

## **Brookstone Parent Association**

### **Meeting Minutes September 10, 2007**

#### **Opening:**

The regular meeting of the BPA was called to order at 11:00am on Monday, September 10, 2007 in the Passailaigue Founder's Room of the Kirven Building by BPA President, Susan Graham.

#### **Present:**

Susan Graham, Patti Hasting, Scott Wilson, Windle McKenzie, Bill Arrington, Marci Mathis, John Stafford, Sandi Smith, Todd Stanfill, Catherine Trotter, Mary Snyder, Cindy Sparks, Frank Bonner, Amy Pease, Kelly Pridgen, Laura Byrd, Kim Jinks, Swain Gravlee, Jeanne Hasty, Kimberly Voltz, Kathleen Mason, Lori Denson, Lisa Galbraith, Carroll Pound, Christina Vogler, Gigi McCluskey, Rashmi Hudson, Jamie Lewis, Christy Jones, Sheri McVay, Joan Culpepper, Courtney Blackmar, Barbara Warren, Laura Wickham, Barbara de-Courcy Ireland, Lisa Liss, Linda Logan, Elizabeth Pearson, Margaret Martin, Nancy Wright, Laura Jones, Audrey Hollingsworth, and Kim Jarrell.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of the previous meeting, held May 7, 2007, were unanimously approved as distributed with no corrections or additions.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Kelly Pridgen reported there will be a new method for financial reporting at BPA meetings. After meeting with Frank Bonner and Susan Graham, it was decided that each Position Chair will cover financial information when delivering their report, and negating the need for full financial statements from the Treasurer at each meeting. Kelly also made a motion to amend the budget to accept a \$15.00 increase in BPA Dues that will go to Athletics. Amy Pease seconded the motion and it passed with no objection.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Asset Builders** – Jeanne Hasty reported that the Brookstone Parent Agreement for substance abuse that is on online and available for parents to sign electronically. The goal is to have every family's participation before Homecoming, October 5, 2007.

**Book Fair** – \*Kathleen Mason reported that the Book Fair will be in the Lower School Library Monday – Wednesday, October 22 – 24, and in Barnes and Noble October 22 – 28. There will be teachers' "Wish List" available for gift ideas. Volunteers are needed for one of three daily shifts, 4 or 5 volunteers per time slot.

**Booster Sports Programs** – \*Christina Vogler reported that the Football Program was out in time for the first home Varsity game and Cookout, Friday, September 7, 2007. Express Printing printed the ad book for \$400. less than what was paid last year; and with two less Brookstone Fall sports this year, the Booster Sports Program is \$1500. ahead of budget compared to the same time frame a year ago. There is talk that the ad book will be available through the Cougar Shoppe.

**Communication (Tech)** – Rashmi Hudson reported that the BPA Website had been updated and all parent forms could be signed online, reports generated to Committee Chairs for volunteer lists, and Minutes will be added to the site.

**Cougar Parent Pride** – Jamie Lewis is first to chair this newly formed committee that will generate enthusiasm for ALL Brookstone Clubs, with BPA representation at each event. Awareness of all the school's activities is the biggest challenge and communication will be key. A raffled football signed by this year's Senior players currently makes up the \$43.00 budget.

**Cougar Shoppe** – \*Christy Jones and Sheri McVay reported that they have been busy working with the new Cougar Parent Pride and New Families Committees; in addition to being at many school and sporting events. New items such as monogrammed hats and visors, long sleeve tee shirts and car flags are popular. \$22,000 of merchandise has been sold to date.

**Literature Live** – \*Linda Logan reported Literature Live Week is November 5-9 with the theme, "The Hero Within". Discussion will be of the unique characteristics of heroes, that heroes are everywhere, even within yourself, and not those who are professional sports players or celebrities. Eighth Grade is writing a paper on the topic and Lower School students will dress up, hero sandwiches will be served. T.A. Barron will visit on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> to discuss his book, "The Hero's Trail: A Guide for A Heroic Life". Primarily, Middle School students will get to visit with him.

**Magazines** – \*Nancy Wright reported that the 2007 Magazine Drive had a successful completion, with \$60,000 collected, equating to a profit to benefit BPA projects of \$27,000. Credit is given to Brookstone for magazines purchased all year, not just during the drive. Prizes will be received by Brookstone and distributed to students earlier than last year.

**New Families** – Audrey Hollingsworth reported that she and Margaret McCormick paired 109 new students with host families, all enjoyed a Sundae Social and gave thanks to the Cougar Shoppe for all the goodie bags they made for the new students.

**Parent-to-Parent** – \*Susan Graham reported for Suzanne McCluskey that on Saturday, August 11, 2007 there was a two hour session on "Lessons Learned About Drugs and Alcohol" held in the US attended by 28 parents. Sara Dismuke is presenting the Parent-to-Parent series at First Presbyterian church.

**Service** – Kim Jarrell (BPA Service Coordinator) reported on the 2007 Service Contacts: Sallie Martin (US), Teresa Young (MS), Lisa Neal (LS), Elizabeth Graham (Cash for Trash), Fontaine Jenkins (Recycling – new), Diane Ammerman (Shoe boxes for Ricks) and Kent Butler and Becky Smith (Reading Buddies). Cindy Sparks (Servant Leadership Program) reported Brookstone will participate in a WEEK of Service, not just a DAY, as in the past. Week is September 24- 28. Keni Thomas will speak on Servant Leadership. Shoe boxes will be for the Ricks Institute this year, not Samaritan's Purse.

### **School Reports:**

**Lower School** – \*Laura Byrd reported on LS happenings, to include: Parent Panels, LS Bible Study, formation of two Cougar Choruses, the progress of the Intermediate School and its playground and Progress Reports.

**Middle School** – \*Kim Jinks reported on MS happenings, to include: MS Officers' slate and Grade Representatives, 32 new Beta Club inductees and a calendar of upcoming events.

**Upper School** – \*Swain Gravlee reported on US happenings, to include: Student Government slate, US Officers' slate and Grade Representatives, Student Orientation, meeting with Ricks Institute Chief Administrator, former students returning to Brookstone to discuss Honors Constitutional Law, workshop for English faculty members on "Developing Writers", Foreign language faculty discussions, Seniors are selecting Senior Speech topics and will begin to deliver speeches in October and a calendar of upcoming events.

**Administration:**

**Enrollment** – Mary Snyder reported there are 109 new students, Ice Cream Social went well, albeit HOT, thanks to the Cougar Shoppe for the goodie bags, and Blue and White was every where!

**Guidance** – John Stafford reported that the US STEP Program and Study Skills Seminar went well, as did the breakfast for incoming Freshmen parents. The STEP Program is being presented in China to 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, with studies showing that there is increased learning in groups segmented according to the Whole Brain approach. PSAT will be administered for Frosh, Soph, and Jr classes on 10/17. \*Sandi Smith reported that 5<sup>th</sup> Grade orientation went well, with organizational skills and study buddies being introduced, a fashion show was conducted on the Dress Code by the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades participated in Honor Code classes and Sixth Graders have now completed the Emergenetics Survey.

**Advancement** – Catherine Trotter reported that Audrey and Selvin Hollingsworth are heading the Annual Fun, on October 25, a planned giving forum will take place – invitations to be going out soon, Brookstone received a \$50,000 contribution into the Capital Campaign from EE Ford marked for Service and much activity around school as the Intermediate School and the new Jordan Gym are well under construction.

**Athletics** – Todd Stanfill thanked the BPA for the Football Opening Home Game Cookout.

**Headmaster** – Scott Wilson reported that Brookstone was off to a positive start to the new school year, the US started in the new building, thanked the Literature Live program, spoke of safety and security issues and noted that students learn when they feel safe.

**Old/New Business** – \*Susan Graham distributed BPA Reminders/Notes and thanked everyone for their great enthusiasm and tireless help in getting this new school year off with ease and a sense of humor!

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm by Susan Graham. The next BPA meeting will be at 11:00am on Monday, November 12, 2007 in the Passailaigue Founder’s Room of the Kirven Building.

Minutes submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Amy Pease, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Indicates Committee Report or other related information submitted and attached to official record of the Minutes.