school (3-6), Wed (8-6), Thursday (8-6) - Still need volunteers. Talk to Kate. 20% off purchases if you volunteer. - Some teachers have wish lists in their bins. Encourage teachers to put wish lists in - ~50% of titles are different and a bigger selection of picture books	Kate Tim Julie Dave Molly Comica

- \$650 in sales on first day

#### Spirit Wear

- Sent email to Cherry to see if they can print St Pat's shirts. Still waiting on response. Will print if we have the time. Setup something on website (maybe just order 10 extra of whatever people order to have on hand). Tim will put link on PTA webpage and do an email blast
- At last Exec meeting talked about having shirts ready by the beginning of the year to hand out to kids.
- Last year's orders were problematic getting in in a timely fashion. Talk about having a limited store (1-2 colors, styles) and doing all the orders at once (send form home with kids and send them back with a check and/or paypal). Audience in attendance seems to like this idea

#### St. Pat's Parade

- Parade is March 14th. Comes down Meyer, and around the school and up Brookside Blvd
- Keep eye out in communication for t-shirt orders (if we can). Julie going to info meeting soon for more details
- BSM will offer parking, Sno Cone truck, and Girl Scout cookies

#### Yearbook

- Dave not here. Yearbooks now \$18. Can order online. Will be \$20 after order deadline and not guaranteed a copy

#### Garden

- Starting planting and some workshops at KC Gardens
- Doing Garden Club w LINC

#### Communications

- Comica talked w Mr Rhyne on 2-3-20 about several items:
  - Registration: If P3 returning as P4, must be registered by Feb 14. If still not able to register, contact Comica and she'll give list to the district person. Communication coming out in March for letter of intent of returning to BSM. ONLY IF YOU'RE NOT COMING BACK DO YOU HAVE TO RETURN THE LETTER OF INTENT. If you're coming back, you're auto-enrolled for next year and if you don't respond, you're auto enrolled
  - Communication Calendar: Feel like we aren't getting consistent, upfront communication. having a hard copy calendar with important dates (i.e. Registration for CH kids due 2-14, days off, testing dates, spelling bee, etc). Mr Rhyne has assigned Ms Deckerd to spearhead this
    - What dates do we want to see? Book Fair, parade, Dragon Night, days off of school, upcoming concerts, spelling bee, testing dates, field trips, LINC
    - Comica putting up post on Dragon page for suggestions of what everyone wants to see
    - Communication will be 60 day chunks. If have update mid-session, can send out an update. Would be hard copy paper.
    - Could also put this on the PTA website calendar once hard copy is compiled and promote PTA calendar as well
- Parent Ed

- Talked at last meeting about doing this again. Lukewarm response
- What if we stipend with gift card? Mr Rhyne said he'll talk to teachers and try to have this happen during PLC (Professional Learning Community) and do a video. Do CH, LE, UE
- Comica recommended doing reading and math. Do lessons that would be appropriate for CH that would progress through LE/UE. Posted on website. Would have a growing repository
- Attendance
  - Concern among parents about attendance requirements. Too high, high last year, continue to increase, will get to a point where there's no room for improvement and will be unattainable
  - Attendance goal will always continue to increase and that goal is set by the state of the MO.
    - Can reach out to the state to say this is an unattainable goal
  - The letter that went out was worded poorly and made all parents feel as though we weren't doing enough.
    - Attendance rate is a snapshot in time. His concern is not with the 80-90% attendance but with those who are at 50%
    - State of MO doesn't differentiate between excused and unexcused absences. MR will look at the circumstances for the absences if you fall low and illnesses will be looked at differently than vacation time
    - Child can miss ~15-16 days across the entire year and still meet goal
    - The letter was sent to everyone and was meant more for awareness than to chastise.
    - How can we change the tone of the communication so that it better reflects the school's goal?
- Illness
  - The flu shot for this year is not as effective as what CDC wanted. Flu A is much easier to get over than Flu B. Strep is also going around
  - What can we as the school community do to help
    - Teach kids good manners: Wash hands with soap and water and sing HBD twice
    - Cough into sleeves
    - KEEP YOUR KID HOME IF THEY'RE SICK AND DOCTOR SAYS THEY'RE CONTAGIOUS
    - District has talked to custodial staff about being more diligent and doing more often cleaning of hard surfaces (tables, door knobs)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tell teacher if kids are sick so they can help them wash hands more</li> <li>- If people wanted to come disinfect the school, MR is totally for it if a bunch of parents wanted to come in on a Saturday and do that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Would need teachers ok with us cleaning their classrooms. Teachers may say only adults and no kids</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Jen Miller (nurse) says flu lives very short outside the body. Hand washing, coughing, bodily fluids are what transmits the flu</li> <li>- Do we want to see if teachers want more liquid soap, Kleenex, Clorox wipes, paper towels, hand sanitizer? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Keep bin of extras in office or somewhere</li> <li>- Ask custodial staff if they'll check soap levels more than once a day</li> <li>- Cleaning drive for supplies and take money from PTA budget to help supplement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
6:55	<b>Officer Reports</b>	Officers
	<p>VP-Membership VP-Fundraising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thanks to Angie fo the LEGO night. \$600</li> <li>- St Pat's parking: people pay for parking in our lot. Doing again this year. Need 3-4 people to work it. Will put call out again closer to date</li> <li>- Dragon Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 25th at South Broadland Church (79th and Holmes)</li> <li>- Tix on sale early March</li> <li>- \$25/each, \$250/table of 8. Gets naming rights and you pick your team on table</li> <li>- Silent Auction donations are needed</li> <li>- Sponsorships being pushed this year (\$250/\$500/\$1000)</li> <li>- Classroom baskets (people donate items for class baskets)</li> <li>- Every other Monday night, Bier Station at 7:00 starting Feb 10 for planning sessions</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Budget</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Kristen out of commission rest of year</li> <li>- Trying to figure out budget between Jessica and Molly</li> <li>- Got extra \$1000 Farmers Market goodwill donation</li> <li>- Still appear to be good on the money front.</li> </ul> <p>Secretary</p>	<p>Jen Kris Jessica Andi</p>

7:15	<b>Old Business</b>	
	<p>Sculpture Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sculpture going up in next couple weeks. Final pieces being glazed and fired</li> <li>- Paul talked about finding an on-going donor for the school. He has a couple ideas of people with the monies that might be willing to do this</li> <li>- He wants a hubbub when everything is installed (media, kids there, etc)</li> </ul> <p>Parent Ed</p> <p>Teacher appreciation recap</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Letter template didn't seem to go out to classrooms. Had about 8-10 letters go out. Do it again next year with more notice and a heads up to the Board</li> </ul>	Brandy/Jessica Comica Jessica
7:20	<b>New Business</b>	Jessica
	<p>Upcoming conferences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No school Feb 13-17</li> </ul> <p>Filling PTA positions for next year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Have lots of positions to fill for next year. Start thinking about what you want to do</li> <li>- Green team, hospitality, uniform exchange, garden, and exec positions</li> </ul> <p>Update on Kristen Hocker</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Diagnosed with rare spinal cord cancer. In hospital til end of February and in wheelchair for foreseeable future. Card here at meeting and will be passed around school</li> <li>- GoFundMe page is through the Parent's FB page</li> <li>- Anyone with know-how on wheelchair ramp</li> </ul>	
7:30	<b>Adjourn</b>	Jessica
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Meeting adjourned at 7:30</b></li> </ul>	

## Upcoming Spring 2020 Border Star Events

<b>Book Fair</b>	Thursday, February 6 through Thursday, February 13
<b>Parent-Teacher conferences</b>	Thursday, February 13
<b>No School</b>	Thursday, February 13 through Monday, February 17
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Thursday, March 5
<b>Dragon Trivia Night -- Save the Date</b>	Saturday, April 25

Questions? Contact the PTA

Website: [borderstarpta.org](http://borderstarpta.org)

Email: [borderstarpta@gmail.com](mailto:borderstarpta@gmail.com)

The Facebook page for Border Star parents is **facebook.com/groups/dragonparents**. This informal group is a great way to share ideas, ask questions, and get to know your community. It is a closed group, so you'll need to verify you are a parent by submitting your child's teacher's name. *Note: The group is not affiliated with the school or the district.*

Copies of tonight's Agenda and the previous meeting's Minutes will be available at the website. Visit **borderstarpta.org** to see meeting minutes and agendas, sign up to be a PTA member, donate to the PTA, order spirit wear, and sign up to receive PTA and New Parent emails.

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### **PTA Vision Statement**

Border Star Montessori will be a first choice elementary school for Kansas City families. The PTA will support a vibrant and diverse community of students, families, and teachers by providing outstanding opportunities to foster a love of learning, practice healthy choices, and actively participate in our local and global community.

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### **PTA Mission Statement**

The mission of Border Star Montessori PTA is to:

- Make all Border Star families feel welcome and valued
- Support teachers' classroom projects, field trips, training, and other needs to ensure students have the best learning opportunities
- Foster the involvement and support of our local business and civic leaders in our students' success
- Shine a light on the benefits and opportunities available within the Kansas City Public School system