

Lighthouse Elementary & Beacon Cove Intermediate

PTO General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 21, 2011 – Lighthouse Elementary School

“These minutes have not been approved.

Approval is planned at the next General PTO meeting scheduled for November 2, 2011”

The Beacon Cove/Lighthouse PTO general membership met on Wednesday, September 21, 2011. Board Members in attendance were Elizabeth Hughes, Anne Rutter, Maria Sutinen, Tracy Yearick, Una Hukill, Leslie Bolte, Alix Troast, Jennifer Van Kirk, Debbi Sepulveres, Helena Hoogterp, and Allison Maffei.

Alix Troast called this meeting to order at 3:10 pm.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the PTO General Meeting minutes from May 4, 2011 was made by Tracy Yearick. The motion was seconded by Allison Maffei.

Board Business

A motion was made by Ms. Hukill to approve Jen Minsky as PTO Treasurer at Beacon Cove. This motion was seconded by Tracy Yearick.

Status of the Schools

Beacon Cove Intermediate - Mrs. Hukill

- The “GET REAL” t-shirts have arrived and the kickoff is scheduled for September 30th. “GET REAL” is a positive behavior program. REAL stands for respect, effort, attitude, and good learners. The children say a “GET REAL” pledge each morning. The program also helps children learn about bullying.
- We are finished with the eleven-day count. We are complying with the class size reduction act. In order to fulfill our obligations, we have moved some children around. We have 1 child too many in one out of 49 classes. One child is moving away so we should be at 100%.
- We have 26 more students than we had last year and have a current enrollment of 940.
- The Volunteer Breakfast had a great turnout.
- The Book Fair is scheduled for September 26-October 5.
- Thank you to all the parents for the smooth opening of school. Traffic is moving very well. Almost all children have made it to class on time.

Lighthouse Elementary – Mrs. Bolte

- Our current enrollment is 830 students.
- We have met class size reduction. Kindergarten is closed to enrollment and we need to maintain our numbers for the next 3 weeks.
- 2nd grade is finishing up their SRI reading tests.
- We are getting ready for Boosterthon.
- We had several reductions in Fine Arts over the summer. Computer was one area, but we have worked it out so that 1st and 2nd graders are still doing some computer. Writing Lab was also cut as a Special and now the writing is happening in each classroom using the district supported Writers’ Workshop.

Volunteer Report LHES – Tracy Yearick

- We have 748 volunteers registered. There are enough volunteers that we are able to maintain the 5-Star and Golden School Awards again this year. We already have enough volunteer hours submitted in the first month to qualify. Thank you volunteers!
- There is a new district process for getting volunteers approved. Instead of each school being notified of their individual issues, there will be one big list that includes everyone in the district that has been denied volunteer status. Each school will have to review the list of names. This is difficult and time consuming so Tracy has asked that the teachers ask their parents to sign in as volunteers instead of visitors. This will help take care of the issue since all volunteers have been background checked.
- We have volunteers to fill all of the chair positions. The Teacher Appreciation Committee will be led by Kim Dahlmeier again. She has 2 chairs joining her. Melissa McGovern will chair the Kindergarten Production Room Committee.
- The Dwyer High School students that helped with field day last year will be unable to help this year. The event will take place during the FCAT blackout period. We will try to have them help with 2nd grade.
- Natasha Holbert is redoing the PTO website and we are very excited about the changes she is making.
- We are requesting that teachers submit names for Jr. and Sr. Volunteer Nominations. These are due on October 24th.
- The Room Parent Meeting date was moved to September 30th at 9:15. This year there will be several sample letters available online in Drop Box that will help room parents compose their letters for class parties, projects, or teacher gifts.
- 40 teachers have registered at adoptaclassroom.org. We are trying to get 100% of teachers to register. If you are a teacher having problems with the registration please contact Tracy Yearick. There are still matching funds available from Wells Fargo. 14 teachers have been adopted through this program.
- Nicole Daggs asked about the Adopt-A-Classroom matching program with FPL. She is receiving information from FPL that looks like the program is still ongoing. Tracy believes this matching program has ended, but if Nicole can provide a contact person to Tracy, then Tracy will follow up with them.
- FPL is helping Nancy Bourne at Beacon Cove.

Business Partners Report – Allison Maffei

- Allison requested contact information for possible business partners from anyone in the PTO.
- Dr. Vargas and Dr. Alonzo have agreed to sponsor the Fun Fair again this April and we are very grateful to them.
- Red Mango will be at Boosterthon providing smoothies for all the children at both schools. Please visit Red Mango and thank them for sponsoring us.
- Tropical Smoothie is going to host our first ever Kindergarten Social. Thank you to Melinda Price of Tropical Smoothie.
- Sportstyme is a generous business partner as well as Med Express, Roger Dean Stadium, and PGA Resort.
- We are still looking for a t-shirt sponsor for Beacon's "GET REAL" t-shirts and outdoor umbrellas for the Lighthouse tables in the courtyard. If anyone knows of someone that would like to sponsor these items, please contact Allison Maffei.
- We discussed ways to get the most out of your donation to Adopt-A-Classroom.

- Office Depot will give 5% back of your total purchases to Lighthouse or Beacon Cove. We will receive the money at the end of the school year. At checkout, please ask that they link your purchases with either Beacon Cove or Lighthouse. Some of the cashiers may not be familiar with the program. Please suggest they look in the binder next to the register to scan the code or ask for a manager that can help you.
- We would like to get some technology items donated or receive discounts. If anyone has a technology contact please contact Allison Maffei.

Volunteer Report BCI – Helena Hoogterp

- Wells Fargo still has \$20,000 available for matching at adoptaclassroom.org. There is a \$15,000 challenge. \$5000 for the school that gets all of their teachers registered first, \$5000 for the first school to adopt each classroom, and \$5000 for the school that raises the most money by December 31, 2011. Beacon Cove has submitted their name as one of four schools to have all teachers registered. We will have to wait until December to see if we will win the \$5000.
- We have volunteers signed up to work the Book Fair. We need some extra parent volunteers to help with the third graders from 9:00-10:40 or any portion of that time. You will need to assist the children in finding books with appropriate lexiles.
- There was a question from the floor regarding multi-school registration. Robin Fitzgerald has a child at Lighthouse, but wanted to help last year at Beacon Cove for a fundraiser. Tracy Yearick mentioned the multi-school registration binder that is next to the volunteer sign-in computer in the Lighthouse front office. This can be filled out now to avoid issues when fundraisers come up later in the year.
- Morning Fitness is from 7:30-8:00. Volunteers are needed. You don't have to lead any of the exercises. The Fit Kids Club meets Monday and Thursday. Jump Rope Club is Tuesday. Running Club is on Wednesday and Friday.
- Thank you to all volunteers for attending the Beacon Cove Volunteer Breakfast.
- We have some volunteers signed up for Daddy Daughter Dance.
- We have a volunteer to help write the award nominations later this year.

Treasurer's Report – Jen Van Kirk

- The 2011-2012 budget was discussed. There was a motion to approve the budget by Tracy Yearick. This was seconded by Alix Troast.
- The changes to the budget included supplemental staff funds and volunteer appreciation gifts.
- Fun Fair and Boosterthon are our big fundraisers.
- Our bank balance is \$40,000. Checks will be coming out for personnel shortly.
- We had over 200 people at the Chick-Fil-A and Haagen-Dazs dine for cash. Mrs. Lemoine was the winner at LHES and Mrs. Bourne at BCI for having the most students in attendance.

Board Business- Alix Troast

- Barbara Murray from Dr. Vargas's office was acknowledged and thanked for their huge contribution to our schools. Barbara spoke briefly about how much they enjoy the Fun Fair, and they are looking forward to sponsoring the 2012 Fun Fair.
- Melinda Price was also acknowledged and thanked for her continued support of our schools with Tropical Smoothie. We are very appreciative of her contribution.
- A letter will be coming home on Friday. It will be on bright pink paper (THINK PINK! THINK PTO!). We will not be doing our Gift Wrap fundraiser this year. We are hoping to focus all of our energy on Boosterthon. We need to raise \$45,000 in order to cover our expenses for the year. If we are unable to reach this goal with Boosterthon, then we will add another fundraiser at the end of the school year. Boosterthon offers positive role models and lots of energy for the children. Parents are invited to attend the Boosterthon Fun Run and support their child. We are hoping each student is able to sign up 10 people to sponsor them in their run. Boosterthon is scheduled for October 26th at BCI and for October 27th at LHES.
- There was a question from the floor regarding the parking at BCI. Mrs. Hukill will follow up with the parent who asked the question.
- The Beacon Cove Book Fair is scheduled for September 26th through October 5th.
- The next General PTO meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2011.
- Debbi Sepulveres gave a banking update. The transition of officers has been completed for the PTO accounts held at PNC bank. The treasurers Jennifer Minsky and Jennifer Van Kirk are signers on both accounts, as is former treasurer Debbi Sepulveres (BCI-VP). Additional co-signer for Beacon Cove is president Alix Troast. Co-Presidents Elizabeth Hughes and Jennifer McCabe are the additional co-signers at Lighthouse. Former officers Cindy Beltrano and Michelle Claytor have been removed from the accounts.
- The tax-exempt certificate has been updated for the PTO.
- Mrs. Hukill announced that we just achieved our 5-Star status officially for last year. Debbie Elfen had given this information to Mrs. Hukill. 83 schools have achieved this in Palm Beach County.
- There is no Dine-for-Cash in October.
- We believe we will have a great opportunity in December at Downtown at the Gardens. However, we are awaiting final approval from them. They are offering us a matching donation to what we raise on the carousel that night. This event will be confirmed shortly. They are requesting a marketing plan and spots will be awarded to those with the best plans. Allison Maffei is working on this.
- Drawings were held to thank people for attending the General PTO Meeting. A booth pass was won for the cafeteria at BCI and a lucky student from Ms. Fulmer's class will be having lunch with Mrs. Bolte.

Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Rutter (LHES secretary)
Maria Sutinen (BCI secretary)