

Bristow Run Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Attendees

Erinn Mulligan
James Johnson
Jessica Kilpatrick
Rhonda Jeck
Angelita Gamble
Megan Foelsch
Cindi Stephens
Tania Flores
Katrina Macwhorter
Melissa Leischner
Beth March
Kate Danziger
Tiffinni Hargrave
Kathrin Goodman
Gary Shivers
Tommy Cureton
Susie Adib

Call to Order

6:01 pm Call to order by Erinn

Approval of Previous Month's Minutes

- Kathrin motioned to approve, James Johnson seconded.

Citizen's Time

- Tania Flores: I read the other day we still don't have reps for certain neighborhoods. How do we go about dealing with that? Do we reach out to families?
 - o Answer: We've been working on getting more members. Erinn said we don't have any training and the county is working on that. We've had someone at open house, we had a video for back to school night, we put info in the Bristow Briefs, and word of mouth is a really good one. We just continue putting it out and hoping to get more members. We may reach out to teachers and ask them to put info in their class emails.
- Kathrin Goodman: Is there a way we can target the parents of the specific neighborhoods that we still need representatives for?
 - o Answer: Yes that's a good idea we can definitely look into that.
- Gary Shivers: The school fence is broken on one side, is that part of the renovation?
 - o Answer: No, parks and rec deals with that. If it's bad enough that kids can get over it, we need to get it fixed.

- Gary Shivers: Are broken-in screens to the windows supposed to be replaced?
 - o Answer: The windows themselves were not replaced. I can talk to construction about the broken screens.

SCA

- Have had two meetings so far and the kids are very enthusiastic. We are meeting every week now instead of every other week.
- We discussed what is SCA, what are we going to be doing, etc. The members signed contracts about model behavior.
- We worked on some ideas for events that we want to plan and where we want the funds to go. We try to give the money back to the community.
- They want to donate to an animal shelter this year. We will research how to go about that because we haven't done that before.
- We elect officers in house, the kids can decide what they want to run for and they have to do a presentation, and the elections will be November 15.
- We are helping with the Veteran's Walk on November 9.
- We are making t-shirts, the kids can submit designs and everyone will vote on what they want. Mrs. Roche is helping with that this year.

Principals Time

- We have a new security assistant for Bristow Run, he's been at Haymarket this week shadowing the person there. He will be here full time from 8-4 every day. His name is Thomas Spivone. He will be able to text and communicate with the gentleman who lives on property.
- We have 52 new cameras around the property for safety.
- The first quarter is over! Next week there are only two days of school as we have teacher work days.
- The veteran's day walk we don't have as many people signed up, anyone who is military related is welcome to come and be celebrated; not just parents, but other family members.
- Tues Nov 15 there will be a virtual meeting about specialty elementary schools in PWCS. There is also a date for middle schools and high schools for any parents who are interested.
- Mrs. Jeck asked Tania to give a brief explanation of her position. It's all about having better communication between the school and parents. It's not just during school hours, it's a way for the school to support wherever it's needed in the community so students can have a successful journey while here. Erinn asked how meal bags are provided to families in need; we have the food recovery program in the cafeteria, and we partner with groups to help feed and provide for needing families, like with Crossroads, Box of Basics, and Women Giving Back (the latter two accept donations). We also have a list of resources for families in need such as food pantries, etc.
- SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Presentation
 - o It's been around since the 90s and we've been doing it for years, but in 2020 it became a state legislation. The state is still working on the curriculum. It will be for all school grade levels, not just elementary.
 - o We get money for our school for assisting our students with SEL. This year the money will be used to have some special assemblies for the kids this year.

- Our goal is to have 82% of students report positively on the surveys. We are currently at 77% (as of 2022/23 school year data). The first quarter survey we provided to the kids recently had an excellent response, everything was over 90%.
- The results of surveys are anonymous but we do know by class and grade level so we know where to target if there are any issues.
- We still have Panther Pride Awards, we just changed up the formatting of them. During library we try to make sure that each student will get one by the end of the year.
- We are trying to focus on behavior in the cafeteria this year.
- We have lots of books and a “worry monster” to help with worries, as a lot of kids have had more worries since COVID. We also have a lot of resources to help with worrying outside of the school as well.
- We have a lot of small pets in the library, including our guinea pig who has a Sign Up Genius for taking him home for care on the weekends.
- BRES has been designated No Place for Hate, which is a national organization to assist with bullying.
- Hand out of Bark App for overseeing children’s tech devices, Mr. Painter reviewed it last year. It’s free to sign up or you can pay for higher levels.

Committee Updates

- PTO: Several spirit nights coming up. Spirit Wear is closing 11/5. Nothing Bundt Cakes orders due 11/9, will be delivered 11/20. Square One Art orders are due 11/22.
- SACI: The October meeting was cancelled so no updates there. Review of questions presented from our school to SACI. Answers are from Vanessa Olson, who does not work for the county but is the Chair of SACI.
 - No answer about opting out for taking home electronics from a county perspective, but we did provide an option to opt out at the school for parents who don’t want them sent home.
 - There is no official training offered right now for Advisory Councils.
 - Parent groups can start a social media account about the schools without following regulations. Mrs. Jeck said we actually can have a school Facebook page but it has to be set up and approved by the county.

Adjournment

- Next meeting is December 7th. QR code available for any feedback.
- Gary Shivers motioned to adjourn at 7:20 pm, seconded by Tiffinni Hargrave.