

Birchwood Elementary PTO

Meeting Agenda

April 12, 2017

9am

Conference Room, Birchwood Elementary

Invitees: All Parents and Birchwood Community Members Welcome

- I. Call to order
- II. President's Report (Jan Brown and Erin Cassady-Dorion)
- III. Officer Reports
 - A. VP Programs & Services (Suzanne Brooksby)
 - B. VP Fundraisers (Jill Appert)
 - C. Treasurer (Maureen Younkin)
 - D. Secretary (Anne Burger)
- IV. Principal's Report (Deb Berndt)
- V. Teacher's Liaison Report (Amy Santandrea & Kathleen Vermilyea)
- VI. Committee Reports - add notes where appropriate
- VII. Old Business
 - A. Nominations - We need your help!
- VIII. New business
 - A. Junior Achievement - See notes section
 - B. Nature Park
 - C. Volunteer Form for next year - See notes section
 - D. Event Survey
 - E. Communication Format for 17-18
 - F. PTO Commitments
 - G. Nature Park (Katie Crowley-Cooper and Deb Shephard)
 - H. ACES DAY
 - I. PLC- parent commitments
 - J. 2017-18 Birchwood PTO Budget vote in May
- IX. Approval of minutes from last meeting
- X. Adjournment

Program & Committee Updates

Junior Achievement Notes:

From Christina Calabrese:

I intend to take on the task of JA coordinator (unless someone else wrests it from my hands) until my kids leave Birchwood. During this time I have a great vision for JA! I would like to see the program merge so that each grade has only 1 parent teacher, teaching the classes together. I think this would (1) allow for more teacher breaks during the JA program, (2) allow for more social interaction of the children, (3) garner exceptional volunteers and (4) be more efficient for everyone involved. Also, I intend to streamline the process for training the JA volunteers and handing out teaching materials. This will all happen next year.

At the end of the JA Spring teaching semester, I would like to host a symposium (that probably isn't the best name for elementary school kids so I figure someone can help me out with the name) where we have all of the kids gather in the cafeteria and hear from a couple of entrepreneurs (I was thinking Parker's Dad [owner of Jumping Jacks], and a couple of others (I was thinking of someone from a bank as they usually have lots to giveaway to kids) to highlight a point from a lesson from each of the grades. I was also going to ask them for freebies as giveaways for the kids. And, I was hoping for some money from the PTO for refreshments. In the first grade, we learned about wants v. needs. So, I thought providing healthy snacks for the kids may be a good way to buttress that lesson by providing some healthy snacks to the kids (bottled water, fruit and whatnot) compared to junk (get it want v. need). What do you think?

Sample of Glencliff Newsletter (Biweekly):

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HmmpclIMVGSNv_M-u4aNA1qrRonwP8jCAaNnzK3rdTYJIDYhyJ9kCUEzVsCiL6p-6WrZ_I-3YJDbe4VI/view