

- MINUTES-Board Meeting
- Monday, February 22, 2016
- Briarwood Library
- FINAL

Call to Order: President Erin Thacker called the meeting to order at 6:40pm. Attendance sheet is attached. Quorum present.

Secretary's Report, Alison Larsson:

- Minutes from the Board Meeting on October 19, 2015 were presented and approved as written.
- Correspondence: 3 items: Thank you note for Kindergarten Conference Grants from Kelsey Smith and Tiffany Martinell; Thank you note from Kim Hall for Staff Appreciation Lunch; Thank you note from several staff members for Staff Appreciation Lunch

Treasurer's Report, presented by Seung Park:

- Account Balances as of 2/21/06: Checking \$41,186.72 Savings \$15,050.37
- End of Year financial review was held on July 15, 2015, there were no issues.
- Mid-Year financial review was held on January 20, 2016, there were no issues.

President's Report, presented by Erin Thacker:

- Council Update: VIS cards supporting the Bond should be in the mail on March 1
- Nominations are needed for the Golden Acorn, Outstanding Educator, and Outstanding Advocate awards, there haven't been any yet. Nominations can be submitted until Thursday, February 25. Both Staff and PTA members can be nominated.
- Membership update: 9 new members this month, we are at 77% of goal. Goal is 85% membership.

VP Reports:

- Fundraising, Rebekkah Leibowitz
 - Cookie Dough fundraiser will be March 4-18
 - McTeacher night is on March 18. Chair is Lynda Maybury, and her shadow will be Brittany Amandus
 - Orange Ruler dates for next year are: Sept 9- kickoff, money turn-in date Sept 26, run date Sept 28
 - ISF Update
 - ISF Luncheon is April 28 from 11-1 at Issaquah Community Center
 - ISF breakfast is May 4 at Eastridge Church
 - Dining for Kids: Wednesday, March 2 at Big Fish, 5 Guys, and Peaks Yogurt. Restaurants will donate a portion of sales to ISF.
 - Labels for Education update, Alison Larsson
 - Labels for Education program is coming to an end as of July 2016. Our points need to be used to buy merchandise from their catalog. We currently have 35,301 points.
 - It was decided that we will give 18,000 points to Briarwood to use for new playground equipment, and the remainder will be used to buy prizes for events like Carnival.
- Communications, Michelle Splaver
 - Working on the March newsletter, please turn in any information for the newsletter to Michelle by Friday Feb 26.
 - Electronic distribution of the newsletter has saved money but there is some question as to whether the teachers are distributing it to parents. Kelsey Smith will remind teachers to send the newsletter to parents. We could also put the newsletter in the weekly e-Blast.
 - There was discussion about whether or not to make the PTA's Facebook page private. A private page would be accessible only by those who have a private invitation. The page is currently public, but set up to where no one can be tagged in pictures. There has been much discussion about this at the council level also. Most other PTA's Facebook pages are public.
- Volunteers, Kristen Slocum

- Has had no response to requests for feedback about volunteers. Will ask chairs at each event to choose a volunteer to recognize.
- Use of gift cards for volunteer recognition is discouraged by council. Other items (flowers, baked goods) should be used to thank volunteers.
- Programs, Nicole Morgan
 - MAH and RAH: Same teachers keep winning the bear and monkey. Participation is down from when the program was done on paper forms. Kids do read (it is required in many classes to read daily) but the minutes are not submitted online. We may try again with paper to see if participation increases. It was also suggested to start next year with paper forms and then switch to online after a few months.
 - Staff Appreciation Lunch is Tuesday March 8, theme is International foods
 - Yearbook (Erin for Tira Will) Yearbook flyer will be sent home soon. Deadline is approaching.
 - Gift-a-Book (Erin for Tira Will) participation is down, we may need the display board back. Flyers are still being sent home with kids who have birthdays that month.
- Art, Erin Thacker for Michelle Peeples
 - There has been a request to increase the Art budget by \$500 to pay for an additional clay project for 4th grade that was requested by teachers because it ties into creative writing. It was agreed to adjust the budget this year, but in the future this should be funded as a grant.
MOTION (by Laila Collins) I move that we reallocate \$500 from the Grants line item to the Art Docent line item Seconded by Nicole Morgan; no further discussion; vote; **Motion passes.**
- Family Activities, Danielle Hunter
 - Missoula: Danielle will be hosting both directors. Chair is Emily Klein.
 - Science Fair, Friday, April 22:
 - Chairs are Chris Pottsmith, Greta LaMont, Kim Ricks, and Anuradha Zade
 - Kickoff Assembly is March 17 @ 9am.
 - Projects should be dropped off morning of the event.
 - International Night, this Friday, Feb 26. Need more food sign-ups. The entertainment will be a bagpiper, Indian National Anthem, and Indonesian music

Nominating Committee Update (Michelle Splaver, Seung Park, Nicole Morgan)

All board members are returning next year except VP of Fundraising. Jasmine Brothers is nominated for this position.

Staff Update (Kelsey Smith)

- McTeacher night sign-ups: First shift is full, second shift is filling up
- There have been some negative comments/posts on social media about teachers, projects, etc. Please be considerate when using social media. The district is discouraging teachers from being friends with parents on Facebook.

Principal's Report, Drew Terry

- Staffing figures for next year: Free Full day kindergarten has been approved in the district. Briarwood will have 4-5 classes of Full-Day K. There will be a new section for 3rd grade for a total of 5 classes. There will be 5 classes for most grades. There will be 2 new portables with 2 classrooms each.
- Teacher leave updates: Mia Harrington and Anne Miller will be returning from maternity leave soon. Heather Burdick is back from leave. Librarian Sarah Threlkeld is on a reduced schedule and will be out on maternity leave at the end of April. She will be replaced by Deneall Owens. Barbara Soel and Mrs. Foster will return next year. Jennifer Mitchell and Kelsey Cook will be taking one more year of leave. Laycie Rader will continue to fill in for Jennifer Mitchell next year.
- District Admin staffing updates: Principals are leaving at Cascade Ridge, Issaquah Valley, and Maple Hills elementaries. Larger elementary schools (Grand Ridge, IVE) will be increasing to have 2 assistant principals. Principal at Liberty HS is leaving, Maywood MS is adding an assistant principal, and Skyline HS's assistant principal is leaving.
- Kindergarten Registration: Have received 25 packets. Good turnout at registration. Since there is no FDK lottery, there is no incentive to register. Remind any incoming kindergarten families to register ASAP so the school can be staffed appropriately.
- Kindergarten screening is Weds March 30, need volunteers

- Science Tech parent night is March 1. There are also parent nights at Clark and Cascade Ridge.
- Spring photos and class photos are March 24 & 25, need volunteers
- Staff saw a screening of the documentary film "Paper Tigers" about kids at an alternative school in Walla Walla and how teachers used new approaches to educate struggling teens. A similar event featuring this movie will be held again. The movie is very highly recommended by Mr. Terry and Kelsey Smith. More information to come.
- Student Support Coach Keri Silvers is working towards common behavioral expectations that are consistent between groups, more information to come.
- "Buddy Bench" is in place outside the lunchroom, a place for kids to sit who are looking for a buddy to talk to. Student Council members have been encouraged to be a buddy to those who need one
- Emergency Plan: New materials have been ordered, storage room has been reorganized. Professional advice and support for triage, radio protocol, first aid supplies from Fire Department, Sheriff, school nurse. A full scale drill will be held the last week of May, volunteers will be needed

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm

Submitted by:

Alison Larsson
Secretary, Briarwood Elementary PTA 2.6.5