

## Barrington High School Parents Association

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### Minutes of the Meeting – May 7, 2019 – BHS Library

- **Attendance:** Emily Conner, Lisa Mc Gartoll, Dee O’Hayre, Liz Henderson, Bindu Mallick, Kristen Materne, Salina Kuo
- **President’s Welcome and Report** – Bindu Mallick called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.
  - This is Bindu’s last meeting after 5 years of being BHS PA President. Thank you from Bindu to Principal Joe Hurley and to the current and past boards.
  - In the past 5 years the BHS PA accomplished the following
    - Became a 501(c)(3).
    - Changed the mission statement.
    - Decided not to do direct fundraising, but encourage other BHS clubs / groups to come to BHS PA to fundraise through us.
    - Spent budgeted money for items that directly help the students:
      - Installed hydration units.
      - Purchased library furniture.
    - Changed meeting format to put BHS PA business at the end, and have Mr. Hurley and guest speakers at the beginning.
    - Started the BHS PA Newsletter (Lisa Mc Gartoll).
    - Started Spirit Wear sales (Laurie Dubel).
    - Bindu and BHS Librarian Suzanne Costa started “Device Free” day.  
Device Free Night is May 16., and Mr. Messoro will send a district wide flyer to promote this.
  - “Selling of Souls” will be shown on May 13, 6pm for parents and students. BHS students already saw the film during advisory.
  - Teacher appreciation luncheon is June 12th. More information coming.
  - MSA (My School Anywhere) Update: At the recent PTO President meeting, there was discussion of two options to replace MSA (which is going away). The final decision will be made in June. Data does not transfer because new permissions need to be signed for every parent / family entering their information. Anita DiMatteo will be setting up a meeting to try out the options. We will need to utilize the current MSA email list to get the word out about parents joining the new system.

- According to state guidelines field trips will need to be funded by the school going forward, not parent-paid. This will begin to be enforced in the 2019-2020 school year.
- An anonymous donor has kindly offered to pay for the cement slab for the senior picnic tables.
- **Principal's Report** - Mr. Joe Hurley
  - US News & World Report Ranking came out this past week showing BHS ranked 189 out of 17,000. In the revamped ranking system, they are not giving “gold” or similar awards, just the ranking. Ranking is based on things like graduation rate, math proficiency, and reading proficiency. Full report found at <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/national-rankings>
  - Other accolades for BHS have come from Washington Post and Newsweek.
  - NEASC Collaborative Conference representatives are coming May 23 and 24. Ellen Boris is the chair of the visit. She will arrive with a team of people to spend time at the school. The collaborative format is designed to help get BHS ready for 2021 Accreditation.
  - The Schedule for Seniors was handed out. For graduation, there is not a valedictorian. Students are able to submit essays for consideration of a speech for friendship service and/or graduation. Two of the essays will be selected blind.
  - BHS Administration has been working on the issue of enough parking in the BHS lot. The next couple of classes are also large so they are exploring options like enforcing the passes and maybe use extra spots in faculty lot.
  - Senior Project Presentations happened last week. There was a brief power outage during them, otherwise they went very smoothly. It was great to have so many community members participating.
  - New this year for Senior Project will be the Pitchfest for Juniors on June 5th. This will happen during the two blocks right before lunch, approximately 2 ½ hours. 8am – 10:30am. Note from Bindu: Anita DiMatteo is asking for 5 volunteers from each school PTO board to hear the Juniors pitch their ideas for their Senior Project. There is a BHS Faculty meeting next week to work out more details.
  - Rising 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Student/Parent Orientation will be May 14.
  - Thank you to Bindu for her work organizing and running the BHS PA these past 5 years.
- **Vice President's Report**
  - Kristen Materne is welcomed as new President for next year.
- **Treasurer's Report** – The \$1,726 in escrow from last year being used for picnic tables even though they won't be installed right away (waiting on cement slabs). The \$2,100 gift to school for this year, will be escrowed for next year, but the amount might change after final

purchases like graduation flowers, teacher gifts, other year end items. Also, there is \$1,400 from spiritwear sales. Next year, there could be as much as \$5,000 toward school gift. The Library used all of their funds.

- Kelly Walter is retiring from her position as Treasurer.
- BHS PA will be purchasing plaques for the bike racks, hydration stations, and picnic tables to commemorate the donations from this BHS PA board.
- **Secretary's Report - No report**
- **Committee Reports**
  - **After Prom** needs volunteers to help set up. There is a sign up genius. They are still gratefully accepting donations. The tentative plan for next year is to have an even larger online live auction, possibly at Barrington Yacht Club, open to the whole community. All kinds of donations will be helpful for the auction. Note that The Epilepsy Foundation was the partnering agency for the clothing drive.
  - BHS PA needs new board/committee members for these positions: Membership, Treasurer, Secretaries.
  - Bindu will be on Library and Hospitality committees. Lisa Mc Gartoll will be on Hospitality committee. Dee O'Hayre will continue on Nominating committee.
- **Old Business/New Business – none.**
- Meeting Adjourned at 8:05pm