

- MINUTES-General Meeting
- Monday, September 19, 2016
- Briarwood Library
- FINAL

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

**Speaker: Rebekkah Leibowitz, Issaquah Schools Foundation**

Upcoming ISF events:

Click for Kids: October 20. Donate on website at [www.isfdn.org](http://www.isfdn.org)

All In for Kids Honk-n-Wave: November 4

High School Students call for donations: November 10 & 15

Nourish Every Mind campaign: Luncheon May 11, Breakfast May 17

**Secretary's Report, Alison Larsson:**

- Minutes from the General Meeting on May 16, 2016 were presented and approved as written.
- Correspondence: Thank you card from Briarwood staff to Nicole Morgan and PTA for the taco lunch for staff appreciation.

**Treasurer's Report, presented by Seung Park:**

- Account Balances as of 9/19/16: Checking \$35,412.76 Savings \$15,052.36
- 2016-2017 Budget changes were reviewed. There is less money for Grants this year due to the expense of the laptops and carts that were purchased for the portables.
- **MOTION (by Jasmine Brothers) I move that we approve the budget as presented.** Seconded by Rebekkah Leibowitz; no further discussion; vote; **Motion passes**
- Financial Review was held on July 7. The following issues came up:
  - All contracts need 2 signatures
  - 2 signatures required on all cash counts
  - Passwords were changed for online access to bank accounts, etc. and this should be done annually.

**President's Report, presented by Erin Thacker:**

- Board Meetings are open to all.
- Introduced this year's Board Members
- Briarwood PTA Mission and Goals have been approved by the Board, and were submitted to the General Membership for review.  
**MOTION (by Jasmine Brothers) I move that we approve the Mission and Goals as presented.** Seconded by Nicole Morgan; no further discussion; vote. **Motion passes.**
- Briarwood PTA Standing Rules have been updated by the Board as follows and were submitted to the General Membership for review.
  - Rule 1 name changed to "Briarwood PTA 2.6.5",
  - Rule 13 change "five times" to "four times",
  - Rule 19 change "shall be presented" to "may be presented"**MOTION (by Michelle Splaver) I move that we approve the Standing Rules as presented.** Seconded by Megan Raak; no further discussion; vote. **Motion passes.**
- Training Opportunities – All board members must be trained
  - Sept 26: Reflections Training 10:30-12:30 @ Issaquah Library
  - Sept 24: PTA and the Law 9:30-12:30 @ Lk Washington School Dist Resource Center
  - Oct 4: PTA and the Law 6pm-9pm @ Tolt Middle School, Carnation
- Legislative Assembly will be held October 21 & 22 at the Red Lion Hotel in Olympia. Kristen Slocum (Advocacy Representative) will attend, others are welcome.
- Parent Education - "Introduction to the American School System" Oct 27 6:30pm @ Issaquah Valley Elementary

- Parent Education – movie “Screenagers: Growing up in the Digital Age” Oct 17 7:00pm @ Issaquah HS
- The district is still considering changing bell times; a decision will be made by Dec 1<sup>st</sup>. Parent/student feedback may be requested again.
- Standards of Excellence: Silver award was originally received, however there was no feedback or explanation for deducted points. The binder was resubmitted and re-evaluated by the WSPTA State Programs Director Michelle Nims and Briarwood PTA received the Gold Award.

### **VP Reports:**

- Communications, Michelle Splaver
  - First newsletter of the year went home, the first is printed and the next newsletter in November will be electronic. The cost to print the newsletter was \$185 for 660 copies.
  - Facebook page: we have 360 ‘likes’, up 125 from last year. This year there will be more news from the district on Facebook, and national and regional PTA news as well
- Programs, Nicole Morgan & Tira Will
  - Directory will be online this year, please add your teacher’s name to your PTA account. Looking for business advertisers
  - Math at Home (MAH) and Read at Home (RAH) programs start on October 1<sup>st</sup>, there will be tables outside on Popcorn Fridays
  - Book Swap is October 28<sup>th</sup> in the gym at lunch recess.
  - Family Movie Night is October 21<sup>st</sup>. Movie has yet to be determined.
  - Gift-a-Book: Mrs. Soel cannot take pictures to put on the bulletin board this year due to limited time between classes. Will use other incentives to donate books, or will get a volunteer to take the pictures. New chair is Amy Imes.
  - Fall Book Fair is November 14-18
- Art: Erin Thacker for Michelle Peeples
  - Art Docent training Saturday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> 9:30-3:00 at Grand Ridge Elem. Need volunteers.
  - Still need art volunteers, contact Erin or Michelle
- Fundraising, Jasmine Brothers
  - Orange Ruler (Nicole Morgan)
    - As of today we have collected \$22,379 and have 50% participation. We are halfway to our goal.
    - The Kona Ice party will be on October 21<sup>st</sup> for all classes who have met their goal.
    - Money will be counted on Monday morning Sept 26<sup>th</sup>
    - Run is on Sept 28<sup>th</sup>, Pig Race at 8:45am for the top 10 classes. K-2 will run separate from grades 3-5.
- Family Activities, Danielle Hunter
  - Pizza Bingo is November 18<sup>th</sup>; chair is Lena Wiegering
  - International Night is December 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Variety Show is January 20<sup>th</sup>. Still need a chair.
  - No Pumpkin Carving Night this year
- Volunteers, Kristen Slocum
  - We have 168 volunteers signed up on the website
  - Vision/Hearing Screening is October 14, need more volunteers, sign up online.
  - VIP (Volunteers inspire Praise): Program Chairs or Board Members can nominate volunteers. It was suggested that they be recognized on our Facebook page also.
- Membership: Erin Thacker for Becca Heeter
  - We currently have 393 members and are at 76% of our goal.
  - Goal is 80% membership or approx. 520 members

### **Staff Report (Laycie Rader):**

- Announcements from PTA can also be shared through Bear News and Announcements
- Building space is limited, notify Laycie as early as possible to schedule events
- Kelsey Smith enjoyed the Kindergarten Conference that was funded with a PTA Grant

- Thank you to PTA for Teacher Stipends
- Camp Colman: Due to a bus scheduling problem the expenses were higher than anticipated this year.

**Principal's Report (Drew Terry):**

- We have 654 students at Briarwood in K-5, and 6 preschool classes that together have 69 kids.
- One of these classes is a special needs (IEP) preschool where kids who qualify start when they turn 3, so there will be new students added throughout the year
- Curriculum Night: 75% of students were represented
- School Volunteers: Sign up to volunteer online, the process takes about 1 week so that the background check can be completed. When your signup is complete, you will get an email from the district. You can also call the office to see if it is complete.
- Activities: Bear Chorus (130+ kids), Running Club (110 kids), Go Green, Student Council, Reading Buddies
- Spanish Club: Sara Vanderwel is taking a break from Spanish Club this year, there may be another teacher
- Anne Miller will be teaching a Coding Club funded by ISF
- New Slogan/Rules based on the Positive Behavior/Emotional Support Program: "The Briarwood Way"
  - Be Respectful
  - Be Responsible
  - Be a Problem Solver
- Student of the Month categories will be corresponding to these Rules, starting with "Be Respectful" for September, "Be Responsible" for October, and "Be a Problem Solver" for November. Teachers will nominate the kids. There will be new certificates, there will still be a lunch for parents
- Thank you for passing the 2016 Bond, 4 more schools will be added in the district, including a High School and Elementary at the Providence Point property, still looking for two more places for the other schools.
- ISD has surpassed the 20,000 student mark
- WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) is a nationwide program that brings fathers and father figures into the schools to provide positive male role models for the students, and provides extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying. We are hoping to roll this program out in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year.
- ISF Cultural Bridges program is a family engagement strategy that supports communication and connection with the ISD and parents who were born outside the US.
- Apperson Class Packs (online school supplies purchasing) was a success. About 240 class packs were sold (about 200 families). Feedback was good, especially regarding the convenience and competitive prices. Not sure if Apperson will be doing class packs for us next year as we were a pilot program for them, but if they do not there are other companies that also provide this service.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Submitted by:

Alison Larsson  
Secretary, Briarwood Elementary PTA 2.6.5