



# PTO MEETING NOTES

## Basswood PTO General Meeting #2

Thursday, November 2, 2017  
25 in attendance

### Turkey Bingo Update - Beth Seppelt

- Event planning is in progress. Going well.
- Looking for more volunteers. Short 42 (as of today) - please visit the sign up genius link if you are able to help. Teenagers/Middle School Age Kids are welcome to volunteer.
- Evereve promo - 15% of profits go directly to Basswood. These funds will pay for table and chair rentals; prizes, etc...

### Fun Run Recap

- Event took place on Friday, September 29th
- Ninja Warrior theme went over well - Kids had a blast!
- Budget amount was \$35,000. Total of \$36,000 came in which was above the budget goal. Thank you to all that donated.
- After reviewing the financial information for the past few years, can we do more?
- Matt Deedrick from Boosterthon presented on how they could potentially help.
  - Company has been around for 16 years
  - 38 states
  - 2,300 schools
  - Just starting in Minnesota area
- 3 reasons that Basswood might want to partner with Boosterthon
  - First - taking care of families (volunteers & donors)
    - "Volunteer fatigue" - same group of people volunteer at each school event (not unique to Basswood)
    - On average - more donor money is coming outside of the school with Boosterthon (not just from the parents)
    - Each student would have their own unique web page portal that can be shared with friends/family everywhere.
  - Second - providing the best experience for the students
    - Program is short and sweet - 8 days long
      - Day 1: Pep rally kick off
      - Day 2-7: Motivational fun/character building
        - Character building is about 7 minutes/day for the 6 days - options - do it during lunch; classroom presentation; "huddles"
      - Day 8: The Fun Run Event
        - Option: "Glow Run" indoor events can be booked in the winter (instead of the outdoors)

- What is the best time of year - stay away from the end of school - and not mid-December
  - Boosterthon materials (including team building) are available to teachers to use all year long if they like. Free of charge.
3. Third - increasing the fundraising dollars.
- Projected fundraising with Boosterthon leadership is expected to be between \$50,000 - \$62,000 (much higher than the \$36,000 raised this school year)
  - Different packages available - volunteers can do some of the work; shared ownership - Boosterthon will run the pep rally and the fun run and then the 6 days in between is managed by volunteers and OR - Boosterthon does it all.
    - 65% profit if Boosterthon runs it all (volunteers, student experience, event day)
    - 75% if Boosterthon does some of the big work (pep rally kick off, event day)
    - 85% if volunteers do all the work - called Fun Run You (Basswood provides volunteers, student experiences and assistance on event day)

#### **What sets Boosterthon apart from their competitors**

1. Personalization - branding - Basswood name will be on t-shirts, website, etc...
2. Customization - website, fun run videos, etc..
3. Been around the longest
  - i. Minnesota - "launch program" - team of 10 serving 45 schools

#### **Principal Smith - State of School**

- **PBIS Rewards**
- Examples of how to earn points:
  - Following Basswood B's
    - Principal Smith gives them for kids being quiet in the hallways; kids picking up the bathrooms, etc...
- Prize values range from 25 points (hang up artwork in the main office) up to 250 points (smoothie with Principal)
- The Entire Class can redeem larger prizes such as extra recess, dance party, google expedition lesson - 250 points for each big prize.
- 6 parent volunteers have been helping with the store every other Friday. Students are enjoying this and there has been great traffic.
- It's about progression and getting the kids to save their points
  - Idea - teach about "interest" - life skill of saving vs. spending; may possibly implement later this year
- There is a Zero balance at the beginning of each school year
- Principal Smith has not heard one negative thing about it from any of the staff!

- **ECMAC update -**
- Brief History - 2 years back - process was created to allow the District to sort through enrollment/capacity concerns across the District-at that time, a process was created and a team formed called ECMAC (Enrollment and Capacity Management Advisory Committee)
  - Enrollment studies have been performed over the last year
    - Options / Outcomes could potentially include:
      - Build a new school
      - Constructing additional space to 4 schools
      - Add students to Magnet Schools (Weaver lake, Birch grove)
      - Boundary changes for where students go (impacted by all studies)
- After the year-long study, the committee proposed a recommendation to the District School Board during a public work session on October 10, 2017
- Presentation was phenomenal - here is a link to the materials - [http://osseo.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view\\_id=2&clip\\_id=187&meta\\_id=13571](http://osseo.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=187&meta_id=13571)
- Results were given that they need another year to study before suggesting a recommendation.
- Kate Maguire & Patricia Magnusen met with Principal Smith to talk about current enrollment struggles at Basswood - no answers for right now, study will continue - no further details to share with what will happen
  - Basswood is full, they will continue to work though it. Kindergarten classroom is in the computer lab - students/teachers are making it work.
- Things to consider: Whatever option is selected, there will be financial impacts to implement the changes, The School Board wants to make a good decision. They want to take their time and get the numbers exactly right.
- After 33 years of service to students and families in Osseo Area Schools, Superintendent Kate Maguire has announced her intent to retire at the end of the current school year on June 30, 2018.

**Buster Bucks Request (3) total**

1. **\$1500** to continue Brain Pop - subscription has expired
  - Teachers are using it and loving it
  - The School will pay the balance of \$800 - the school budget funds are separate from PTO funds
2. **\$500** - request for brand new budget line item (re-occurring yearly) to cover expenses for school-wide STEAM activities (outside of STEM Explorers, outside of Lego Robotics). Supplies/materials would be available to all students building-wide. Examples: replace items such as locks for Maker Space or phones for Google Expedition.

3. **\$450** - funds for Maker Space - currently limited to 30 kids in the morning (before school) - would like to add materials to engage more children. Can be used year after year. Examples: coding, technology items.

- Motion made to approve all 3
- Motion passed - no opposed

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

- Notable items: did not meet the big goal at the Fun Run
- Open to ideas on how to communicate fundraising (throughout the year, not just at the big Fun Run event)
- Link to full document treasurer's report:  
<https://schools.district279.org/bw/families/pto/43-parents/parents/109-pto-financial-statements>

#### **Other Fun Run Discussion**

- PTO decided to table the decision on how to move forward with the Fun Run (Boosterthon or not)
  - Concerns raised around giving donations to an outside vendor (Boosterthon) versus 100% of the profit going straight to Basswood
  - Mr. Smith suggested if we do move forward with Boosterthon that the full / big package where they do most of the work is selected. This way there is a learning opportunity to watch them in action and potentially scale back the years after – taking away what was learned.
- Request - adhoc meeting to discuss Fun Run with Board and any other parent volunteers that want to join.