

Monday, February 26th, 2024

The February Site Council meeting was called to order by President, Stephanie Porter. Members present were: Lynn Feldmann, B Fincham, Kim Martin, Luke Long, Julia Rabe, Charle Green, Gary Lowry and Janet Porter. Guests Leanne Litton, Leah Henk and Lindsay Klema were also present. Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and needed amended. Gary moved to approve the minutes with the amendment; Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Principal's Report

Mrs. Porter announced that the final Foundation for Future Generations Community Meeting will be held at BES on Monday, March 4th. The Student Leadership Team will offer tours of the school beginning at 5 pm and the 4th graders will present a recorder performance at 5:50 pm. A free sloppy joe meal will be offered from 5-6 pm in the multi-purpose room, followed by the meeting at 6 pm. High school students will provide activities in the BES gym for children so parents can attend the meeting. More information about the USD 273 Bond 2024 can be found on the website at foundationforfuturegen.org or the Facebook page, Foundation for Future Generations. Ballots are due by April 18th.

The Mitchell County Spelling Bee Champion was BES 5th grader, Kael Rabe. He will attend the State Spelling Bee in Salina on March 23rd. The 6th graders recently had a field trip to the KSU Campus. Staff and students alike said it was an enjoyable experience. Students were able to learn about student services, participate in STEM activities, visit the K-STATE library & Vet Clinic and eat in Kramer Hall. Overall it was a great field-trip that exposed the 6th grade students to a 4-year college campus. The Book Blast has raised over \$11,000 already. Parent Teacher conferences had a 91% turnout which is the same as the fall conferences. Spring Break will be March 11-15th. State Assessments are also coming up later this spring ELA (grades 3, 4, 5 & 6) and Math and Science (5th grade only). On April 5th, BES and the Student Leadership Team will have a Charity Drive for Type I Diabetes, more information on this will follow. Finally, school jobs will be changing soon for the final 9- week period.

KESA

Mrs. Porter announced the next KESA meeting will be held on March 6th.

Friends of BES:

Friends for the month:

- Mr. Michael Harbaugh—donated 3 violins to the orchestra program.
 - Joelle Friess—provided cinnamon rolls during Parent Teacher conferences.
- Julia moved to accept these nominations; Stephanie seconded. Motion carried.

PTO Report

Pizza Hut fundraiser is on February 26th. The Plum Creek fundraiser is on March 5, 5-8 pm, dine-in only.

Old Business

- Stephanie Porter and Leanne Litton are going to meet on Monday, March 4th to discuss the Trojan Sock Fundraiser for the 3 & 4-year-old preschool needs.
- 4th grade swim lessons: At this time, USD 273 will not move forward with swimming lessons.
- Site Council Transparency: President Stephanie Porter asked thoughts on Site Council having its own Facebook page. Julia suggested we continue to current BES-related Facebook pages (BES PTO, Beloit Elementary School) as a means to communicate information from Site Council so as not to create another page or place for parents to have to follow or check. It was decided for now that we will not create a Facebook page for BES Site Council.

Community Comments

A parent asked if offering a Zoom option during Parent Teacher Conferences was a viable possibility. It was suggested this might offer a way for parents to still meet with their child's teacher especially if they work out of town, are trying to juggle multiple conferences on the same day or cannot leave work to attend an in-person conference. Mrs. Porter said she would consider the idea, particularly for the 2nd semester session of Parent Teacher conferences.

Committee Reports

- By-Laws – No update
- Character Ed – No update
- Goals – No update
- Parent Involvement – The Parent Engagement Survey results were shared. Mrs. Porter said the response rate to the survey doubled this year. A discussion was led by Mr. Lowry about possibly needing to provide a better definition of “bullying” before next year’s survey so we can get a clearer picture of how often bullying actually occurs at school. The pickup and drop-off zones at BES were mentioned in many comments/concerns on the survey, especially concerning the safety and flow in these zones. Mrs. Porter and Mr. Lowry said they will continue to work with staff, parents, and the city to try to improve upon these areas of concern.
 - Competitive Math Group Update: Stephanie Porter & Mrs. Porter met with BES teachers from 4th, 5th & 6th grades on February 26th to discuss the math group ideas and what math resources the math teachers would like to see.

Mrs. Porter will report at the next BOE on March 7, 2024. The next Site Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, Monday 25th @ 4:00 pm in the BES Library. Kim moved to adjourn the meeting; Julia seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Kim Martin, Secretary

Board Meeting sign-up schedule:

- April 8th: B
- May 13th: Stephanie

