

- MINUTES-General Meeting
- Monday, January 11, 2016
- Briarwood Library
- FINAL

Call to Order: President Erin Thacker called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Attendance sheet is attached. Quorum present.

Guest Speakers: Ron Thiele (Superintendent) and Anne Moore (School Board)

Ron Thiele: The 2016 Bond will be on the April 26, 2016 ballot. The bond will fund construction of 4 new schools, property for the school sites, rebuilding of Pine Lake Middle School and critical expansion/modernization of six existing elementary schools.

The bond is needed due to unprecedented growth in the district, especially at the north end. The district has grown by 80 students since 10/1 and is projected to grow by 400-600 students by next year. The initiative for lower class sizes and possible free full-day Kindergarten will require more classrooms. We need to lessen the reliance on portables.

Taxes will not be affected by this bond, the current portion of property taxes that goes to ISD is \$4.14 for every \$1000. Our goal is to keep this tax rate stable. ISD has a good credit rating which allows for a low interest rate, and pays off bonds early, typically a 20 year bond can be paid off in 9 years.

Anne Moore (VIS): VIS advocates for ISD ballot measures. If people and organizations endorse the bond it will encourage others to do so. Go to www.visvote.org to endorse, donate, or volunteer. Like on Facebook and spread the word. 70% of ISD voters do not have kids in school, many do not vote. Briarwood, Maywood and Liberty benefited from the 2006 and 2012 bonds. Bonds also support safety improvements such as cameras and enclosed schools.

Bond Campaign Kickoff is on Jan 19th 7-8:30 at KCLS Service Center in Issaquah.

Grants (4):

Library: Sarah Threlkeld (Librarian) is requesting funds for 44 Branches Books (early chapter books). Requesting \$863.45 (for books and shipping). It may be possible to use Scholastic Dollars for this purchase but that has not been confirmed.

MOTION (by Nicole Morgan) I move that we approve the Library grant as presented for \$863.45, using Scholastic Dollars if possible. Seconded by Michelle Splaver; no discussion; vote; **Motion passes.**

Kindergarten Conference: Kelsey Smith and Tiffany Martinell will be attending a National Conference for Kindergarten Teachers (I Teach K) in July 2016. Drew Terry has already contributed \$500 to their costs and the remaining cost is \$698.

MOTION (by Laila Collins) I move that we approve the Kindergarten Conference grant as presented for \$698. Seconded by Rebekkah Leibowitz; no discussion; vote; **Motion passes.**

Kindergarten Conference Hotel: Kelsey Smith and Tiffany Martinell will be sharing a hotel room during the conference for a cost of \$775.26.

MOTION (by Rebekkah Leibowitz) I move that we approve the Kindergarten Conference Hotel grant as presented for \$775.26. Seconded by Nicole Morgan; no discussion; vote; **Motion passes.**

Flags: Laycie Rader requests funds for the flags hanging in the library and commons to celebrate international diversity at Briarwood. The cost was \$479.60 including hardware and hooks.

MOTION (by Nicole Morgan) I move that we approve the Flags grant as presented for \$479.60. Seconded by Alison Larsson; no discussion; vote; **Motion passes.**

Secretary's Report, Alison Larsson:

- Minutes from the General Meeting on November 16, 2015 were presented and approved as written.
- Correspondence: Thank you notes from Rachel Patty and Carolyn Kaiser were received thanking PTA for staff appreciation lunches

Treasurer's Report, presented by Seung Park:

- Account Balances: Checking \$44,242.26 Savings \$15,050.37
- Waiting for receipts to be turned in for Pizza Bingo.
- Financial Review (audit) needs to be done to audit second half of 2015. Volunteers for audit are Michelle Peebles, Alison Larsson, Karen Nelson, Laila Collins, and Nicole Morgan

President's Report, presented by Erin Thacker:

- Legislative Focus Day is Feb 3rd in Olympia 8am-3pm
- Reflections district-level reception is Jan 12th at 6:30 at Issaquah HS
- Parent Ed night- Thursday Jan 14: Savvy Parent Safe Kids workshop at Grand Ridge Elem 7-8:30pm

VP Reports:

- Communications, Michelle Splaver
 - Responses were received from teachers about which students need a printed newsletter, only 50 will need to be printed, the rest can read it online
- Programs, Nicole Morgan and Tira Will
 - Tira Will is taking over Gift-a-Book from Anela Fiorito
 - Staff Appreciation Lunch is Jan 26, Soup and Salad
- Fundraising, Rebekkah Leibowitz
 - Bear Path Bricks: We have 17 brick orders, weather needs to be warmer before they can do the engraving. Will schedule it for a Wednesday afternoon.
 - McTeacher Night: Scheduled for March 18th. Lynda Maybury needs a shadow this year.
 - Cookie Dough: March 4-18, delivery Apr 22. Contract has been signed.
- Family Activities, Erin Thacker for Danielle Hunter
 - Variety Show has been split into two shows due to high number of acts; shows will be Thursday Jan 21 and Friday Jan 22 at 6:30
 - All Carnival items have been ordered, we will have two dunk tanks this year, volunteers needed
 - We need a chair for Science Fair. If we do not have a chair by February 12 the Science Fair will be cancelled.
- Volunteers, Kristen Slocum
 - We need board members to give Kristen a list of those who actually end up volunteering so they can be recognized. Currently Kristen only has access to those who sign up on the website in advance. Michelle Splaver also needs this information for the newsletter.
- Membership Update, Erin Thacker
 - We currently have 355 members, our goal is 475. We are at 75% of goal. 31 staff have joined

Principals Report (Drew Terry):

- Science Fair kickoff assembly is scheduled for March 17. If there will not be a Science Fair we will need to cancel this.
- Staffing: EA Jennifer Prado resigned at the end of December, new EA should be starting Jan 19. Heather Burdick is out on leave and Tara Pomerleau is the long-term sub. Pam Lindner is going to be working mornings only and will have a sub in the afternoons.
- Full-Day Kindergarten – nothing has been officially decided yet. Classes typically increase by 15% as they move from Kindergarten to first grade. There were 22 new first graders this year. If Full Day Kindergarten is approved we may need 5 Kindergarten classes instead of 4. Currently we are assessing costs for having Full-Day Kindergarten, there will be no more tuition money coming in, we will need more EA time for Full Day and would need another portable. There is a Parent Orientation for Kindergarten scheduled for Feb 9. Registration will start in March.
- Science Tech open houses: Briarwood March 1st 6pm; Clark March 10, Cascade Ridge March 28, Lottery drawing is April 20
- Assessments: There will be a new assessment for Second grade highly capable called ITBS the last week of January. In February there will be a language test for ESL. CogAT will be taken end of March for 2nd grade. SBA for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade will happen in April in May – one week for each

grade level, tentative schedule is on the website. It will be the same company, same test engine, we are waiting to hear if we can do it wirelessly.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm

Submitted by:

Alison Larsson
Secretary, Briarwood Elementary PTA 2.6.5