

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake PTA Council

March 21, 2011

Call to Order: President Mary Carrier called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Present: John Blowers, Mary Carrier, Kendall Dubuc, Rachel Engelhardt, Mary Beth Frewin, Kathy Lynch, Jim Schultz, Charlene Spetla

President's Report: Mary Carrier.

Interested in hearing from the Founder's Day Committee about the evening and from the School Board Rep regarding the turnout for the Budget Forums.

Secretary's Report: Lynnette Ziskin.

~The minutes of the January 10, 2011 Council meeting will be re-distributed via e-mail for approval. After approval, they will be sent to Christy Multer for inclusion on the BH-BL website.

Treasurer's Report: Rachel Engelhardt.

1. The Balance Sheet as of March 21, 2011 reflects the following:
 - Checking Account: \$7,381.53
 - Savings Account: \$8,762.37
 - Total Assets: \$16,143.90
2. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
3. Founder's Day went well with regards to dinner reservations and payment. Need to bill individual PTAs for flowers.
4. The Theater for Children Income and Expenses report includes some recent payments for expenses, as work on the performance has begun.

School Board Liaison's Report: John Blowers.

~ There is an increase in the number of students registering for Kindergarten this year. As it stands now, there will be an increase of 50 to 60 students registered for the fall of 2011.

Kindergarten registration will take place during the first three weeks in May.

~ During the next few months, there are opportunities to attend Finance Committee meetings and participate in community forums to receive updates and provide input in the process of developing the budget. The calendar is available on the district website, www.bhbl.org ; box in upper left, click "Board of Education", then the information can be located under "Budget Development" section.

~More than 300 individuals attended the budget forum on Thursday, 3/3. The majority of the group is ok with a tax increase, 56% ok with a 2%-4% tax increase. This year four candidates filed nominating petitions for seats on the Board and there are 3 seats open. Meet the candidates night is Wednesday, 5/11. The League of Women voters will be conducting this forum to allow the candidates to share their views and offers an opportunity for the community to ask questions.

Superintendent's Report: Jim Schultz.

~Jim stressed the importance of the PTA being involved during the budget development process, and suggested that PTA Council form a voice to be heard at Budget Forums. Facebook and webcasts have been popular tools for the Budget Forums. If you cannot attend, please voice your

opinion online. The online survey can be found on BHBL.org. **The next Budget Forum meeting is on Tuesday, 3/29.**

~**The Budget Vote and School Board elections will be held on Tuesday, 5/17.**

~Discussed the district protocol for head lice.

~**Teacher Representative's Report: Mike Mosall.**

No report.

Committee Reports:

Arts & Enrichment: Jackie Ballinger.

No report.

Eileen Briggs Award: Maureen MacNamara Marshall.

No report.

Odyssey of the Mind: Jean Smith.

No report.

Theatre for Children: Kathy Lynch.

Theatre for Children will be performing on Friday, 4/8 and Saturday, 4/9. This performance will include two shows Aladdin, compromised of 70 kids (1st-6th graders) 1 hr, after intermission adults put on Little Red and the Riding Hoods. **First time for reserved seating, \$6 at Mail-N-More seats go on sale 3/25.**

Council Delegate Reports:

High School PTA Council Rep: Lynnette Ziskin. (not in attendance)

~ For the first time in school history, all 27 varsity interscholastic sports teams fielded by the Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake high school this year have earned "Scholar-Athlete" awards by having team grade point averages (GPAs) of 90 percent or higher. This puts BH-BL in a special category achieved by only 16 NY schools last year.

Middle School PTA Council Rep: Amy Agan. (not in attendance)

~The Gertrude Hawk Chocolate fundraiser was a huge success! The money from this fundraiser will support PTA Arts & Enrichment programs.

~A Monopoly Fundraiser Special Committee has placed the Monopoly Board and equipment for sale on Ebay and Craig's List. Local organizations looking for a fundraiser will also be approached.

~Plans for Eight Grade Class Night are underway; co-chairs of that committee are Amy Whitney and Carolyn Guyer.

~ The middle school has two Odyssey of the Mind teams that competed at the recent competition at the Shenendehowa campus.

~ The O'Rourke Middle School Drama Club is performing the spring musical, The Wizard of Oz on Friday, 3/18 - 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, 3/19 – 2:00 and 7:00 p.m.

~The middle school PTA is still in need of a Craft Fair chair.

Charlton Heights PTA Council Rep: Laurie Kruppenbacher. (not in attendance)

- ~The After School Enrichment clubs were a huge success! Thank you to all the volunteers.
- ~Bouncy Bounce Day featuring Bounces by Sunshine will be held on Thursday, 3/31. Each classroom will have the opportunity to enjoy a half hour of bouncing and playing!
- ~March is PARP month. The Book Fair is 3/25 and the Adopt a Book program – wish list will continue through March.
- ~The Family Snow Tubing event is on 3/24
- ~The Charlton Heights School Walk About is on 4/28.

Pashley PTA Council Rep: Kendall Dubac.

- ~The remainder of March will be filled with PARP activities. Pashley PTA Family Movie Night and PARP Celebration is on Saturday, 3/26.
- ~Silver Graphics orders are due on Monday, 3/28 and will be returned just in time for Mother's Day.
- ~Polar Bear Press continues to run smoothly. Thank you to all the parent volunteers.
- ~April events planned include: Red, White, and Blue Day on 4/1, PTA Movie Night on 4/1, Popcorn Sale on 4/8 and Pashley Spirit Day on 4/8.

Stevens PTA Council Rep: Charlene Spetla.

- ~Stevens PTA is hosting a free parent education forum titled, "Different Strategies for Different Kids: The Easy Child, the Slow to Warm Up Child, and the Difficult Child with local psychologist Raymond Bodensieck, Psy. D. Join us on Thursday, 4/7 at 7pm.
- ~Stevens Elementary sent 3 Odyssey of the Mind teams to the Regional Tournament on Saturday, 3/5. All three teams came up with outstanding creative solutions to some challenging problems!
- ~Science Night was a great success with 110 participants.
- ~The Book Fair is in process and will end on Friday, 3/18 with the annual Pajama Party.
- ~Silver Graphics fundraiser is underway.
- ~ There are 150 students enrolled in the clubs so far. Thank you on behalf of the PTA for volunteering and making this program exist.
- ~ The Walkabout will be held on Thursday, 4/28 at 7:00pm. Ice-cream social to follow.
- ~ The author of the Biscuit books, Alyssa Capucilli will be at Stevens on Wednesday, 3/30. She will have presentations with the Kindergarten, First and Second Grades. Also, Marc Brown, the author of Arthur books, will be at Stevens on Monday, 5/16. He will be giving a three hour assembly with possible book signings afterward.
- ~ Kindergarten Orientation will take place in the first three weeks of May.
- ~The Stevens PTA teachers' representatives requested that PTA be involved in the BH-BL budget development process.

1st Vice-president: Chris Katz; 3rd Vice-president: Mary Beth Frewin.

Founder's Day was a great success and we received nice feedback. We are documenting the Founder's Day event so that the details of the planning and preparation are in writing. Some feedback included trying to involve the families; however, this may take away from the surprise element and cause additional parking and seating issues.

2nd Vice-president: Laurie Kruppenbacher. (not in attendance)

~ PTA Council will host the **Transportation Breakfast** on Wednesday, 6/1 at Stevens Elementary at 9:00 am. **Each PTA is asked to provide 3 dozen baked goods, 3 small fruit platters, and 2 volunteers.**

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 p.m.

**The next PTA Council meeting will be held on Tuesday May 17, 2011
in the Principal's Conference Room at the High School.**