



**PTA General Assembly Meeting Tuesday, October 3, 2023**  
**6 – 7 PM**

Meeting called to order at 6:13 by Kelly Ringston.

1. Standing Rules – Kelly explained that our PTA is governed by the NJ PTA. Bradford PTA has to adopt standing rules annually. Only proposed change is to Section 14, which changes the name of the standing committee to track how we've organized our PTA this year (Fundraising Chair, Community Events Chair, Teacher and School Events Chair, Communications and Special Education Liaison, SATp Liaison and Member-at-Large). The standing rules can be changed at any time, but typically done once a year.
  - a. Member question: Has DEI position been eliminated? Yes, because redundant with SATp, which has DEI as core focus.
  - b. **Vote:** Unanimous approval to standing rules.
2. PTA Budget – Copies distributed of revenue and expenses. Kelly explained that this PTA is an all-new board. Shared expectation that we will plan to amend the budget because our fundraising capabilities far exceed our current proposed budget. The budget year-over-year budget and actuals will be shared during each general PTA meeting.
  - a. Updates shared:
    - i. PTA has already distributed \$8,400 teacher grants (\$200 per teacher)
    - ii. Earmarked \$5,000 for approved purchases (ex: teacher easel)
    - iii. PTA will continue to support various initiatives (ex: diversifying classroom libraries) and enabling discretionary fund for the guidance counselor to support families, music program, etc.
    - iv. "School events" line item has the largest increase since last year. In August, PTA leadership met with Ms. Aboushi to put together a wishlist, which includes assemblies and other special events.
    - v. "School Beautification" initiative anticipated to grow as team builds out their 3 – 5 year strategic plan.
    - vi. Kelley Perkins and Allison Quinn shared that there is an appetite to increase fundraising (ex: Bradfest) and can say "yes" to additional wishlist items. Members encouraged to reach out ([ptapres@bradfordpta.org](mailto:ptapres@bradfordpta.org)) to share ideas.
    - vii. Shared appreciation for last year's PTA and fundraising efforts, which enabled this year to begin in a strong financial position.
  - b. Member questions:
    - i. What is current balance? ~\$16,000 and ~\$25,000 in savings.



- ii. ASE Fundraising: Allison shared that PTA is balancing making classes accessible and fundraising for PTA.
    - iii. 5<sup>th</sup> grade fundraising be integrated into the budget? Will meet to discuss.
  - c. **Vote:** Unanimous approval to the 2023-2024 budget.
3. Playground Refurbishment: Principal Aboushi shared an update.
- a. Updates Shared:
    - i. Focus will be mulched area, not the whole yard. Project will replace the playground, build in drainage and level the yard. The yard itself will not be reconfigured. This will be a separate capital project later.
      - 1. Note: There are no trees within this project area.
    - ii. This new scope clears some of the obstacles to expand the project without needing to get bids through the district.
    - iii. Work anticipated to be completed before next September.
    - iv. For the additional spaces / future projects, the ideas from the Green committee will be incorporated.
    - v. Our playground is bidding simultaneously with other district schools.
  - b. Member Input:
    - i. Member shared that other schools have donated PTA funds to BoE and had these funds earmarked for playground projects.
    - ii. Members the importance of maximizing the area and allocated budget.
    - iii. Members emphasized the importance of parent input – before and after the planning stages.

Each non-board member was provided with a door prize raffle ticket at the start of the meeting. These prizes were donated from Moss and More, Jones Road Beauty, Vesta, Turtle and Wolf and Mercado.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.