
Call to Order: President Karin Manning called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Attendance sheet is attached. **Quorum present.**

President's Report, Karin Manning:

- Council Report
 - A Bond Development Committee has been formed. ISD is considering putting a bond up for vote next February or April. They are forecasting the need to build 4 more schools due to rapidly increasing population: 2 elementary, 1 middle school, and 1 high school. Land is incredibly expensive and not readily available, so another alternative would be to build up on existing campuses.
 - Art East is holding an auction on March 26th. They help support our art docent program.
 - Students at another school made a promotional video to advertise for PTA. This could be a good idea for our school, and we could play it at orientations, curriculum nights, and other family events.
- Calendar updates
 - Cookie dough sales: March 2-13 with delivery on April 17
 - Skating Party: March 13 from 6:30-8:15
 - Report cards available on Family Access on March 13
- Golden Acorn nominations are being reviewed; winners will be announced at the March PTA meeting.

Secretary's Report, Diane Oberg:

- Minutes from the Board Meeting on December 15, 2014 were presented and approved as written.
- Thank you notes were received from Ms. Peschl and Ms. Rahlfs classes for the approval of the Mentor Text grant. These notes will be brought back to the General Meeting next month so that they can be seen by the General Membership.

Treasurer's Report, presented by Alison Larsson:

- Account Balances: Checking \$34,679.61 Savings \$15,047.58
- A Financial Audit was conducted February 4, 2015 by Laila Collins, Erin Thacker, and Karen Nelson. There were no issues.

VP Reports:

- Family Activities, Laila Collins
 - Missoula Children's Theatre begins next Monday, March 2, and 77 kids have signed up. On Friday there will be a dress rehearsal in the morning and then a performance for the school (no parents) after lunch. There will be a performance for families on Friday night at 6:30pm. We still need to figure out where costumes and props can be stored throughout the week. More volunteers are needed on Monday afternoon to help hand out folders and collect money once the cast has been chosen.
 - Invention Convention will be chaired by Tara Doland and Kimberly Hirst. Ms. Lindner and Ms. Miller have provided documents explaining the Invention Convention, and the chairs are simplifying and consolidating them to distribute to interested participants. There will be no judging of projects this year, and no button contest. We're not sure how much participation to expect since this is the first year that we have tried this format. Rick the Toymaker is coming to do a kickoff assembly, and he will be asked to use the term 'invention' rather than 'science fair' in his presentation, so that there is consistency with the theme.

- Fundraising, Rebekkah Liebowitz
 - McTeacher Night and Cookie Dough are upcoming fundraisers.
 - The Safeway on 4th will become Hagens in April, so we will lose escrip money and will need to lower our budget accordingly.
 - Bear wash tickets are for sale on our website, 5 for \$25
- Communications, Maria Basset
 - Young Author Survey had only 12 responses, but feedback will be used for future events.
 - Newsletter will be published after the March 16 meeting so we can include slate of candidates for next year's board and the Golden Acorn winners.
- Programs, Hollie Archibald and Erin Thacker
 - Book Fair and Teacher Appreciation week begin May 4th.
 - We have Scholastic Dollars that will expire before the next book fair. Ms. Soel and the preschool and Head Start teachers may want to use them. Leslie Smith may be able to use some of the Scholastic Dollars to purchase books for the Reading Buddies program.
 - There will not be another Book Swap this school year.
 - We will need to add money to the art budget for next year to cover the cost of taxes for our docent.
- Nominating Committee, Hollie Archibald, Erin Thacker, Diane Oberg
 - Deadline for nominations is February 27th. The slate of nominees will be presented at the March general meeting, and the election will be held at the April general meeting.

Staff Report, presented by Jenna Thoresen and Alyssa van Breda:

- All classes are gearing up for testing; Fountas and Pinnell assessments are occurring now, second grade COGAT testing and the ISD writing assessment will occur in March. Smarter Balance Assessments will run from March to May
- The District is forming a committee to look at all of the assessments the students are taking to determine if some may not be necessary for some grade levels.

Principal's Report, Drew Terry:

- All teachers need to decide by this week if they want to stay where they are, change grade level, or transfer to another school. Next week ISD will decide on provisional contracts, job shares, etc.
- Next year Briarwood will have an additional class in 1st, 3rd, and 5th grades, as well as a behavior specialist.
- This spring Jennifer Mitchell will go on maternity leave, and Laycie Haupt will take over the position of Dean of Students. Laycie's class will get a long term sub.
- Briarwood will potentially have 7 or 8 new teachers next year. Once kindergarten registration is complete, the district will determine how many portables we'll get next year. We will definitely get one, which Bear Club will move into. We may lose the broadcast room if it is needed to house an extra 5th grade class.
- The PTA will need to increase the budget for Camp Colman next year since there will be a higher number of students attending.
- The Science Tech Open House will be on Tuesday, March 10 at 6pm. Each site hosts its own Open House, and a parent must attend in order to apply. The lottery will be held on April 22.
- The ISD assessment director will do a Smarter Balanced Assessment parent education night on Thursday, March 12 at 6pm.
- ASAP will end on March 19 for third graders, and on April 2 for everyone else.
- Enrollment Verification will be online again this year. There will be emails and automated phone messages reminding parents to complete this process. Parents will still need to print out and return forms to the school, but the goal is to have everything online the following year. Students won't be given their teacher assignments until their forms are all turned in.

New Business: None

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm

Next Meeting: General Meeting, Monday, March 16, 2015 in the Briarwood Library

Submitted by:

Diane Oberg
Secretary, Briarwood Elementary PTA 2.6.5