

Birch Lake Elementary PTA Meeting Notes February 11, 2020

Members in Attendance: Susie Fisher, Jen Lunde, Melissa Altringer, Krista Mickelson, Allison Theissen, Adriana Kolodny, Carly Pederson

Visitors in Attendance: Jonathan Luknic, Angela Thompson

Meeting Called to Order: 6:32 PM by Susie

Review of Last Meeting's Minutes:

- Motion to approve by Jen, Second by Adriana

Treasurer's Report:

- The color has been purchased for the Color Run
- Supplies and decorations for the Family Dance are being ordered
- Waiting for an invoice for Mr. Hoeg's volleyball equipment and the play scholarships
- Motion to approve by Jen, Second by Krista

School Board Report – Angela Thompson, School Board Liaison:

- The timeline for the bond referendum building plans should be on the district's website
- The architect was at the last board meeting to discuss the upcoming projects
- School boundary line changes are coming but no date has been set yet

Principal's Report – Mr. Luknic:

- Conferences will be held for K-3 on the 18th and 20th; for grades 4-5 on 19-20th of Feb.
- February is I Love to Read month with activities planned throughout the month

Teacher's Report – Mrs. Kolodny:

(Please see the Grade Level Updates at the end of this document.)

- Grade K had a visit from the White Bear Police
- Grade 1 made placemats as a community service project
- Grade 4 wrote persuasive letters to Mr. Luknic, Governor Walz, and others
- Grade 5 is working on fractions and looking forward to the Science Museum Overnight
- Spanish students are working on assessments and stories
- Orchestra students had a concert on February 6th
- Music concerts will be March 5 for second and third grade at 2:30 and 6:30
 - Fourth and fifth grade concert will be April 9 at 2:30 and 6:30
- PE students are working on their jump roping and dancing skills

Past Events:

- Open Gym event went well; White Bear Dentists handed out snacks and toothbrushes

Upcoming Events:

- Open Gym on February 21 from 6:30 – 8:00
- Raffle Baskets will be at the Grandparents Day event and at the Family Dance
- Family Dance theme is Glow Dance
 - No meal this year, just snacks
 - New DJ – from Kid's Dance
 - Hoping to decorate the walls with art from the students
- The Color Run will be on June 1 during the school day (coincides with Field Day)
 - The PTA will be providing water
 - White Bear Dental has been invited to bring a healthy snack
 - Plan to hire a DJ

Grant Requests:

- The Student Council requests \$180 for supplies for Welcome Bags for new students
 - Re-allocate \$150 from Spirit Wear to Grant Request Fund for tees
 - Approved by Melissa, Second by Jen
- The Student Council requests \$341 for upbeat/uplifting bathroom door decals
 - Recommendation to recheck decal size as there are bolts in the middle of the stall doors
 - Approved by Carly, Second by Jen

New Business:

- The April PTA meeting has been moved to the 28th

New Officers Needed/Nominating Committee:

- The staff has been emailed to help identify parents who may be interested in the PTA
- Positions needed: President, Treasurer, and Communications Liaison
- May also need a Vice President as Heather Grim resigned her position

Motion to Adjourn by Melissa, Second by Krista 7:21 PM

The next meeting will be held on March 17th at 6:30 in the Media Center.

2019-2020 PTA Grade Level Updates

PTA Meeting Grade Level Updates - February 11th 6:30pm

Grade Level/Dept.	February 11th News and Updates to be shared with PTA
Bear Fundamentals	
Kindergarten	Kindergarten had a visit last week from the White Bear Police for "Letter Pp week." We are busy learning <i>Rainbow Words</i> (common sight words for Kindergarten) and reading books too! Using the <i>Handwriting without Tears</i> Curriculum, we continue to learn how to write new letters and are so proud of ourselves! In math we are continuing to work on patterning, counting to 100, shapes, numbers 0-10 and all the things we can do with them (ordering, writing, tallying, adding together), and sorting and classifying objects into groups! We are starting to dig deep into the teen numbers. We are having fun in K!
1st Grade	We worked on a community service project and made placemats for Cerenity Care Center. In math we are learning how to graph. We had a visit from Signature Orthodontics to teach us about dental health.
2nd Grade	Second grade completed our swim lessons. Each class attended 8 lessons at the Y. We absolutely loved our experience. We are excited for our combined Valentine's Day party which is Thursday. Academically we are quite proud of our student growth so far this year and will happily share in next week's conferences.
3rd Grade	
4th Grade	4th graders have been working hard on persuasive letters, division, and learning about the west and southwest regions of the United States. Students in Mrs. Theissen's class have been exploring their passions each Friday afternoon during "Genius Hour". Mr. Nestrud's class will begin Genius Hour soon as well. It is fun to see all the great learning happening while students explore things they want to learn about. We are looking forward to the science museum overnight coming up next week!
5th Grade	5th grade is in the thick of fractions, learning to add and subtract them. We are enjoying the I Love to Read Month activities. We are looking forward to our trip to the Science Museum next week.
Specialists	<u>Spanish</u> : We are working on assessments in every grade level; listening, reading, writing and oral retell. Orchestra: We just had our first concert on Thursday (2/6). Our orchestra students did a fantastic job!
Music	Our Music Concerts are right around the corner! Our 2nd and 3rd grade concert is Thursday, March 5th, at 2:30pm and 6:30pm. Our 4th and 5th grade concert is Thursday, April 9th, at 2:30pm and 6:30pm. Families and friends are more than

	welcome to attend either or both performances! Students have been working hard to prepare their music and feel comfortable with their performance material.
PE	<p>K-2 classes will be beginning to learn how to jump rope independently along with working cooperatively in order to jump with a long jump rope. Jump roping is a lifelong skill that they will need to know and continue to work on throughout their Physical Education experience. K-2 students will be introduced to some basic tumbling skills like animal walks and somersaults that will work on their balancing and coordination. 3rd-5th Grade classes will be partaking in our jump rope challenge where they attempt many different jump roping tricks. There are three clubs (Red, White, Blue) that they can attempt to be in if they complete their sheet. There will also be some extra challenging tricks that they can choose to do. Students will also do some long jump roping and rope bands as well.</p> <p>All students have been learning some dance in Physical Education classes. Dance is another lifelong skill that students will use throughout their many experiences. I always tell the students that dancing is all about moving your body the best that you can and having a positive attitude. K-2 students will learn some individual dances along with ribbon dancing. 3-5 students will learn some dances from like the electric slide, cha cha slide, and the macarena.</p>
SpEd/ Psych/SocW	
EL	
Other- Intervention	We will have an open house during conferences next week. Please stop in to visit your intervention teacher before or after your assigned conference time. Mrs. Lodermeier and Mrs. Gratz will be sending home reminder notes with specific dates and times in the days to come. We are looking forward to sharing progress information with parents/guardians.