

Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake PTA Council
May 17, 2011

Call to Order: President Mary Carrier called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Present: Mary Carrier, Kendall Dubuc, Rachel Engelhardt, Mary Beth Frewin, Chris Katz, Kathy Lynch, Lynnette Ziskin.

President's Report: Mary Carrier.

~A discussion arose which suggested the annual PTA Council dues be raised from \$75 per unit to \$100 per unit. The dues have not seen an increase in numerous years. This topic was discussed at length and agreed that due to rising costs of supplies and services, and increase in PTA Council dues is necessary. A motion was made by Mary Beth Frewin, seconded by Kathy Lynch. A vote ensued, which was unanimous; the increase in dues will take effect in September 2011.

Secretary's Report: Lynnette Ziskin.

~A motion was made by Mary Carrier to accept the minutes of the January 10, 2011 Council meeting and seconded by Kathy Lynch; motion carried. A motion was made by Rachel Engelhardt to accept the March 21, 2011 minutes and seconded by Kendall Dubuc; motion carried. Both meetings minutes will be sent to Christy Multer for inclusion on the BH-BL website.

Treasurer's Report: Rachel Engelhardt.

1. The Balance Sheet as of May 16, 2011 reflects the following:
 - Checking Account: \$11,689.62
 - Savings Account: \$8,762.37
 - Total Assets: \$20,451.99
2. Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual
3. The Theater for Children Income and Expenses report is complete and includes all recent payments for expenses.

School Board Liaison's Report: John Blowers.

No report.

Superintendent's Report: Jim Schultz.

No report.

~Teacher Representative's Report: Mike Mosall.

No report.

Committee Reports:

Arts & Enrichment: Lynnette Ziskin (for Jackie Ballinger).

~Stevens Elementary recently hosted author Alyssa Satin Capucilli which included a book signing sale.

~Motoko (Japanese storyteller) and Eshu (African storyteller) partnering for a weeklong residency with Pashley 3rd graders.

~At Charlton Heights, Motoko will do a weeklong residency with 3rd graders, Ellen Sinopoli will hold workshops with 4th graders, and a residency is scheduled for Chris Holder's Civil Rights program with 5th graders (a grant for this program was provided by the Saratoga County Arts Council).

Eileen Briggs Award: Mary Carrier

~Mary reported that this year's award winner was Kayla Niedziejko.

Odyssey of the Mind: Jean Smith.

No report.

Theatre for Children: Kathy Lynch.

~The Theatre for Children's performance was on Friday, 4/8 and Saturday, 4/9. It was a huge event with a great turnout and a superb job by the actors. Two shows of Aladdin was performed by 70 kids (1st-6th graders). The kids play was very successful with lots of family participation. After intermission, adult performers presented Little Red and the Riding Hoods. This was the first time reserved seating was an option, but not worth the trouble to offer that. Kathy reported on the difficult decisions associated with the rising costs of this play every year.

Council Delegate Reports:

High School PTA Council Rep: Lynnette Ziskin.

~ Dorie McArthur attended the HS PTSA meeting and spoke of fundraisers to support the BH-BL Education Foundation. The Foundation granted \$52,000 to the high school last year; an overall total of \$95,000 grants were awarded.

~Congratulations to Natalie Ziskin, a junior, who has been recognized as Channel 13's "13 Kids Who Care." Visit the link that will take you to the story that aired on May 9 at:

www.wnyt/13kidswhocare.com.

~22 BH-BL High School students recently attended classes at SEMI High Tech-U – a 3 day interactive experience for students that promotes math, science and engineering skills and exposes students to a broad range of careers in the semiconductor and high tech industries. The district received a \$30,000 grant from the Saratoga County Industrial Development Agency for this valuable program. Global Foundries and Quad Graphics were 2 of the participating businesses.

~The Pie Sale fundraiser was very successful and exceeded last year's sales.

~The LTP Dance will be on Friday June 3 from 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. in the courtyard.

~The AP exams were given in the first two weeks in May.

~The Prom will be held this Friday, May 20.

~Honors Night will be held on Thursday May 26.

~A thank you was received from the staff for the Staff Luncheon. The food was provided by Nikki and her staff; it was enjoyed by all.

Middle School PTA Council Rep: Amy Agan.

No report.

Charlton Heights PTA Council Rep: Laurie Kruppenbacher (reported by Lynnette Ziskin).

~The PTA Walk for the Arts is scheduled for Tuesday May 24th. Students and staff members will be raising money for the Arts & Enrichment fund.

~Arts & Enrichment programs

~The Charlton Heights spring concert was held on Thursday May 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. Performing in the concert were the 4th & 5th grade chorus, band and orchestra.

~Awards were given to 5th graders who exhibit dedication and excellence in the arts. The award winners were: Matthew Zoller (chorus), Tyler Doherty (band), and Dayton Kenneally (orchestra).

~Now is the time to sign up for 2011 Summer Forum classes. BH-BL resident children in grades K – 6 are invited to enjoy classes in musical theater, arts & crafts, future chefs, and youth challenge.

~Charlton Heights Ranks 4th in the Capital Region for Box Tops Collected. Mr. Moore's class enjoyed a pizza lunch for winning the first semester, and Mrs. Gobel's second graders collected a record number of Box Tops to claim the second semester contest. They will win a pizza or ice cream party for their efforts. Charlton Heights was ranked fourth in the Capital Region for the total number of Box Tops collected last year and they were ranked 34th out of the 6,874 schools who turn in Box Tops in New York State for the same time period.

~The Children's Garden had an all day cleaning, planting, and vermicomposting lesson in the gardens on May 9, then again on May 23.

~Kindergarten Orientation is currently serving 67 in-coming kindergarteners.

~The Dodge Ball Tournament held on May 13 raised approximately \$2000 for the Friedreich's Ataxia Foundation

Pashley PTA Council Rep: Kendall Dubac.

~Family Movie Night and PARP celebration will be held on March 26.

~Silver Graphics was a huge success this year.

~"Fitness Friday" continues to be well attended.

~An order was recently placed to order 2 new cameras (one for 4th grade and one for 5th grade) and crayons for classroom school supplies through Price Chopper's Tools for Schools program.

~Pashley raised money for Shelterboxes for Japan. On April 12th, Nancy Faddegon (a representative from Shelterboxes) visited Pashley. She shared an informative video about disaster relief around the world and displayed all of the items in a Shelterbox.

~On April 15, the Student Council sponsored Crazy Hair Day.

~The Pashley Walkabout was held on April 28. It was well attended.

~Pashley will hold a Mother's Day Flower Sale.

~Author Marc Brown visited the students and talked about writing and illustrating books.

~This week is Teacher Appreciation Week.

~Kindergarten Orientation is well underway and will conclude next week.

~Field Day will be held on May 25th.

~The Student Council is hosting a Lip Sync contest on June 17th.

~Research is ongoing in order to purchase incubators for the 1st grade quad, and helping the 5th graders with their field trip to The Great Escape.

Stevens PTA Council Rep: Charlene Spetla.

No report.

1st Vice-president: Chris Katz.

No report.

2nd Vice-president: Laurie Kruppenbacher (reported by Lynnette Ziskin).

~ 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. Thank you to those that have signed up either to provide food or work – it is sincerely appreciated.

3rd Vice-president: Mary Beth Frewin.

No report.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 p.m.

**The next PTA Council meeting will be held on Monday September 19, 2011
in the Principal's Conference Room at the High School.**