

## BURTON STREET PTA BOARD MEETING

January 18, 2022, 7pm in the Library & via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/91670581812?pwd=eXg5bmZ3bStVNFFVZDU4cXRiRG1Tdz09>

If needed: Meeting ID: 916 7058 1812 Passcode: PTA

**Attendance:** Nikki Skeelee, Nicole Maggio, Michelle Belden, Kate Sinsabaugh, Mike Sinsabaugh, Katie McGinnis, Renee Fuller, Annie Parry, Amy Austin, Kara May, Sonia Machovac, Kelly Hyatt, Rhonda Youngs, Robin Weisbrod, Shannon Atkins, Lizbeth Harvey

### Minutes:

PTA Presidents Welcome – Nikki Skeelee & Nicole Maggio –

Principal Update – Kara May –

- Outdoor recess - students would go outside for recess in winter for a "real feel" of 19 deg. Lowered to "real feel" of 17 deg based on 2 measures (weather.com & Syracuse.com & a 3rd if those 2 are too different). We do this for the kids' comfort/safety as well as the monitors who could be outside for 3 hours). Indoor recess is at the teacher's discretion if chrome books can be used under monitor supervision at this time. The gyms aren't available due to the gym being in use. The sensory rooms and motor labs might be an option sometimes, but not all the time. The new Blacktop is limited because the surface can't be salted, plowed or sanded or it damages the surface. Kara is open to suggestions as to temperature and other ways to evaluate this.
- Update to quarantine/isolation mandates - Mr. Difulvio has sent updates with each change. The most UTD info - provided by Kara - is if you are vaccinated and exposed in school (masks worn when needed, distancing as needed) then there is no quarantining required. If the exposure is outside of school & not vaccinated, the child will need to quarantine. If the exposure is outside of school & the child is vaccinated (2 weeks past the 2nd dose), no need to quarantine. If tested positive, you need to report. If your child has been exposed to a positive case in school, you'll be notified so you can monitor. Booster shots do NOT apply to ages 11 and younger, children ages 5-11 are considered fully vaccinated after 2 shots.
- Open positions in the district & highlight academic growth - greatly looking for custodial staff, substitute teachers, substitute bus drivers - all requirements are on the school website [here](#)
- Our student reading benchmarking was just completed before winter break. Tier 1 results are: Kindergarteners 14% in fall to 38% in winter, 1st grade 24% (fall) to 46% (winter), 2nd grade 44% to 69%, 3rd grade 65% to 74%, 4th grade 67% to 75%

Business Items: 10 min

- 2021/22 Budget Update & AFRs for 2021/22 – Becky – only 2 AFRs left for this year - Dear to my heart books & history lesson (which are 2 Spring AFRs). Spring is when we spend our money though so expect to see the balance decrease.
- **We are looking for a treasurer, officer at large & Vice President for next year!**
- Account balance – Becky – \$29,038.55
- Membership Update – Kate – 140 members
- Playground \$30k donation update – Nikki, Nicole - talking with the school district about the \$30k we want to give to the playground upgrade. If we make the purchase, the district will sign a letter saying the PTA is not liable for the equipment directed by Matt Jubelt as our legal counsel (services donated). The equipment purchase had it to be sent out to bid because of the total cost. Kara knows what

equipment is desired and we could do the purchasing so that no bidding is needed & delaying this even more.

- PTA to vote to purchase equipment directly. Motion to accept the money back to the PTA and purchase the equipment and present it to the school - all in favor
- Request to purchase more balls for use on the playground - Gretchen - need? Gretchen will find out the need and it might come to knowing the number needed, finding out the cost and giving the school money to specifically buy those items. If a parent wants to donate for indoor recess, start the contact with the teacher to see what the need/preference is. Gretchen will bring list of needs to Kara and Renee for approval.

#### Committee/Activity Wrap Up: 20 min

- Fall Pictures – Nikki - Question lingering from Nov meeting: How does the revenue look for yearbook coverage? With Lifetouch our picture commission covered the cost of yearbooks. With the switch to BJK, we lowered our commission to keep the costs lower and price match with the Middle School. We receive \$1145 in commission and yearbooks are about \$5k this year. \$3855 short. The board talked and we want to keep yearbooks free for all students. We will pull the funds from our bank account because we've had successful fundraisers. We will look to slowly increase the commission in following years to cover the cost of yearbooks. Mike wants to know if there's an option to do yearbooks through Lifetouch yet photos through BJK. There's a lot of lack of communication on Lifetouch's customer service end. Possibly do cap & gown pics next year for our 4th graders who are graduating to the Middle School to increase commission.
- Winter Market – Kelly – 12/2-12/8 – Kelly will talk with Maggie Marsch about spreading out class purchasing more. Teachers had suggestions to improve the flow. Mrs Allen had her class fill out gift tags ahead of purchasing to help speed the wrapping process.
- Winter Raffle Baskets – Kelly – \$4449 made at Burton St, \$420 from raffles, \$195 made through FB. Sold a lot on FB and divided those profits between Middle School and Burton St since Kelly was running the sales at both schools. Kelly wants a side conversation about increasing the budget to allow her to increase her purchases. Becky prefers to do the purchasing directly as the treasurer to reduce the reimbursement paperwork on her end so a budget would be greatly appreciated. Things can be purchased ahead of time, stored, & pulled out for Winter Market. Everything has been organized at the church for next year's sale.

#### Upcoming Events – Committee Updates: 15 min

- Raise Craze – Nikki – dates solidified April 19th - May 13th - will rely on acts of kindness from students. The platform provides all the materials. Pledges will be made towards acts of kindness performed. There's various prize tiers we can create. Class that raises most, wall of accomplishment. More information to come out in Feb. Lots of ideas to tie it into community organizations - collecting books for distribution, goods for animal shelters, etc.
- Square 1 Art – Amy Austin - our school work is needed by Feb 18th. Amy spoke with Mrs Facticeau about things and she will have the artwork ready. Amy needs help with reminding parents to order & then sorting once orders come in.
- Read-a-thon over Winter Break – committee chair Sara Smith – Feb 21 - 25 2022 - info to be coming home in early Feb for the event. Prizes for most minutes read per grade, in the school, participation award, & 100% participation in a class. Will rely on Katie McGinnis to talk it up the last 2 library classes before break.
- 3rd & 4th Grade Testing Treats – committee lead Jen Bryz-Gornia - Pre-sharpened pencils & organic hard candy. Would like to touch base with the teachers to make sure these still work. Becky wants to make sure things are ordered in time so she needs to know the dates.

- Yearbook – Mike
  - Cover art competition with the 4th graders. Fliers went home & Kara will put a committee together to pick a winner. Submissions due Jan 28th. Then Mike will make sure the artwork works with the cover. Cover art deadline of Feb 15th. Katie will have Mrs Facteau talk up the submission in the next art class. This is the time of year to start hunting down kids who need photos. Nikki seems to remember there's a drive through option.
- Teacher Appreciation – Mike – May 2 - 6 - nothing has been done, but the ball can get rolling now for this. Michelle Belden is willing to help with this effort.
- Spring Book Fair – Robin Weisbrod, Michelle Belden – May 9 - 16 - have time for this. Michelle will make a Sign-Up Genius for volunteers. Becky needs 10 - 14 days advance notice for money needed for cash registers. In prior years, we can take Scholastic classes and earn credit. Katie thinks it was just done for the 1st couple of years, but not after. Ideally the fair is in the STEM room, but availability will have to be checked closer to the date.

Discussion Items: 10 min

Katie relayed that the teachers have requested forks... both real and plastic!

Meeting adjourned - 8:26

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