

Bainbridge Island Blakely Elementary PTO  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 14, 2017

**GENERAL SESSION**

Start of Meeting 9:11 a.m.

Attendees: Rebecca Miller, Jeff Stuart, Lai Niims, Laura O'Connell, Elizabeth Walsh, April Murray, Smiley Grace Kulesza, Lori Hungerford, Emma Aubrey, Lisa Timmins, Erin Cyger, Kori Abbott, Anna Steen

Time 9:11

Raising Resilience - Speakers Joanne Maher and Julie Miller

- Began 13 years ago as Just Know Coalition
- Mission Statement: Support BI Community with Education, Connection and Resources (to Adults) so families thrive
- What is happening in the schools? Messages re raising a resilient child: Parents let your children fail; Stop comparing children to children; Stop shaming; Celebrate ordinariness of life; Parents want the environment to tell the truth about parenting, their children; Remind to have open hearts and be vulnerable; Develop personal relationships; Don't need to put a lot of focus on achievement; Celebrate both Academic and Social Achievements.
- How to Raise an Adult by Julie Lythcott-Haims. Letting go of situations that cause high stress. As parents, sometimes we don't let our kids fail so they may be academically ready for school but emotionally and socially they are not. Children are wildflowers not bonsais. Be present in your kids' life. Show your love. Take an interest in them. Show them you care. Have the ability to back off and let them make their own choices and risks and mistakes. Building character. We should focus on who they are as human beings. Notice them being good. Help them develop perspective. Life is not always great, learning how to deal and cope....not being invited to a birthday party, death of a pet, planting a tree and seeing it die, getting detention, having an event canceled because of what someone else did, deeply regretting something you can't take back, being picked last for neighborhood kickball.
- RR bases their program on the needs of the community.
- School is achievement based, how to respond as a parent and become less focused on achievement.
- Technology is another parenting issue..
- Support each other as parents, small groups. Talk about parenting issues.

Trivia Question: How much was the DBAC (District Budget Advisory Committee) tasked with

cutting from the school district budget?

Principal Report: Erin Cyger and Anna Steen for Reese Ande

- DBAC Budget review: 1.5 million was cut for right sizing, Other budget considerations: Instructional coaches, nursing and health room, custodial, district office staff, certificated, start and end time of school (bus routes), district wide support, welcome back to teachers, 5 minutes less a day for cleaning of buses (do every other day)
- Peter Bang-Knudsen working on framework for approval

Character Trait this month is Empathy.

Upcoming PTO Events

- Teacher Appreciation Week May 1-5. Something different planned for each day of the week ending with Cinco De Mayo celebration on Friday
- May 9th, Auction Planning Meeting for next year at Brewery
- May 19th: Bike and Hike to School Day
- Outdoor Ed. 4th Graders head to NatureBridge May 24-26
- Fitness Challenge June 7-9
- Field Day scheduled June 16th but may change

Meeting Minutes: March..Correct Susanne Schneider - BYS spelling. Otherwise, All Approved.

Meeting Adjourned 10:20