

**Burns Park PTO  
Meeting Minutes  
Board Meeting  
4/17/14**

**Officers Present:** Jen Denzin, Helen Levy, Marie Todd, Jenny Frieslether, Corry Berkoozh, Laura Whitridge, Dan Hamalainen, Sylvia Marino, Molly Crankshaw, Lauren Kinsherf, Jenn Monk-Reising

**Staff Present:** Chuck Hatt

**Others Present:** Rabindar Subbian, Jill Schloff

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 by Jen Denzin.

**1. Approval of the Minutes**

- The minutes from the March meeting were approved

**2. Principals Update**

- After school reading program has ended with celebration and award ceremony. Mr. Hatt will be providing statistics on the results of the program at the next meetings. For the next 3 weeks the volunteers from Gabriel Richard will be providing an after school writing program
- A school improvement team is being put together that will develop measurable goals for Burns Park. For example, current review of data shows that Burns Park students tend to score high and maintain high scores whereas Math scores do not show continued improvement so a goal may be to develop a differentiated mathematics program to challenge kids at all levels. Continuing to develop the responsive classroom model will also be a focus. 15 Burns Park staff are participating in a 5 day program on building responsive classrooms during the summer
- The school equity and racial identity discussion will be held Saturday, April 26 from 9am to 12pm
- NWEA testing starts next week. Technical issues should have been resolved
- 37 students are enrolling in Burns Park from in-district transfer. In addition 7 to 8 students will be enrolling through school of choice from outside the Ann Arbor School district. This will result in 4 kindergarten classrooms next year. Burns Park will be adding at least 3 teachers. In two weeks, Mr. Hatt should have a final view on the number of classrooms and which teachers will be teaching each grade level.

- New York Times Bestselling author of Wonder, RJ Palacio is coming to Burns Park for the day through the Make a Wish Foundation. There will be activities focused on discussing kindness for all classes
- ACES - All Children Exercise Simultaneously – day is May 7<sup>th</sup>. Burns Park has been invited to participate in an event at U of M Stadium - the entire school will be walking to the stadium in the morning
- The student run water station dimes and dollars campaign has begun. Need \$695 dollars per drinking fountain
- Currently working with building and grounds on bids for new playground equipment. Additionally the new security system (buzz in on front and side door) should be installed by the fall. Currently, improved wireless system and digital projectors are being installed in the building

### **3. Budget Update – Provided by Helen Levy**

- Have raised close to budgeted income with some income from Burns Park Run and Ice Cream Social yet to come in
- Still waiting on receipts from Reading Club, but know it has been spent
- Below where budgeted from Golden Apple Grants

### **4. Golden Apple Grant Requests – Jen Denzin**

- Solar System Project (\$500 for materials) – Kid and parent group working together to plan a to scale solar system to put in Gallup park along the pathway for students to experience and learn more information about the planets.
- 3rd Grade Hands on Museum Electricity Presentation (\$435) – Hands on Museum to come to BP and provide Hands on Experiences supporting the electricity unit
- Buddy Bench (\$200) – Student led project to create a buddy bench for when students who are looking for someone to play with they have a place to sit and people will know they are looking for someone to play with. There will be a group of students who keep an eye on the bench to offer to play a student who sits on the bench. Part of community builders program in the district (2 representatives per elementary school).
- Leveled Reading Room Improvement project (\$2000) – Gathered a wish list from all teachers (immediate needs and long term goals). Asking for Golden Apple Grant to start the work immediately and working on a long term solution e.g. making reading room expense part of the PTO annual budget to complete current needs and continue to keep room in relevant

- Motion to fund all requests with the Buddy Bench coming out of the Playground Committee Budget. The rest will come from the Golden Apple Budget. Mr. Hatt will research if School Improvement funds can supplement the Golden Apple Grant to accelerate the Reading Room improvement. Motion approved.

**5. Playground Campaign Update** – Provided by Jenn Monk-Reising

- Prospectus has been completed and distributed via Back Pack mail
- Over 200 hits on website so far
- Brick samples available – hoping to drive brick orders early in the process

**6. Other Fundraising Updates** – Provided by Jenn Monk-Reising

- Burns Park Run has raised ~\$8000 for sponsorships (cost \$13,000 to produce the run)
- Ice Cream Social work kicking off on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup>. Some sponsors have already contacted us wanting to renew sponsorship

**7. 2014-2015 PTO Board**

- Rabindar Subbian has agreed to be President for the 2014-15 school year
- Lauren Kinsherf and Sylvia Marino have agreed to be Co-President Elects for the 2015-16 school year
- Have 16 committee chair openings that need to be filled for the 14-15 school year

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm

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Laura Whitridge, Co-Secretary

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Date of Approval