

**PTO AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2017 MEETING**  
**8 :45 TO 9:45 AM IN MMS LIBRARY**

**Welcome & Introductions:** Karen Gall

**Principal's Report:** John Riggs

**Teachers' Report:** Sarah Blackford, Mary Ellen Steele, Barb Miller

**Treasurer's Report:** Karen Gall

**Teacher Request:**

Adam Hunt – Jovan Mays, slam poet

Libby Black – 8<sup>th</sup> grade field trip to movie/planetarium

**Discussion Topics:**

Winter Community Social

Magic Phoenix Surplus

Volunteers Needed

**Committee Reports:**

Winter Community Social: Persia Houston

Magic Phoenix Wrap Up: Darcy Fan

Projects Committee: Shannon Collier

Trip Tracker: Jennifer Saal

Community Dinners: Cathi Wielgus/Julie Chang

Science & Music Gardens: Jennifer Dingman

**District and Community Representatives:**

David Gould — DPC (District Planning Committee)

Jamie Baker — DAC (District Accountability Committee)

Nathalie Pratt – PEN (Parent Engagement Network)

Darcy Fan – BVGT (Boulder Valley Gifted & Talented)

Melissa Geller Sharman – SAC (School Accountability Committee)

**Volunteering Opportunities:**

PTO Secretary (take minutes during the meetings)

Grocery/OZO Cards (probably 1 hour/month)

***2017-2018 Future Committee Volunteers Needed:***

PTO Treasurer (Karen will help with the transition for next PTO year)

Magic Phoenix Co-Chair

Hospitality/Teacher Appreciation Chair

Science & Music Garden

**Other Comments or Questions – Open Time for Anyone**

**Upcoming Events:**

Feb. 7 Winter Social/Salsa Tasting Contest

**Feb. 22 (revised)** Community Dinner at Chipotle (919 Pearl St), 5 to 9pm

Mar. 6 PTO Meeting, 6:30 to 8pm

Mar. 12 to 18 Community Fundraiser at Wahoo Fish Taco, all day/all week

Apr. 3 PTO Meeting, 8:45 to 9:45am

**Next scheduled PTO meeting: Monday March 6, 2017 6:30 to 8:00pm**

## **Committee Reports**

### **TripTracker (Jennifer Saal)**

Trip Trackers is starting up again after a small break over the holidays. Trip logs are generally sent out the first week of the month. Be checking your emails early February. Your child should also receive an email to their school email. Either person can fill out the logs. Distribution typically happens mid month. We will continue to distribute the earned dollars in the cafeteria. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact Jennifer Saal at [jennifersaal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jennifersaal@sbcglobal.net)

### **Magic Phoenix (Darcy Fan)**

We sent out the tax letters. Yeah!

What to do w/ surplus funds?

Club funding - possibly ask clubs if they need supplies

FYI- we are the only school that I know of that doesn't charge for clubs

### **Grocery cards (Darcy Fan)**

Just short of \$5,000 min. for KS so no money for Dec. should get something for Jan. No one appears to be using Safeway card

### **BVGT (Darcy Fan)**

- 2/15 at 7PM Manhattan Middle School  
Speaker Ian Byrd on Creating 21st Century Innovators
- 2/24 Keynote speaker Nadia Webb at the Beyond Giftedness Conference in Arvada go to BVGT.org website for more information
- 3/8 7PM Summit Middle School will show movie with panel discussion  
2e: Twice Exceptional Film Viewing

### **Community Dinner**

Mt. Everest Cuisine raised \$200

Next Dinner at Chipotle on Pearl St. REVISED date is Wednesday February 22 – We moved the date back a week to avoid a conflict with 8<sup>th</sup> grade transition nights at BHS and FHS.

### **District Planning Committee (David Gould)**

Meeting notes from the 01.18 meeting are attached. A majority of the discussion centered on the upcoming State Assessment Tests. Our next meeting is scheduled for 02.15.17. Please let me know if you have questions about this.

District Parent Council Meeting Minutes  
1/18/17

- I. A majority of the meeting was spent discussing the upcoming Colorado State Assessment Tests - Jonathan Dings is the BVSD person in charge of the BVSD Assessment Testing programs
  1. Link regarding testing dates & opt out for 2017 testing period
    - [https://docs.google.com/document/d/13UVkalvD\\_h\\_FC8vVbSOLEwGxgTi2QMN\\_Yqtbo-3A-Sik/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13UVkalvD_h_FC8vVbSOLEwGxgTi2QMN_Yqtbo-3A-Sik/edit?usp=sharing)
  2. Parent discussions/Questions w/ Jonathan Dings:
    - Why doesn't BVSD make a stronger message about their stance on testing?

- BVSD cannot actively discourage students from taking test per restriction of legislation. But, BVSD must make everyone aware of how to opt out of the testing.
  - The “Every Student Succeeds Act” was reestablished out of No Student Left Behind Act- <https://www.ed.gov/essa?src=ft> still contains federally mandated participation requirements and it is unknown the impact on education funds for districts that don’t meet those requirements.
  - Elementary test time requirement still seems quite large, why can’t there be less testing?
  - Why do 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Graders have to type their answers on the English Language Arts Tests? Are we testing for writing skills or computer/keyboard skills? ? How do we as parents address the need for tests? Etc.
3. Data-warehouse (VisLab) is now available to school admin & teachers. Hopefully making it easier for school to access assessment info and see trends in the data of students.

II. Superintendent Update:

- 4. School financing a big concern this legislative year. The Negative Effect most likely to increase.
  - <http://www.bvsd.org/communications/blu/Pages/Jan202017LegUpdate.aspx>
- 5. BVSD very lucky that Operational Levy passed as this will lessen the impact of possibly reduced funding for the 2017-2018 school year.
- 6. BVSD graduation rate still nearly 20 points higher than national average
  - <http://www.bvsd.org/news/Pages/graduationRates2016.aspx>
- 7. BVSD Budget for 2017-2018 – the process in full swing.
  - Presentation from DAC to BVSD Board - identified the 2 top items for funding are Social Emotional Learning (Counselors in school) and Equity

III. Bond Update & Innovation Update: Rob Price, Kiffany Lychock and Dave Eggen

- 8. Link to Bond Program: <http://bond.bvsd.org/Pages/index.aspx>
- 9. Phases are progressing quickly and will continue to move ahead because construction industry is very competitive right now and want to stay ahead of the need.
- 10. MMS budget is \$10.143 million, plus an additional \$400K for the innovation lab.
- 11. To date a large portion of the innovation \$’s are being used Library renovations and creative/learning furniture.

**Next DPC meeting date: Wednesday, Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2017 @ 6:30pm in the Aspen Room**

**Talented & Gifted Program Update (Phyllis Ashe)**

MMS Spelling Bee Champion

How many students participated ?

Reid Hunter (7) will compete in the local spelling bee Sat. Feb. 25 at Platt

MMS Geo Bee

19 students participated

Aiden Smith-Fattor will compete at the State Bee at DU in March if he is one of the top 100 on the State Bee Qualifying Test

Brain Bowl (already announced last meeting)

The 6th Grade Brain Bowl Team will participate in the Brain Bowl Championship Tournament after winning 5th place overall in the 6th grade category at the North Region Brain Bowl in January. Only the top 6 teams in each grade level are invited to participate in the Championship Tournament in Denver on

February 25. Congratulations to Lucy Harrison, Mia Jones, Nichole Loran, Franny Parker, Aislinn Troxell, and Sydney Wu, who comprise the 6th grade team.

**The TAG Group project, funded by the Magic Phoenix, will be unveiled on February 14 in the hallway between the Gym and the Cafeteria.** A group of students programmed the music notes with the help of Noah H. Moritz, our robotics coach and engineering expert. A large group of TAG students have been working on the project since December. The Latino Leadership group contributed the artwork for the project. Thank you Magic Phoenix and the PTO for making this exciting project possible. Please stop by Manhattan during the day on February 14 for the unveiling of the Hallway Symphony.

**The Robotics Club is thrilled with their new EV3's purchased by the PTO.** They are working as a club on an M & M sorter. The new EV3's have a light sensor that can distinguish colors which is where the idea for an M&M sorter began.

**First Tech Team, the Terror Bytes placed 3rd in both State Qualifiers that they attended.** They will compete at the State Tournament in two weeks.

Conferences: TAG Student's ALP goal sheet will be available to view during conferences. They will be placed in a file in front of the TAG office, located in the back of the Library, alphabetized by students last names. TAG Advisor, Phyllis Ashe, will be available during the February 16th conference times only.