

PRINCIPAL - BROOKE SCHARFSTEIN

- Class holiday party schedules should be determined by end-of-day by room parents
- There was a community meeting with the board being held at 6:00 p.m. at Johns Creek High School, where they will be having a discussion about a new academic calendar
- New CCRPI school scores will be coming out; we have not had any updates since pre-COVID. The release date is TBD but should be within the next two weeks. It follows the GA milestone scores and is an accountability measure to ensure students are learning adequately. According to national test scores, SBCE students are still doing well, and stayed on track with learning during & after COVID.
- Student Help Surveys will be going out on 12/5; it asks questions like: “Do you feel safe at school?”, “Do you feel like you can talk to your teacher?”, “Do you like your school?” Parents should also have received a survey from Fulton County schools with a text notification. Please be sure to complete that because the school gets fewer stars in the rating if parents don't participate. **Note: Pay attention to the questions as the cadence changes in the middle of the survey, and can be a little confusing.**
- Transportation: There was a shortage of bus drivers, so they were making double runs and kids had to be picked up early and were spending long periods of time at school waiting. Enough drivers have been hired now, so bus pick-up times will change to be approximately 10-15 mins later. You should be receiving an email from transportation directly, if you have not already done so. Due to this change, there will also be a change to carpool: those parents who walk their students to the door will not be able to park in the visitors spots, as the buses will be coming through at the same time. You will need to park in the further spots in the loop. Staff, like Coach Mangan, will be outside assisting with arrival.

CO-PRESIDENTS

- Front Desk: demo should be completed over holiday break with a January install. The desk is built-to-order, so demo will take 1-1.5 days, next wiring & internet will be completed, and then final desk install finishes.
- Membership: \$6,800 short of overall membership goal; if the goal is met, Ms.Scharfstein will sleep on the roof, live stream and read stories, etc.
- New membership incentive: Bobcat Bucks or other names
- Platinum Incentive brought in an additional \$1000 towards the goal.
- Remind SBCE families of corporate matching opportunities to further increase membership dollars to meet our goal.
- New committees: Creating separate committees for Curriculum Night & Sneak Peek as the brunt of the work has fallen on SaraBeth & Kaitlyn.

BOARD UPDATES

- Updated calendar of events:
 - a. Bingo - January 26th
 - b. Sons Plus One - February 25th: COmmittee is still taking suggestions as to an engaging activity that the boys can enjoy, as this is historically the least attended event.
 - c. Daughter's Choice - March 16th; working on a Country theme
 - d. 5th Grade Finale - Tentative Schedule
 - i. Monday - Yearbook/Breakfast
 - ii. Tuesday - Service Day (change from gift, in order to give back in a meaningful way)
 - iii. Wednesday - Game Day/Movie
 - iv. Bobcat Walk - Social
 - v. Ropes Course @ Sojourn Adventures is TBD as they are increasing their rate substantially & are expensive (\$5000 currently; increasing to \$6000). Hoping to secure a multi-year discount to keep the rates from increasing. We are also open to other suggestions for activities that are local that students can walk to or can be hosted at the school, for less of an expense (no overnight trips). PTA tries to keep the cost for parents low so that all are able to participate. Last year it was \$75.
 - e. We also received positive feedback from parents regarding the Fall Festival!

LANDSCAPING

- Concrete was requested in August through Fulton County & we are still waiting for it in order to cover the dirt area by the front entrance. Some parents have stated that it is an eye sore; there is the opportunity to cover it with pine straw or mulch in the interim. However, it needs to be removed when the concrete arrives.

GREEN COMMITTEE

- The Walk to School idea has been scrapped as it is not environmentally friendly. Other ideas are: Trash Clean Up/At Home Challenges like cleaning trash at parks or on vacation & submit photos to earn 15 PBIS points. This also provides an extra opportunity to be featured in the yearbook.
- Working on a project to winterize the atrium beds with a Girl Scout troop
- Any other ideas or suggestions are welcomed!

TEACHER APPRECIATION

- Teacher breakfast & snack was a hit; it turned into more of a lunch but the teachers were thrilled! There were platters of food from Publix.
- Breakfast set to be held in January; may work with Planet Smoothie in Peachtree Corners to get acai bowls or smoothies for teachers.

WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

- Request that more photos are shared from day-to-day life at school and events. Send photos to PTA email address: sbce_pta@outlook.com

TREASURER

- Checking acct balance: \$74,255.13
- Savings acct balance: \$39,044.45
- PayPal: \$663.54 which needs to be transferred over
- Income from 7/1-10/31 is \$42,500.88; minus expenses of \$20,806.76; leaving total net income of \$21,684.71

PHILANTHROPY

- Continuing to work with Starbucks to give across all events; aspirational goal is to have Home Depot provide grass for the atrium. Nathan will also be reaching out to them for a small ask for a teacher's mini-grant request.
- Nathan will be following up with sponsors to say "Thank You" & show appreciation.

SPIRIT WEAR

- All outstanding items have come in
- There will now be t-shirts for every major event so that students have a way to commemorate their time at SBCE.

MINI GRANTS

- All teacher's requests, except one, were approved for the fall semester. Even the one request that was not approved, still had a different request awarded, so everyone who submitted a request is getting something!
- There were many expensive requests this year, which is why there was a bit of a delay with approvals.
- Working with Newcomers & Social Media committees to create a communication detailing what the requests were for, and showcasing how teachers are using them to engage students (Your Mini-Grants At Work)..

SCIENCE FORCE

- The last unit for 3rd grade was focused on weather & erosion.
- Students were able to work with 3 squid, 5 mackerel, 5 prawn from Carolina Biological & Kathleen's Catch.

BOOK FAIR

- Held by PTA; Dates Feb 12-16th
- Will be an evening event to increase sales; possible focus on a grandparent event (ex: PJS & hot chocolate bar); need volunteer readers