



African American Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday November 1st, 2023

6:30pm-7:30pm

1. Welcome!

- a. 44 new members have signed up to join the committee since the start of the school year. We are communicating with members primarily by email and Facebook. Our email is aapac.bhsd38@gmail.com.
- b. In an effort to improve participation, based on feedback from our monthly meetings, we are looking to have our MS Liaison make personal phone calls to members to gather input and ideas.
- c. We have Student Liaisons joining the committee moving forward.

2. October Meeting Agenda Item Follow up

- a. Members of AAPAC attended the Citizen Advisory Council Meeting on Monday, 10/23. (Hear update from Kristie)
- b. Members of AAPAC leadership attended a meeting with the Middle School principals on 10/26 to review the criteria for selecting Student of the Month. Some parents have expressed that the same students are chosen multiple times and would like to see more diversity in those selections as well as more transparency in the process. (Hear update from MS principal)

3. AAPAC Scarecrow

- a. Thank you to SallyMar for coordinating all of the creative items to bring our entry for the “Scarecrows on Parade” to life. To tie into our CandyLand themed trunk, we constructed Princess Lollipop. She is located at the entrance to the Middle School parking lot.

4. AAPAC at the Trunk or Treat

- a. Thank you to Kristie for coordinating all of the details to bring our CandyLand themed trunk to life at the Fall Fest.
- b. Thank you to all of our members that donated candy and stuffed goodie bags for the event. We were able to hand out 300 bags!
- c. Thank you to everyone in the community that stopped by our trunk to donate non-perishable items for the Grant Township Food Pantry. We were able to make a large delivery of donated items on Friday October 27th that filled an entire shopping cart! **You can continue to bring items for donation to the Middle School office until Friday, 11/3/23.**



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5. AAPAC Election Thursday 12/7/2023

- a. Will be conducted by School Liaisons, Miriam and Denise.
- b. Review positions that will be included on the ballot.
- c. Review the process to have your name added to the ballot and how the election will be conducted (in person, call in) and determine the deadline date to be added to the ballot.

6. AAPAC Holiday Social Thursday 12/7/2023

- a. Please join us for some fun and games as well as some holiday treats while we gather after the AAPAC election to fellowship and build community.

7. Black History Month Celebration February 2024

- a. Review template/agenda for Middle School Buildings.
- b. AAPAC virtual Book Fair planned with Brown Babies Books to run 2 weeks during Black History Month. Also plan to have Brown Babies Books curate a recommended reading list for each building. [Brown Babies Books: Representation Matters](#)
- c. We are working on scheduling a Black History Month themed Bingo night.

8. Parent University Series

- a. Looking to begin mini parent training/discussions featuring topics centered on diversity, equity and inclusion after the new year.
- b. Looking to partner with Synergy Education Consulting to offer parent training in addition to having them curate DEI development initiatives for BHSD staff. [Home \(synergyeducationconsulting.com\)](http://synergyeducationconsulting.com)
- c. Partner with Brown Babies Books to have featured authors come out to the district to discuss their books and host book readings.
- d. Please submit suggestions for topics of interest.

9. BHSD38 Administration Items

- a. Superintendent update on recruiting efforts: Northern Illinois University Job Fair (February 26, 2024)
- b. Principals for all school buildings are looking for volunteers in various ways: Ex. lunch/recess monitors, chaperones for school dances, Drop off/Pick up, classroom assistance.



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10. Social Media Update (Kristie/SallyMar)

- a. We invite you to join our Facebook group Page (AAPAC Council Members). Based on previous feedback it is now private.
- b. We regularly update the Facebook page with pictures of AAPAC events and information on upcoming community events that members may find helpful.
- c. We invite you to sign up on the GroupMe app to receive important updates through text.

11. Community Event Coordinator (Kasandra)

- a. We have created a document of family friendly events, special exhibits, and educational training for the next 90 days from our local area to share on AAPAC committee information channels that will provide opportunities for members to build community, volunteer and further their knowledge.

12. Board of Education Meetings

- a. We would like at least 2 participants to volunteer to attend each BOE meeting this year.
- b. Open session begins @ 6:30p on the following remaining dates: 11/13/2023, 12/11/2023, 1/16/2024, 2/12/2024, 3/11/2024, 4/8/2024, 5/13/2024, 6/10/2024, 7/8/2024
- c. We would like to make another statement to the Board in the coming months that features the student experience in the district.

13. AAPAC Meetings

- a. We will continue to hold meetings on the 1st Thursday of each month during the school year from 6:30p-7:30p.
- b. Meetings will be hosted in the Middle School Library as well as through zoom. The meeting agenda as well as the zoom link will be emailed district wide on the Monday prior to the meeting. A reminder email will be sent through the AAPAC google account on the day before the meeting to the AAPAC distribution list.
- c. Childcare has been added for those that would find it beneficial in order to attend in person. Please email aapac.bhsd38@gmail.com 2 days in advance of each monthly meeting to ensure we can communicate the need to the school administration.



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- d. These are the remaining 2023/2024 meeting dates: **12/7/2023 (AAPAC leadership election and Holiday Social)**, 1/4/2024, 2/1/2024, 3/7/2024, 4/4/2024, 5/2/2024.
- e. We will plan social gatherings to build community in June and July of 2024.

14. Open Discussion

- a. Any questions, comments, suggestions?

Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86192290332?pwd=NXJvanhOc2NvVnZReWxYcW9XSzgwQT09>