

## **Birch Lake Elementary PTA Meeting Notes – Virtual Meeting September 29, 2020**

**Members In Attendance:** Jen Lunde, Corey Lunde, Krista Mickelson, Davin Mickelson, Mindy Thorson, Jessica Ponthan, Liz Andert, Susie Fisher, Karissa Torntore, Brittney Sletten

**Guests in Attendance:** Adriana Kolodny, Jonathan Luknic, Angela Thompson, Judy Rognli, Jessica Miehe

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:32 PM by Jen

### **Review of Last Meeting's Minutes:**

- Motion to approve by Susie, Second by Adriana

### **School Board Report – Angela Thompson, School Board Liaison:**

- The board has been given plans for a number of schools (from the Referendum)
- Hopes that the Conscious Discipline Training will be shared with secondary schools

### **Guest Speakers – Judy Rognli and Jessica Miehe from the Bear Care Clinic:**

- The clinic is located in North Campus by the auditorium
- They offer a variety of health screenings as well as mental health support
- All services are FREE OF CHARGE to district students, no insurance is necessary
- Their funding comes from a grant which will also enable them to expand

### **Principal's Report – Mr. Luknic:**

- The school year got off to a great start - thanks to everyone involved
- ThoughtExchange is a program to share ideas and open a community discussion
- MacPhail will offer lessons to grades 3–5 for students who participated last year
  - Musical Trolley will be returning to the Learning Boards next week (Grade K/1)
- There are free online programs available through MacPhail for all grades

### **Teacher's Report – Mrs. Kolodny:**

- She and Ms. Levelius will be staying at Birch this year and not traveling to Lincoln
- She (Profe) will be our liaison between the teacher and PTA again this year
- The specialist lessons will return next week
- Specialists will be available on Fridays for questions from distance learners

### **Election for board positions:**

- All candidates ran unopposed
  - President: Jen Lunde
  - President Elect: Mindy Thorson
  - Vice President: Brittney Sletten
  - Treasurer: Krista Mickelson

- Secretary: Davin Mickelson
- Communications: Karissa Torntore

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Proposed budget for school year
  - Increase classroom support to \$250 per classroom, \$200 per specialist
  - Will be spending down a bit with the absence of the big fall fundraiser
    - Supplies for the Color Run and Dance have already been purchased
    - There are no fall field trips (Wolf Ridge)
  - Motion to approve the 20-21 budget by Susie, Second by Adriana
- Budget to Actual
  - Received a donation from Community Shares
  - Only expenses have been the liability insurance and accounting software
  - Motion to approve by Susie, Second by Davin

### **Current and Upcoming Events:**

- Fall events are on hold this year, we're hoping to still have a Holiday Store
- In lieu of a fall fundraiser with Heggies, we'll have a Donation Drive in October
  - Donations will go towards our General Fund – pay via cash or PayPal
  - Prizes will be given to students – more information coming soon
- Chipotle fundraiser on November 17<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 PM at the Vadnais Heights location
  - Online ordering will be accepted
  - Mention "Fundraiser" and we'll get 33% donated to the PTA
- Box Tops for Education
  - Program is primarily a phone app now where you scan your receipts
  - There are a few cut & mail products; a Box Tops drive will be held in October
  - We get two checks from the program each year
- Amazon Smile
  - Select PTA Minnesota Congress 4840 Birch Lake Elementary PTA as your charity
  - They donate is .5% of your order total to us; we get a quarterly check
- Spirit Wear
  - We have a limited number of orange Birch spirit wear shirts left from last year
  - A sale will be held soon for the shirts we have left – price reduced to \$10

**Meeting Closed at 7:38 PM by Jen**