

Brooks Museums Magnet Elementary School
PTA General Membership Morning Meeting
February 3, 2016

The PTA President, Anna Williams, called the meeting to order at 9:24 AM.

- A motion was approved to vote in the meeting minutes from the January 14, 2016 PTA meeting (Angie Brandt, Julie Growney).

Principal's Report – Felicia Locklear

- On February 9 at 11:00 AM a group of approximately 50 people from the Raleigh Chamber Leadership will be at Brooks for a presentation and tour of the school. Several of the students will present.
- There will be an information meeting held the evening of February 24 here at the school, where Central Office Staff members will be on hand to filter questions about our move to the modular campus and our return to the new building. Facilities staff from the modular campus, personnel involved with packing the school, as well as the architects of the new school will also be on hand. New Magnet families, rising Kindergarten base families, as well as families with current K through 4th grade students are invited to attend.
- There are lots of questions about transportation for next year. We know that students in the Stoneybrook area as well as base students will be provided transportation. Bus stop information will likely not be announced until summer, but they anticipate that there will be centralized stops in safe locations. Mrs. Locklear does not anticipate that the buses going to the modular campus will have students from other schools on them, unless bus participation is low next year.
- Brooks will continue to operate its before school and after school care at the modular campus. They have had an opportunity to see how the YMCA currently operates their after school care there from Green.
- Mrs. Locklear does hope that everyone will use the bus next year as parking at the modular campus is very limited, with only approximately 30 parking spots that will be needed by the staff.
- Mrs. Locklear hopes to be able to hold an Open House in the spring at the modular campus in the form of a scavenger hunt, so that students have an opportunity to explore the new campus (working to coordinate this with Green's Principal). Then, in the summer, another Open House will be held, at which time parents can come to explore further. All of this is in the hopes that everything will be as smooth as possible when school starts back in August.

- The Carnival is coming up soon and Mrs. Locklear is doing her best to pump up the teachers to volunteer their time. If teachers volunteer 2 hours plus do Time with Teacher, they will be allowed to wear jeans for 9 days.
- Brooks had the second highest number of magnet applications of any Elementary Schools in the county (Combs had the highest number). A report of the makeup of students who submitted these magnet applications will be available to the school next Friday, Feb. 12.
- Kindergarten registration for base families was even larger than last year.
- The question was asked if any decision had been made as to where the 60 additional students who will be added to the school following our return to the new building will be drawn from? It is unknown at this time, though the hope is that they will pull additional Stoneybrook area kids. In general, Brooks needs to add to its minority student base in order to maintain its magnet status.
- Reminder to everyone to wear something showing support for their favorite NFL team this Friday (Feb. 5) in honor of the Super Bowl.
- The question was asked if volunteer times in the classrooms next year could shift to allow for parents to simply remain on campus after drop-off next year. Mrs. Locklear said that parents could fill time by making copies, etc. for teachers until literacy blocks begin.
- Mrs. Locklear anticipates that our school day hours will remain the same next year.
- Each of the different buildings on the modular campus next year will be locked. It's possible that Mrs. Locklear will have to utilize a TA position next year whose job would be to solely let parents and students into the different buildings during the day (as students arrive late, come & go to the health room, leave for appts., or as parents come in to volunteer). There was discussion that the VP of Volunteers could organize a volunteer sign up to help cover this role each day, rather than a TA.
- Brooks will have a male Administrative Intern on campus next year, who will start this summer. These interns serve much like another Assistant Principal for the school.

Teacher's Report - Nicole Lemon

- The teachers wanted to thank the PTA for the new coached project fund. The teachers are already using these funds to do more than in years past - 3rd grade will begin a Minecraft project here soon (they've tied in their area perimeter unit with this, the students will have to create government buildings to tie in with social studies).
- There will be a school-wide Seminar next Friday, Feb. 12. If anyone is interested in observing in order to help facilitate future seminars, please email either Ms. Lemon or Anna Williams. They would like to get parents more involved in Seminars.

- A group from Brooks will be attending the NC Technology Conference March 4-5 here in Raleigh (<http://ncties.org/conference/index.php>). Ms. Pruitt, Ms. Kuhn, Ms. Chew & Ms. Laveroni will all attend and present. In addition, 20 5th graders will also attend to assist and present, as well as participate in some technology sessions.
- Cultural Arts Updates:
 - Mimi Herman (Writer-in-Residence), who went to Brooks, is here this week working with the 4th graders. At the end of this week, the students will have poems written from the point of view of an endangered animal.
 - Next week, Raleigh Little Theater will be here working with the Kindergarteners as they write their own play from scratch.
 - April 4-8, a Mime (Sheila Kerrigan) will be here working the 1st Graders, the Red Herring Puppet group will be here working with the 2nd Graders, and the 3rd Graders' Writer-in-Residence (Kelly Starling-Lyons) will be here helping them with their narrative writing.
 - A group of students from Martin Middle School will be at Brooks on Dr. Seuss' birthday (March 2) to read to the Kindergarten & Pre-K classes.
- 27 5th Graders are participating in Science Olympiad this year, meeting every Thursday afternoon. They will go to Wakefield Middle School in May to compete.

Treasurer's Report – Candice Whitehurst

- Passive income is down this year, so please remember to re-link all of your store loyalty cards. Instructions can be found: <http://brookspta.com/fundraising/link-shopping-cards/>.
- So far, the Carnival has brought in nearly \$3,000 through Corporate Sponsorships.
- Letters have been sent to all of the teachers letting them know how much of their Classroom Funds they have left to spend for the year, to ensure that all of the money in that budgeted money gets used.
- YTD numbers stand at:
 - Net Income \$6,943
 - Cash on Hand \$31,943 (of which \$25,000 is being held in reserves for the move and any items that may need to be purchased for the modular campus)

Hospitality – Lili Ball

- Teacher Appreciation is next week (<http://brookspta.com/programs/hospitality/>). Almost every need has been met thus far, however there is still a great need for more casseroles for next Thursday, Feb. 11 (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4aafaf2e5-teacher2>). The teachers will be provided a catered lunch next Friday provided by Catering By Design. The

feedback from the teachers on moving Teacher Appreciation week to February (from May) has been very positive. Please remember the Staff, as well as the Bus Drivers and our amazing Crosswalk Guard next week!

Programs – Anna Williams

- A big thank you to Julie Growney and Angie Brandt for putting on a fabulous Variety Show. Mrs. Locklear added that the students did a wonderful job and looked to have had so much fun. She noted that it was so nice for all of the children who performed to feel so supported by all the parents and that this event is a great self-esteem builder for the kids.
- Please sign up to work a shift at either the Books Stop (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044fa8ae23a75-brooks>) or the School Store (<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0f4eaaa6229-brooks>), both are in great need of additional volunteers.
- Erica Oliver reported that the t-shirts will come in all of next year's EduKits (there will no longer be the option to get a kit without). Next year's kits will also include a poncho that the students will leave at school, in order to keep dry as they travel outside to get to other locations on the modular campus. Any donations made during the EduKits drive will go towards purchasing additional ponchos for teachers to keep on hand.
- Angie Brandt is looking for suggestions on new people to ask to participate in Community Reads Day.

Communications – Anna Williams

- The Year Book has begun to collect pictures for this year's book. If you have pictures you would like to contribute, instructions on how to do so can be found: <http://brookspta.com/programs/communications/>.

Carnival – Anna Williams

- The deadline for Corporate Sponsors is this Friday, Feb. 5.
- The Silent Auction Committee would like to at least know about any Silent Auction items that will be donated by next Friday, Feb. 12.
- A link to the Volunteer Sign Up will go out in this Sunday's PTA Newsletter.

President's Report - Anna Williams

- A big thank you to Cindy Counavelis who volunteered over 50 hours at Brooks, and, as a result, her employer Verizon matched her hours and sent Brooks a check for \$750.
- Volunteers of the month: Cindy Counavelis and Robin Kennedy (who is chair of Teacher Appreciation).
- Our next PTA Meeting will be March 10.
- The Carnival is March 11.
- The snow make up days will be Feb. 15 and March 24.

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 AM.