



# BIRCHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Weekly Bulletin June 8, 2017

## **Nature & Garden Club - Butterfly Garden Fence Project**

This Saturday, parent volunteers will erect a new rabbit-proof fence around the butterfly garden, and we need YOUR help! The work party will start at 9 am, and we hope to be substantially complete by 1 pm, but volunteers can arrive/depart any time. We appreciate any and all help! Students are also welcome to participate if joined by an adult. Bring simple tools if you have them (shovels & cordless drills in particular would be helpful). Contact Mike Cooper ([cowleycooper.mike@gmail.com](mailto:cowleycooper.mike@gmail.com) or 585.255.0043) with any questions.

## **Yearbooks**

Did you order your yearbook? They will be delivered to the students the 2nd week in June. Don't worry, you can still purchase one at \$25/each. Please submit your order and payment payable to Birchwood PTO (on envelope write Attn: Millie Gnatek).

## **There's a Spot Just For You!!**

2017-2018 PTO Volunteer Opportunities STILL available!! DON'T wait any longer!! Sign up today to get the best selection!! ALSO for every PTO slot you sign up for, your name is entered into a raffle drawing for a youth sized spirit wear! Winner will be announced in next week's bulletin. Contact Suzanne with any questions on responsibilities of a PTO spot- 378-4025 or [suzieruns18@gmail.com](mailto:suzieruns18@gmail.com). THANK YOU to all those who have already signed up!!

Click here for online sign up- <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a094fa9aa2fa46-20172017>

OR fill out [this form](#) and return it to the office.

## **Lost and Found**

Do any of these items look familiar?? Please check the Lost & Found table. There is a large selection of goodies there!



### **Forum to discuss PTO or PTA**

As the Birchwood PTO moves forward in the restructuring process, the Birchwood community must decide whether it should become a PTA or incorporate and become its own 501(c)(3) organization.

Join us next Wednesday, June 14 from 7-8pm to discuss the pros and cons of each option. The Birchwood community will be asked to decide in a special vote on June 29.

### **Update on June 7 PTO Meeting**

Last night, it was proposed to amend the Birchwood PTO (BPTO) Bylaws as follows:

1- To reflect that the BPTO will no longer be a subordinate of the Council of the PTO of the Niskayuna School district (Council), effective July 1, 2017.

2- To amend the bylaws to remove all language that requires the BPTO to provide, report or communicate bylaws amendments and fiscal policies to the Council or seek the approval of the Council for any bylaw changes.

It was also proposed

3- To delay the election of new officers and the approval of the annual budget for the 2017-18 school year until July 31, 2017 or until the new governance structure has been adopted, whichever comes first.

4- To extend the terms of the outgoing Executive Board members until July 31, 2017, or until a new governance structure has been approved in order to conduct the business of the BPTO.

5- To establish a Bylaws committee to write the bylaws of the new 501(c)(3) or PTA organization; and

6- To amend the bylaws to permit electronic voting on amendments that occur on or after June 29, 2017.

Voting on these proposals will occur on June 29, 2017. To discuss these proposals or the pros and cons of becoming a PTA or a 501(c)(3), please attend the forum next Wednesday night at 7:00pm.

### **Ice Cream Social**

I scream, You scream "THANK YOU" to Christina Calabrese and Anna Connelly, our Ice Cream Social Chairs, for organizing a Fabulous fun event!! Thanks to all the ice cream scoopers, food table helpers, cotton candy makers, snow cone

servers and face painters! Thanks to those who came early to set up and those who stayed late to clean up! Always a huge thank you to our wonderful Custodial Staff!!

Thank you to Francesca Hill and Karen Davis, our Book Fair Chairs. Thanks to the 4th and 5th grade Student helpers, the parents who volunteered to set up, pack up, help students and run the cash registers! It was a very successful BOGO book fair- thank you for your support!!

**Mark your calendar!**

- June 9 - Field Day (Rain Date June 16)
- June 14 - Forum to discuss PTO or PTA (7pm)
- June 20 - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Moving Up Ceremony
- June 21 - Last Day of School (10:45am dismissal)