

Birchwood PTO Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2015
6:30pm
Birchwood Conference Room

Call to Order

Co-President's Report (JoMarie Ethier, Jan Brown)

Officer Reports

VP Programs and Services (Suzanne Brooksby)

VP Fundraisers (Jill Appert)

Treasurer (Brenda Leto)

Secretary (Anne Berger)

Principal's Report (Deb Berndt)

Teachers' Liaison Report (Amy Santandrea, Kathleen Vermilyea)

Board of Education Report (Kevin Laurilliard)

PTO to Board of Ed Liaison's Report (Anne Burger)

New Business

-Monster Mash

-BBQ

-Bike Ride for Missing Children

-Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

-Teacher Mini-Grant Application

-E-Directory

-FOM Membership

Old Business

-Playground

Concluding Comments

Adjournment

Committee Reports: (See next page)

directory delivery in October 2015.

We are encouraging parents to sign up - Newcomers at all grades (K-5). Parents currently signed up should review and update their info as required. Initial Backpack notes to newcomers informing about PTO Communications, until the sign up and Opt-In for e-communications.

RESOURCES for curriculum nite

***** 2-3 volunteers at PTO dues table (alternating between sessions) to review directory info and collect PTO dues**

***** 2 volunteers Computer lab 2-4 computers for newcomer sign in and volunteers.**

OPEN Items:

1. Is Print shop at High School is it available for printing directories?

2. Do we continue with \$5 as PTO due?

3. Class lists required from Birchwood office [Submitted by Shilpa Garde]

Bulletin Distribution: 2015-2016 email distribution list is on way. Currently we have 263 opt-in email addresses that are going to increase with the incoming KG class and other newcomer e-directory sign ups. Current list is accessible for e-bulletin distribution and updated version will be made available shortly after e-directory updates. Please have items for bulletin to Pam Ober the Sunday prior to the Thursday distribution. Articles must be written and print ready. Pam will send a draft out on Tuesday. Please read it and respond to her with any changes or with a thumbs-up. [Submitted by Shilpa Garde]

Media Center: Soyoung will be taking care of visiting authors instead of Laura. If we need more people for this committee, I'm going to recruit more people. Alice Downing is the only one person signed up for 1000 book club. This committee falls under Media center. So I recruited another person, Lori Corwin. If we need more people, I can also ask around and recruit more people. (Submitted by Soyoung Mok)

Yearbook: we have started to collect 1st Day of School pictures. Any photos should be emailed to birchwoodyearbookpictures@gmail.com Yearbook Committee meeting request should be emailed out soon. We are planning for the 1st yearbook pto meeting to take place next week; we will be choosing the cover and going through page design assignments. (Submitted by Sonya Ward and Millie Gnatek)

Junior Achievement: Laura has prepared the parent volunteer collection sheet. This will be distributed to the teachers to use at Back to School Night. Teachers were asked to get back to Laura with their parent volunteer names so Laura can coordinate with JA for training and packet distribution. (Submitted by Laura Mirkovic)

~~.....~~ I am ready to do more releases as needed. Not sure if we should do another on one the bike ride for missing persons as it was covered pretty well last year. If there is strong feeling to do this, I can. However, I have a work event the day of the ride and would not be able to be at the school. Please advise. (submitted by Laura Mirkovic)

Nature Club:

1) Base for shed has been erected by the compost bin. Not yet permanent. If needs to be moved, please let us know. Plan is to build shed on day of mulch installation if that is still happening.

2) Carrots are being harvested for school lunches

3) Story Walk will be in place again before Back to School BBQ. We are putting up Lois Ehlert's Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf. (Submitted by Katie Cowley-Cooper)

Arts in Education: After meeting with Mrs. Berndt this summer, the Arts in Education Committee has been busy planning assemblies for the upcoming school year. We have been working to coordinate quality programs and stay within budget.

Some of the programs being planned include:

1. Patty Bateman is coordinating-Kids and Cultures-Treasures of the World for one assembly on Monday, November 23rd at 1pm. It's a "fast paced interactive storytelling program for elementary students, featuring folk tales from all over the globe." [Kidsandcultures.com](http://kidsandcultures.com). This taken directly from the website.

In working with two other schools and the performers schedules, this timing worked best. 2. Jennifer Sargent is coordinating Opera Saratoga and is working on a visit date with Mrs. Berndt.

3. Cheryl is coordinating one presentation by Flame-the Band, which is scheduled for May 18, 2016 at 1pm. <http://www.flametheband.com/>

4. Katrine Rush is coordinating a 4th grade presentation about Owl Pellets by Birds of Prey and will be working with 4th grade teachers.

5. Teachers will again be able to schedule one presentation on their own through Scotia Glenville Children's Museum, paid for by the PTO. (Submitted by Cheryl Gerstler)

Berchward PTO Mtg

9/8/15

name

- ✓ Jammy Apharian
 - ✓ Kathleen Vermilyea
 - ✓ Suzanne Brooksby
 - ✓ Amy Santandrea
 - ✓ Debra Berndt
 - ✓ Vennie Cuevas
 - ✓ Millie Grater
 - ✓ Heidi Emba
 - ✓ Lee Grant
 - ✓ Marie Etienne
 - ✓ Jan Brown
 - ✓ Brendalio
 - ✓ Jennifer Conn.
 - ✓ Dawnick
 - ✓ Souya Ward
- Anne Budge