

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake PTA Council May 19, 2009

Call to Order: Paula Van Buren called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Amy Agan, Linda Fieldhouse, Laurie Kruppenbacher, Kathy Lynch, Erin Pezzulo, Lauren Roecker, Ann Slocum, Rita Snively, Bob Speck, Paula Van Buren, Lynnette Ziskin.

President's Report: Paula Van Buren.

~Paula welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting, given it's an extremely busy time in the school year.

~A unanimous vote welcomed Barb Becker as treasurer and Jackie Ballinger as Arts & Enrichment chair for the 09-10 PTA Council year.

Secretary's Report: Lynnette Ziskin.

~The minutes of the March 16, 2009 Council meeting were distributed via e-mail, but not approved via e-mail. With 3 noted/minor corrections, Linda motioned to approve the March minutes, Ann seconded. A vote followed; the minutes were unanimously approved. They will be sent to Christy Multer for inclusion on the BH-BL website.

Treasurer's Report: Amy Agan.

~Amy provided the following report:

1. The Balance Sheet as of May 19, 2009 which reflects the following:
 - Checking Account: \$11,339.61
 - Savings Account: \$8,724.12
 - Total Assets: \$20,063.73
2. The Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual, July 1, 2008 – May 19, 2009.
3. The 2009-2010 PTA Council Budget Overview. After some discussion, Erin motioned to accept the budget, Rita seconded; a vote followed which unanimously approved the 09-10 PTA Council Budget.
4. Charlton Heights and Pashley owe \$25 (each) to the Council for the Eileen Briggs award.
5. Congratulations to the Theatre for Children on its 50th anniversary and an outstanding performance. Their total revenue was \$8,634 (\$3,634 over budget!)

~School Board Liaison's Report: Bob Speck.

~The school budget vote is today; the BOE is optimistic about the vote. Lately, there have been fewer negative comments regarding the budget.

~There are 5 candidates for 3 positions on the BOE. Bob stressed the importance of electing qualified Board members that would serve BH-BL in the most positive and best interest.

~The evaluation process is ongoing; meetings will continue over the next two months.

~Bob thanked everyone for their patience and support in the Board's transition from resigned member Nancy Della Pia to Board-selected candidate Patre Kuziak.

~Bob noted that BH-BL is widely recognized for their superior music department and programs. Please continue your support.

Superintendent's Report: Jim Schultz.

~Jim was unable to attend tonight's meeting; no report.

Teacher Representative's Report: Rocco Montesano.

~Rocco was unable to attend tonight's meeting; no report.

Committee Reports:

Audit Committee: Karen Smith.

No report.

Eileen Briggs Award: Ann Slocum.

~Ann reported that she received numerous nominations, actually - the most ever received. The winner of the Eileen Briggs award is Connor Maloney; Tim Brunson will present the award to him at the High School Honors Night, Thursday May 21.

Arts & Enrichment: Rita Snively.

~It was reported in March that the grants received in the past from the Saratoga County Arts Council could be in jeopardy because these grants are state funded. However, Adrianna Flax, the Grants Administrator for the Saratoga County Arts Council (SCAC) and a grant application review board member, has informed us that there is no indication that funding will be cut for the upcoming year. While being awarded a grant is never guaranteed, it appears that we will still have the opportunity to apply for the SCAC's AIE/LCB grant for next year's ESDC residency. ~Ellen Sinopoli programs were held at Charlton Heights, Pashley, and Stevens.

Founders Day: Erin Pezzulo.

No report.

After-school Enrichment Clubs: Karen Smith.

No report.

Theatre for Children: Kathy Lynch.

~Kathy came to the meeting to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone that supported the Theatre for Children's 50th anniversary.

Odyssey of the Mind: Jean Smith.

No report.

Council Delegate Reports:

High School PTA Council Rep: Laurie Kruppenbacher.

~A presentation was given by a student anti-advocacy group (at the HS PTA meeting) requesting PTA support to discourage tobacco advertising in our schools. Their requests were that the magazines which are subscribed to by our schools be free of tobacco advertisements and asking for PTA's support to promote tobacco-free advertising in movies/movie theatres. A discussion ensued regarding retail stores' tobacco marketing strategies, including: in-store promotions of tobacco products, interior displays, and signs in store windows, all designed to entice shoppers into purchasing tobacco products.

~The Teacher's Appreciation luncheon was held on May 14.

~Honors Night is scheduled for Thursday May 21.

~Mrs. Symer led a discussion regarding the complex issue of cell phones and texting happening in classrooms throughout the school day.

~A new soundboard was purchased for the auditorium; the high school is still in need of a new scrim curtain.

~The After-prom party at the Bayou Café was well attended.

Middle School PTA Council Rep: Mary Beth Frewin.

No report.

Charlton Heights PTA Council Rep: Barb Becker.

No report.

Pashley PTA Council Rep: Darcy Baumbach.

No report.

Stevens PTA Council Rep: Linda Fieldhouse.

~The Walk-about and Ice Cream Social were successful on May 7.

~The Staff Appreciation luncheon was an Italian food theme held on May 13.

~The plant sale (in lieu of Stevens Goes Green) will be this Friday and Saturday, May 22-23.

~The Stevens concert will be May 27 at the High School.

~Stevens is considering new fundraisers next year, including the one for recycled Capri Sun juice packets – two cents for each recycled packet.

~Kindergarten Orientation will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the next 3 weeks.

~The 2nd grade Terra Nova tests were last week.

~Several committees have been eliminated from the PTA Volunteer Sheets, with the hope that volunteerism will increase for the programs that most closely affect children.

~A discussion regarding how the school handles bullying issues took place. Mr. Rothacker recognizes the seriousness of the issue, and training is in process for staff and bus drivers.

Vice-president: Erin Pezzulo.

~No report.

2nd Vice-president: Laurie Kruppenbacher.

No report.

3rd Vice-president: Lauren Roecker.

No report.

Unfinished Business:

None.

New Business:

None.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:40 p.m.

The next PTA Council meeting will be held on Monday September 21, 2009 in the Principal's Conference Room at the High School.