

Birch Lake Elementary PTA Meeting October 18, 2022

Members in Attendance: Krista Mickelson, Davin Mickelson, Tracy Kelly, Lynn Albee, Michelle Gratz

Guests in Attendance: Brian Griebenow, Patty Erickson, Joey Swalinkavich, Mike Swalinkavich, Tim Wald (Assistant Superintendent), Jessica Ellison (School Board), Jonathan Luknic (Principal)

Meeting Called to Order: 6:02 by Davin

Review of Last Meeting's Minutes: Motion to approve by Tracy, Second by Krista

District Strategic Plan and Capital Projects Renewal (Tim Wald):

- Took the time to revisit the strategic plan after the pandemic
- Facilities Plan Implementation - work has gone smoothly despite the pandemic
- Most projects came at or below bid according to Tim Wald
- The school district website has images and project updates to check out
- Capital Projects Levy Renewal
- 70% state revenue, 5% federal revenue and 25% districts' revenue
- MN is complicated and apparently one person at the state person managed this and they retired 2 years ago
- Operating Levy 2018-2027, Building Our Future Bond Referendum 2019, Capital Projects Levy 2014-2023
- The Capital Projects Levy originally passed in 2003, renewed in 2013, asking for it to be renewed in 2022 - it's predominantly for technology (safety & security, technology and related services, textbooks and curriculum materials, transportation)

School Board Report:

- Strategic Planning team met in Sept and October
- Many parents involved
- Naming of Sunrise Middle School will happen in the future
- Bonds are for buildings, Levies are for learning
- News story about the bathroom in North Star Elementary School regarding cleanliness - it was one parent - it is not a problem Birch Lake is seeing - the Birch Lake staff feels like the new style of bathrooms is a positive

Principal's Report:

- Student Council is doing a fundraiser - Socktober – collecting socks for people experiencing homelessness or in transition

- Teachers are recognizing students based on the school's core values

Teacher's Report:

- Grant Request from Brian Griebenow: Indoor hockey sticks for older students - \$430 (approved)
- Grant Request from Michele Gratz: magnetic phonics letters tiles - \$405.93 (approved)

Sandbox Update:

- Decisions made:
 - Conversation around the amount of sand - Patio Town to deliver
 - Black stones for the color
 - Tapered bricks
 - As soon as they are able, they will get it in - potentially Sat 10/22

Treasurer's Report:

- Budget report motion to approve Albee, second Gratz
- Paid for murals for the kindergarten classrooms
- \$400 from Kowalskis
- \$370 from Culver's fundraiser
- \$500 from St. Andrew's Church
- Heggies sales are over \$19K

Past and Ongoing Events:

- Heggie's Fundraiser
- Culver's Night
- Theatre Night out
- Sandbox Installation

Upcoming and Events:

- Heggie's Pizza pick up on 11/2 from 5-7 pm (3:30 pm to volunteer)
- Bingo for Books & Ice Cream Night - 11/11 from 6-8 pm, book collection runs from 11/3 to 11/10
- Give to the Max Day - 11/17

New Business:

- Bring ideas for fundraisers

- Math night at school in January, partnership with Intervention
- Jersey Mike's Fundraiser on December 6 and Chipotle on January 18

Meeting Closed by Davin at 7:15