

Bridge Valley Elementary, Home and School Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

[03/06/2025], [6:30pm, EST], BVE Library and Microsoft Teams

In Attendance:

HOA BOARD Members: Carrie M, Danielle P, Max N, Morgan W, Kristina S, Stacey Pedersen

General Members: Megan M, Kaavya A

Attached: Agenda, Prior Minutes

Agenda:

1. Call to Order, Max Nichols
2. Approval of prior meeting's minutes
 - a. Megan M motioned, motion was seconded, passed by majority.
3. Principal Report, Stacey Pederson
 - a. Classroom reports, to attach
 - b. "Wait till 8th" outside group presentation, to attach
4. HSA Treasurer Report, Danielle Preston
 - a. Available upon request in DropBox
5. Per the by-laws we are announcing we are currently reviewing a draft amendment to the by-laws. A special general members meeting will be published one week prior to the meeting to vote on the new by-laws.
6. We will be accepting nominations to rotating Executive Board offices, pending the passing of the updated by-laws. If you're interested in this, please let us know!
 - a. Add chairperson interest too – role time expectations
7. Upcoming Events & Community Engagement
 - a. Events
 - i. Science Alive report – it's a must keep! 250hrs that parents volunteered!! AMAZING!!
 - ii. Sweetheart Dance – new date Friday 3/28/25
 - iii. Dine and Donate – 13th is Lovebird

Bridge Valley Elementary, Home and School Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

- iv. Diversity Day – on track, 7 tables booked!
- v. Book Fair – flyer went out

8. Open Floor to Questions, Comments

- a. Discussed death of former teacher. What can we do to honor?
- b. Question on the effectiveness of our communications – asked for Kate to see if we have analytics on our posts/emails.

Adjourned, [7:26, EST]



Home and School General Membership Meeting Classroom Reports

March 6, 2025

Kindergarten	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Thank you for the fantastic Science Alive week – the kindergarteners had a BLAST! ❖ Math: we are learning about tricky teen numbers (place value) ❖ Nonfiction Unit on Penguins
1 st Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ We loved planting seeds and transporting seedlings to the hydroponics system. We can't wait to bring our lettuce home! ❖ Science Alive was a great experience that would not be possible without all of the parent volunteers! ❖ We are looking forward to spring and outdoor recess!
2 nd Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ In Reading, we are reading stories about "Making A Difference!" ❖ In SS, we are wrapping up our learning of Native Americans. We took a virtual field trip to Wyoming and learned about the importance of bison. ❖ A HUGE thank you to all the parent volunteers that helped make Science Alive a success!
3 rd Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ "Bundle Up with a Book" was a great success! The third graders loved getting to read and relax with some new titles! ❖ Science Alive Week was amazing – as per usual! The students enjoyed the Star Lab. ❖ We've been working on historical fiction writing. This genre has really motivated our students to add details and get creative!
4 th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Matter and Pennsylvania in Science and Social Studies ❖ Decimals in math ❖ Reading: reading with focus on different types of fiction, autobiographies and poetry
5 th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ We are exploring the theme of Reflections in Reading, the 13 colonies in Social Studies, and Volume in Math! ❖ Thank you to all the volunteers from Home and School for supporting Science Alive! ❖ It's nice to see so many students participating in after school activities including pillow polo, chess club, and Young Rembrandts! We are excited for the start of the BV Running Club.
6 th Grade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ We are attending the Lenape Middle School play, Once Upon a Mattress, on March 12th. ❖ In Social Studies, students are working on creating and presenting PowerPoints about the ancient civilizations. ❖ Students will be having a virtual meeting with MBIT (Middle Bucks Institute of Technology) on March 31st

Specialists
and around
Bridge
Valley!

ELD

- ❖ Students in grades 3-6 are preparing to take the PSSA tests by reading and writing as much as possible.
- ❖ We are continuing to read books to Tucker, our awesome Roxy Reader.
- ❖ All the students are doing a wonderful job working on their ELD skills.



First graders loved making lava lamps during Science Alive!

Digital Wellness


Overview

Smartphones and social media are highly addictive, driving many concerning health outcomes and increasingly disrupting childhood. This community discussion is intended to...

- highlight some of the leading new research to support the delay of smartphone and social media use
- provide practical guidance and considerations for developing your own tech values and protocols at home
- discuss ways to engage your parent community (school and social) to encourage active dialogue on this issue and help make it no longer taboo
- share how CBSD is actively working to engage parents in making informed decisions about technology introduction, investments in digital wellness and citizenship through curriculum enhancements and education standards
- recommend ways you can use your current school communication channels to drive engagement in support of this important issue

Research/Discussion/Action

<p>Case for Delaying Smartphone & Social Media Use</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average age of first smartphone in US is age 10 • Elementary age kids on average are spending btw 3-7 hrs on screens (outside of school), middle & high school that number doubles • Smartphone use and social media lead to increased risk of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ anxiety, depression, dysregulated sleep, eating disorders ◦ academic distraction and negative impact on achievement ◦ exposure to adult, sexual content and cyberbullying • Smartphone use interfering with relationships- peers and family • Smartphone use in preadolescence leading to rewiring of critical brain development • Suggested resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Common Sense Media ◦ The Anxious Generation, by Jonathan Haidt ◦ US Surgeon General Warning 2023 ◦ Pew Research Cyberbullying
<p>Wait Until 8th</p>	<p>Wait Until 8th is a national, parent-led organization that promotes delaying smartphone and social media use . It is not affiliated with any political organizations.</p> <p>Over 90,000 parents have signed the pledge committing to wait until the end of 8th grade to get their kids smartphones - the earliest (age 14) researchers now say you should consider smartphones</p> <p>The pledge helps connect parents and build school-based communities of families seeking to delay smartphones.</p> <p>Great resources on site to support delay, including a full round up of smartphone alternatives. 📱 Smartphone Alternatives — Wait Until 8th</p>
<p>Self-Reflection Questions for Parents and Caregivers</p>	<p>What are your/our technology values as a family?</p> <p>What are you/your partner modeling?</p> <p>How is technology impacting you and your family currently?</p> <p>What are the opportunity costs of screen time? Which life skills, experiences and relationships are being swapped for screens?</p>

<p>What We Promote & Encourage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tech in the right place, at the right time, with the right skills - low tech in critical developmental years, not no tech • Put emphasis back on critical thinking skills, interpersonal connection/attachment and developmentally appropriate risky play • Consider safer alternatives to fully loaded smartphones if communication devices are determined a necessity for your family • Develop family tech and media use rules and responsibilities before introducing devices • Engage other parents around safe rules for online play and connection (beware of unmonitored class text chains) • Create environment where it's ok to delay
<p>CBSD Parent Partnership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CBSD leadership is supportive of Wait Until 8th and supporting parents in making more informed decisions around smartphones and technology • CBSD has plans to broaden and strengthen digital citizenship and wellness curriculum to support healthy tech habits and skills to navigate the complex digital world • Supporting and encouraging "away for the day" of smartphones and gadgets during the academic day to limit distractions • Reviewing and recommending some changes to elementary laptop use and total time on devices in school and for homework • Kicking off a series of parent education events this spring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Special viewing of Screenagers - Elementary Edition (March 25th) ◦ Get Your Questions Answered - Panel discussion with representation from CBSD, community health experts, local law enforcement and more (TBD)
<p>Activate Your School Community</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote and publicize CBSD sponsored parent events (school newsletters, online channels, flyers home to parents) 2. Host a parent discussion or event at your school (or start small with a group of friends) - we're available to support! 3. Add a "Tech Tip" section in your newsletter to share important articles and resources with your parents on this issue 4. Support the Wait Until 8th Pledge to build your school community of families who want to delay together
<p>Q/A</p>	<p>Ask away!</p>
<p>Connect</p>	<p>Email waituntil8thcentralbucks@gmail.com</p> <p>Follow us for news and events WaitUntil8th_Central Bucks</p> <div data-bbox="512 1790 628 1922">  <p>WAITUNTIL8TH_CENTRALBUCKS</p> </div>

Take the Pledge Today!



Bridge Valley Elementary, Home and School Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

1/16/2024 *2025*

Start: 6:37 pm

BVE Library and Microsoft Teams

In Attendance:

HSA BOARD Members: Stacey, Morgan, Kristina, Carrie, Danielle

General Members: Lana P, Soju K, Michelle S, Kaavya A, Jen W, April K,
Angelique T

Attached: *Prior Minutes 11/14; HSA Newsletter*

Agenda:

1. Call to Order and Welcome, Carrie Maio
2. Approval of prior meeting's minutes, Carrie Maio
11/14 minutes approved
3. Principal Report, Stacey Pederson
 - welcome back from holidays, grades debrief (principal report being sent),
4. Treasurer Report, Danielle Preston
 - published in dropbox
 - run brought in a great amount - check on corporate donation matches from donations or hours you volunteer
 - trunk or treat, holiday boutique and bazaar made a good amount of money
 - passive fundraising - going well for this time of year. Half of school year left and have already made our budget for revenue
 - yearbook funded up front, sales pending
 - we have a healthy amount of money in our account to allow us to support programs for the rest of the year
5. Recap & Highlights of Events Held:
 - a. Race for 20, Kristina Satterfield
 - made approximately. \$17k. Need to host parties for winning classrooms.
 - b. Staff Appreciation, Morgan Wittenberg
 - teachers loved it. Thank you to parents for food donations. Looking ahead to March for next teacher appreciation.
 - c. Holiday Boutique, Danielle Preston
 - great success. Thank you to all volunteers.
 - d. Holiday Bazaar, Morgan Wittenberg
 - successful event, good feedback, flexible event
 - e. Giving Tree, Stacey Pederson
 - gathered over 300 gifts for BVE families and a few others. Lots of gift cards as well.

Bridge Valley Elementary, Home and School Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

6. Upcoming Events & Community Engagement

- a. See the new Newsletter!
 - lots of volunteer opportunities and events upcoming
- b. Committee Updates, Various HSA Members
 - i. Dine and Donate & Off-Site Events, Morgan Wittenberg
 - 1. Jules 1/22
 - 2. Pierogi Sale
 - ii. Blazer Blessings, Jamie Horn & Carrie Maio
 - 1. 1/22 Blood Drive
 - being sent to CB West and East and middle schools for more donors.
 - iii. Sweetheart Dance, Lauren Conway & Morgan Wittenberg
 - polled regarding snacks. Majority felt its unnecessary
 - iv. Science Alive, Kristina Satterfield
 - coming together well. Teachers signed up and volunteers are signing up. Assemblies are scheduled
 - v. Bingo Night, Lauren Conway
 - doors open at 6, need celebrity callers
 - vi. Diversity Day, Soju Kurup
 - SUG link available. Have 7 booths signed up already.

7. Open Floor to Questions, Comments

- question about selling girl scout cookies at events. Lana P is going to email

Mrs. Pedersen

Adjourned, 7:32 pm