



Issaquah School District
Local Unit 2.6.5

Briarwood Elementary PTA

MINUTES
Board Meeting
Monday, Oct. 21, 2013
Briarwood Library
Final Copy

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

President's Report, Karin Manning:

- Calendar updates: Book swap- November 15; Focus day in Olympia- Feb 4
- Council Report: Our PTA reached Bronze Level with 309 members, 59% of student body represented. Our goal is to have 100% teacher and parent involvement.
- Caring Through Sharing program- Beth Donahoe and Seung Park. We need to provide a general idea of how many gifts we think we will be able to donate. Unwrapped gifts will be given to food bank to distribute to needy families.

Secretary's Report, Diane Oberg:

- Minutes from the Board Meeting on July 22, 2013 were presented and approved as written.

Treasurer's Report, Alison Larsson:

- Account Balances: Checking \$34,468.87 Savings \$15,041.73
- Jog-a-thon proceeds: \$22,988 has been deposited, still waiting for approximately \$3600 in matching funds.
- Briarwood PTA made a \$500 donation to ISF and received a thank you note. A student also wrote a thank you for the grant that purchased keyboards for music class.

VP Reports:

- Fundraising, Tracy Kennedy
 - We are \$333 short of our goal for Jog-a-Thon, but still plan on a movie night reward. Seung Park and Mindy Johnson will chair Jog-a-thon again next year.
 - Cookie dough orders will be taken through Nov 1. Delivery will be on Fri. Dec 6.
 - eScrip: After Nov. 1, credit card purchases at Safeway will not qualify, so we're expecting a significant drop in funds.
- Communications, Maria Bassett
 - There are new training documents (chairperson's toolkit) on the website under the PTA icon.
- Programs, Hollie Archibald and Erin Thacker
 - Math at Home- Loan Chen, chair: Flyers will go home this week, but information is already available on the PTA website. The program will occur during the months of Nov, Jan, Mar, and May. Students will log their math minutes online, with a goal of 300 minutes a month for Preschool- grade 2 and 500 minutes a month for grades 3-5. There are many ways to earn minutes at home: the flyer includes a list of resources for apps, online games, or traditional games to play to earn math minutes. Students who meet the math minutes goal will be entered in drawings for prizes in February and June. Loan is sponsoring a large prize of an iPod Nano or a new bike. Every popcorn Friday Loan will be out playing games

with kids to encourage participation. More parent volunteers are needed at 1pm on popcorn Fridays to support the games.

- Book Fair: All for Books is money donated during fair that will be put toward Briarwood reading programs and Reading Club. The money donated will be used to purchase books at the fair, and Scholastic will match funds to donate to a national non-profit organization supporting literacy. A committee is needed to decide on how we want to use points and dollars from Scholastic. Renee, Katie, Laila, and Maria volunteered to be on the committee, and they will make the decision for this year.
- Art Program: Diana Romig resigned as art docent. There are art volunteers for all grade levels except pm kindergarten, but the lessons still need to be decided on.
- Book swap: Kids that bring 10 books get their names in a drawing. Prizes will be Scholastic gift certificates, obtained from the \$100 bonus we received from the book fair. At the end of the swap, leftover books will be given to students who don't have books at home. Teachers will pick up and distribute the books to maintain student privacy.
- Spirit Sales- deadline is Friday the 25th. There will most likely not be another sale this year. The hoodies run small, so we need to make sure people get the correct size when placing this order.
- Family Events, Louisa Pardo
 - Pumpkin Carving: Friday, October 25. Everything is all set and ready to go.
 - Variety Show: Each parent needs to register their own child online by Nov. 13. Auditions on Dec. 2, rehearsal Dec. 6, dress rehearsal Dec. 12. We are still in need of a backstage student manager.
 - Missoula Children's Theater is during the first week of March. Host families are needed for 2 directors, and each director needs their own private room.
 - Pizza Bingo will be Nov. 22 from 6-8pm, Cougars vs. Huskies theme.

Other Chair Reports:

- Advocacy, Paul Dutton- 2014 Legislative Focus Day is a rally in Olympia on Feb. 4, 2014. There is interest in hosting a south end town hall where we invite legislators to discuss school funding. ISD levy campaign is coming up, and VIS is hosting a kickoff party on Nov 4 from 7-8:30 at the KCLS Resource Center. Paul needs help with levy signage.
- Reflections: Flyers were sent out last week, and submissions are due Nov. 8. Reminders will be given on E-news and through teachers' newsletters.
- ISF- Calling nights are Nov 12-14. Volunteers are needed to help mentor the HS students who do the calling. There is a brief training and free pizza.

Staff Report:

- Jog-a-thon was a great success, very well organized, no significant loss of classroom time.
- Some teachers are questioning why cookie dough fundraiser is so close to Jog-a-thon. The reason is timing; parents want to purchase cookie dough before the holidays.
- Numerous teachers will be coming to the PTA requesting grants. The PTA membership can vote for or against any grant. Grants need to meet the PTA's Mission and Goals, especially since we have a limited budget. Teachers will present their grant requests and then leave while the membership discusses the request. They will be notified at a later time if their grant was approved or denied. This will help to prevent discomfort for teachers and PTA members.

Principal's Report:

- Preschool started Sept 30th, and the program is thankful for the welcome they've received. The playground is now open.

- We have Title Math and Title Reading programs this year. The reading program serves 5 students before school and 59 others during the school day. The math program serves 50 students. Between the Title and ASAP programs, the goal is to be able to serve all kids in need.
- ASAP will start in January, and ideally will include 18 groups of 4 or 5 students. Mr. Terry would like to expand ASAP program to include writing, so ISF was asked for a \$15,000 grant instead of the \$10,000 awarded last year. Teachers will hand out permission slips to qualifying students at conference time.
- The district is doing a safety assessment on every school. A report will be given to the superintendent outlining ways to make the schools safer.
- 76% of students were represented at curriculum night.
- Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP): Currently in year 4 of 4, the building has decided to focus on the content area of Reading. CIP Goal: By the spring of 2014 at least 88% of students in grades 3-5 will meet or exceed standard in MSP in reading. Gap Closing Goal: By the spring of 2014, at least 52% of low income students in grades 3-5 will meet or exceed standard in math on the MSP.
- In general, math MSP scores decreased, possibly because now the test is more aligned with core standards than the curriculum is. This year we have a hybrid curriculum (some lessons removed and some new things added) in order to become better aligned with the core standards.
- The district has contracted with 6 former ISD principals to help with evaluations. Four Briarwood teachers are now evaluated by a former Sunny Hills principal. She will sit in and watch Mr. Terry conduct an observation and post conference to keep format as similar as possible.

New Business: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm

Next Meeting: Monday, November 18, in the Briarwood Library

Submitted by:

Diane Oberg
Secretary, Briarwood Elementary PTA 2.6.5