

BURTON STREET PTA BOARD MEETING

November 22, 2022 Art Room 7 pm

Attendance: Nikki Skeelee, Nicole Maggio, Michelle Belden, Kate Sinsabaugh, Mike Sinsabaugh, Carol Ann Pugh, Annie Parry, Amy Austin, Jennifer Schad, Christy Allen, Lizbeth Harvey, Christine Shaw, Robin Weisbrod, Renee Fuller

Minutes:

PTA Presidents Welcome – Nikki Skeelee & Nicole Maggio –

Principal Update – Kara May –

- UPK update – universal K planned for 2022. Funded with a grant. Have to find a qualified locations (Rippleton and CCH?) in case another organization wants to participate (be the host site). If UPK is housed at Burton St, we will send out a survey with a letter of interest. Grant covers 30 seats. Where UPK is housed, might reduce seats. More info in Feb/March when an interest survey is sent. This won't be a lottery system. Only will need a lottery if registered students > number of those interested. Question: Is it need based or first come? There are a number of options, but they're not being announced yet. Caz has looked into other local district's UPK and we will follow a similar process.
- Lunch updates – lunch is moved to 6' distancing between students to reduce Covid+ cases. Grades that are too large have 1 class eating in room 1. That class will rotate monthly. Question: Is there more time allotted for lunch now that there's winter gear to shed after winter playground time? There is a 5 minute window between the playground & lunch so coats are dropped off in the classroom ahead. The kids know the routine and many are prepared well in advance of the shifting to the next activity. If needed, kids will be brought in a little sooner so that they are certain to have 20 minutes for lunch. Lunch & the bus are the big quarantine locations. Recess is not a factor because they are outside and some students are still masked – that's a family choice.
- Dreambox is about \$24/student. Cheaper price for grade level pilot – once 500 licenses are purchased, next 500 licenses are \$20/student. 1st grade \$1600, 4th grade \$2860. BOCES would have additional costs for software/platforms/merging student data. Kara wants teachers to be kept in mind because they are spread thin.
- After school program is 1 hour now – 2:15 – 3:15. There is an extended program for a limited number of students who need time beyond an hour.
- Winter Market schedule will be sent to Carol & Kelly shortly.

Business Items: 10 min

- 2021/22 Budget Update & AFRs for 2021/22 – Becky – most of our spending happens in the Spring so we are maintaining a healthy balance to be able to pay for the events in the second half of the year
- Account balance – Becky – \$22,786.52
- Membership Update – Kate – 137
- Covid-19 and the requirements for volunteering in person for the PTA – vaccinated or proof of negative neg test within 72 hours. Fill out a form if you are coming into the school & will be in contact with kids. You will also need to show your vaccination card/Excelsior Pass if you are vaccinated. If you are not, a negative test result within 72 hrs of each volunteer time. And Covid test (Rapid or PCR) is acceptable EXCEPT for home test kits.
- Playground \$30k donation update – per district, the school playground equipment we wanted to buy has to be bid out because of high cost. The NYSPTA does not allow us to purchase playground equipment because if students are hurt, we would be liable. Becky is working with our lawyers and

with the school's lawyers to get a document stating if we purchase equipment for the school, we are no longer liable once it is in use. The purchase in question is more inclusive equipment. We thought the playground donation several years ago was considered "done", but we've come to learn that the playground is a work in progress and there is still more inclusive equipment to add which was what our \$30k was going towards. We will update when we know more.

- Request to purchase more balls for use on the playground – Similar NYS PTA issue. We would be liable if someone were hurt. Can we have parents purchase them from an Amazon wishlist?

Committee/Activity Wrap Up: 20 min

- Bus Driver Appreciation – Mike – Dunkin Donuts donated donuts & coffee, there bagels from Caz Bagels & raffle baskets. Middle School gave some money towards it as well which helped the event go further. It was very well received by the transportation dept and they appreciate being thought of.
- Opt-out Fundraiser – Nikki, Nicole – still ongoing. Should post another FB message thanking those who donated to jog more donations.
- Fall Pictures – Was well received. Photos turned out nice and Nikki didn't hear any complaints. BJK allows teachers to donate their picture package if they won't use it for families in need. Question: How does the revenue look for yearbook coverage? Nikki will double check that the target was hit.
- Fall Book Fair for the Library – Kate Sinsabaugh - Went well. Scholastic is always amazed with how much re-stocking Katie requests before the fair, but she knows what the kids like and it sells. We will go with Scholastic in the Spring because Follett's has dropped their school book fairs. We were able to reserve our spring dates without an issue.
- Spirit Wear Sale – Jaci – Spirit Wear is in. Michelle has all the spirit wear and will distribute the week after Thanksgiving. 109 orders. Some product was delayed, some was replaced with upgraded items.

Upcoming Events – Committee Updates: 15 min

- Winter Market – Kelly – 12/2-12/8 – Carol needs to know the schedule of classes. Michelle will make a sign-up genius for volunteers to sign up. Need 2 additional volunteers for each slot. Carol needs people to help at the church storage facility. Help needed the day prior to get stuff into school & organized. Big need is people who can keep things moving on sale days.
- Raise Craze – Nikki – dates solidified April 19th - May 13th – acts of kindness done by kids and family members donate money towards kindness events
- Read-a-thon over Winter Break – committee chair TBD – Feb 21 - 25 2022 -
- Spring Book Fair – Robin Weisbrod, Michelle Belden – May 9 - 16 – a family night planned

Discussion Items: 10 min

Dream Box progress – not much progress. Sounds like it will be very expensive in NY. Would need to be an annual cost/budget item. Mrs K is on board for this. How can we see how other teachers feel about this? Kara is working on a teacher survey.

Meeting adjourned - 8:22

Stay up-to-Date:

- Our monthly Newsletter will be sent by Mrs Richer & we'll email meeting info to PTA members (agenda, meeting minutes)
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/674365839617952/>
- <https://burtonstreetpta.weebly.com/>

Help us without spending extra:

- Amazon Smile – Set up instructions to make us your charity of choice
- <https://burtonstreetpta.weebly.com/amazon-smile.html>
- Return your cans at **Caz Cans** on Rte 20 & donate to Burton St PTA

2021/22 Meetings Sept 13, 2021 Nov 22, 2021 Jan 18, 2022 March 14, 2022 May 23, 2022