



## ***October 2016 Meeting Minutes***

Educational Services Center, Bloomington Public School District  
Bloomington, Minnesota  
October 5, 2016  
11:30 a.m.

**Attendees:** Mauricio Barrientos (KHS), Mary Jo Bellinger (PB), Sue Bizal (HC), Erin Halloran (PAC), Jennifer Hembd (OGE), Molly Lueck (PTSA Council Secretary), Beth Maiwurm (JHS), Wendy Marczak (BFT), Kate Martin (Community Relations), Karissa Meierdierks Wall (NH), Jill Oldenburg (OM), Karen Qualey (Digital Learning Coordinator), Holly Skadsem (Digital Learning Coordinator), Jim Sorum (School Board), Heather Starks (PTSA Council VP), Jodi Syrjamaki (WB), Jason Thiel (WW), John Weisser (ESC Technology), Charlotte Westby (IM), Andrew Wilkins (Principal WB).

Welcomed by Heather Starks and introductions were made around the room.

A motion to approve the September 2016 minutes was made by Sue Bizal, seconded by Jason Thiel. Minutes approved.

**Heather Starks**, facilitated the feedback loop:

1. Peachjar – there will not be a district mandate to use, schools will choose to participate and control use. Principals will be getting a presentation tomorrow. Points brought up: communication with divorced parents may be improved, some school offices may have a hard time implementing this, parents may feel overwhelmed with information received.
2. PTSA Facebook Group – has been set up and most people have been invited to join. Please let Tiffany know if you would like to receive the group's invite.
3. Back-to-School Updates – none to report.

**Kate Martin** for Les Fujitake, presented the Superintendent's report:

1. The School Board has two new student reps, Allie Andersen (JHS) and Ethan Skophammer (KHS), who will attend board meetings on the fourth Monday of every month. They will be non-voting members whose role will be to participate in discussing agenda items and report on school activities. Andersen and Skophammer will co-lead meetings of the board's Student Advisory Council's high school representatives. They will also have a member of the board as a mentor.
2. Enrollment is predicted to be about 10,185 students for the 2016-17 school year, up from 10,022 last year.

**Kate Martin** for Rick Kaufman, presented the community relations update:

1. The BPS website has a tab for the Centennial which contains a history timeline and event dates for the upcoming year. Residents are encouraged to share photos and stories about attending Bloomington schools on social media with the hashtag #BPS100. A 100<sup>th</sup> birthday party and all-class reunion will take place on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017. A toolkit is available for schools wanting to tie in their events to this centennial year.

**Andrew Wilkins** for Roberto Cantu, presented the Principal's report:

1. High school homecoming events happening soon. ACT practice test scheduled for 11/12. Chromebooks will be coming home soon for the younger grades. Everyone is working on becoming familiar with Infinite Campus.

**Heather Starks** for Sheri Brezinka, presented the PTSA Council Treasurer's report:

1. Dues letters are on their way to each school so please tell your treasurer to watch for them.
2. Speaker event was \$500.

**Heather Starks** for Tiffany Shermak, presented the PTSA Council President's report:

1. Updated roster was handed out. PB has one change, add Mary Jo to the list. Please use this roster for internal use only.
2. MN PTA has a website ([mnpta.org](http://mnpta.org)) with a President's Corner and Treasurer's Corner containing great resources for your school's treasurer.

**Heather Starks**, presented the PTSA Council VP's report:

1. Parent Speaker Series #1 had 41 people in attendance. Presenters were Carlos Morales, Holly Skadsem, Karen Qualey and Detective Cuzman. Carlos' presentation as well as informative handouts can be found under the PTSA Council tab on the BPS website. A few key points covered during the presentation that evening: parents need to monitor their kids, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders have intranet email only and 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders have internet email access.
2. Heather is looking to create a workgroup for the upcoming second and third speaker series remaining this year as well as future years. Positions would include coordinator, communications/marketing and operations. Please let Heather know if you are interested.
3. The Legislative Forum had 8 candidates in attendance. A replay can be found on [bectv.org](http://bectv.org). The forum is a good platform to provide for the candidates to focus on education issues. We may want to partner with the League of Women Voters in the future.

**John Weisser, Holly Skadsem and Karen Qualey**, presented the Technology in the Classroom update:

1. Next Technologies for Learning (NTL) consists of digital content, anytime/anywhere learning and personal growth plans. Initial focus has centered on creating digital content, tools, literacy, wireless infrastructure and student and staff's capacity to leverage these tools and resources. A Flexible Learning Cohort of 70 teachers has been working on implementing NTL in our schools. During 2015-16, representatives from HC, IM, NH, OLE, PB, WB, RV and DA worked to divide standards into units. 2016-17 saw the implementation of these self-paced units with an ongoing evaluation and assessment process occurring. This group is looking to add more teams to this pilot project and provide professional development.
2. Flipped instruction is a component of the anytime/anywhere learning piece and has shown to be improving student's success. It is also helping support math placement for 6<sup>th</sup> graders instead of only using test scores. David Heistad found a 4 point increase in student's using the flipped instruction model.
3. Flexible instruction utilizes flexible seating and can be summarized by the following student choice seating arrangements: Camp Fire, Cave, Sandpit, Watering Hole and Mountain Top. A flexible space has furniture that swivels so students can see better, furniture that moves to create different seating arrangements and mobile tvs and keyboards to provide different presentation options.
4. Field trip: everyone walked down the hall to a room set up with furniture that satisfies the previously mentioned points. As buildings come up for remodel and new furniture needs to be purchased, you can encourage your school to invest in this type of furniture. It is more expensive than traditional classroom furniture so schools may want to look at furnishing a common area in the school for all students to have access to.

Next meeting topic: Differentiated Learning, November 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 11:30AM  
Next meeting location: ESC Room 610A

Respectfully submitted by Molly Lueck, PTSA Council Secretary