

# Brookdale PTA Meeting Minutes - November 19, 2009

## General Membership

- ✚ Call to order by Barb Peterson (7:05pm) - The next meeting will be January 21, 2009.
- ✚ Meeting Minutes: Approval of the October 2009 minutes - no changes were recommended to the October meeting minutes.
- ✚ Principal/Superintendent Report/Q&A:
  - Introduction: Kathy has been in the district for 31 years. She has been a teacher, assistant principal, principal, and administrator. She has remained in the district because of the staff, students, and parents.
  - Academic Achievement: ACT scores are up .14. The state went up .1. We are looking to align with ACT. 47 out of 50 states are moving towards national standards. Our median is 81% for ISAT testing - the national average is 50%.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> high school: 1600 students is the ideal size. We needed a 3<sup>rd</sup> high school to bring the numbers down. We are still higher than the state average. Our smallest classes are seniors, kindergarten, and 1<sup>st</sup> grade.
  - H1n1: We should assume it is in our schools. When a building has over 10% absences a notification will be sent out. This happened one day. Absences are monitored every day with the county.
  - Busing: Kathy was not happy with the potential strike. This is not acceptable to D204. She apologized for this year's performance.
  - Food Service/Chartwells: High school and middle school feedback has been ok. Feedback from the elementary schools has not been as positive. They are working with the vendor regarding food quality. There will be more meetings in January.
  - PD Wednesdays/School Calendar: The district administrators have been traveling around the district checking in on how schools are using this time. They will report to IPPC in January. Individual reports will also go out to the community. Kathy anticipates going back to starting school at the end of August next year. It is too difficult to start after Labor Day, however. The Board wants to go back to full weeks.
  - Homework Policy: This is currently a work-in-progress. The district didn't do a great job preparing staff. There are differences with how it is being administered. The reasoning behind not grading homework is that it may skew grades which should reflect actual test performance.
  - Bullying: This program is starting at the elementary schools. The tip line has been successful. They expected crazy calls at the onset but haven't had many. Cyber bullying is a concern with middle and high school students.
  - Class Size: Kathy wishes all were smaller but we cannot afford it. We started the year with a 9.2 million dollar deficit compared to a 6.5 million deficit going into last year. Class sizes are not ideal. All schools follow the same numbers - up to 27 for kindergarten, 28 for 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 29 for grades 2-5. The district has done splits in the past. Concern was expressed about teacher frustration. However, we lost fewer

teachers this past year than ever. Over 80% of the budget is salary and benefits.

- Finance: Finance Advisory Committee has met. Their meetings are open to the public. The committee is a group of finance professionals looking at ways to save money for the district. They will report their findings to the school board and the administration. The board plays a factor regarding whether they want a balanced budget or a carryover. There are big swings in enrollment because of the economy. The number of free and reduced lunches is at an all time high. Illinois is in bottom 5 of states with the largest deficits.
- IEP students: State rule is that students with IEPs make up no more than 30% of a class.
- Milk Fees: The district has subsidized milk for many years. They cannot afford to do that anymore. It is now part of national lunch program bid. Dave Holm and Carla Suzzulio from the district are working with food service.
- Diversity/Cultural Sensitivity: If our kids are going to compete globally they need to be culturally aware. Parent groups are being formed. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills is a program that the district is looking into to help us be globally competitive. Mandarin is being taught at the high school level.
- Teaching Practices: IPI - all principals are trained to look at the engagement level of students. The district has adopted a new teacher evaluation program based on Charlotte Danielson which will be introduced next year. It was piloted for all 1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> year teachers this year. PD Wednesdays are also helpful to improve teacher learning.
- ED: Students with emotional disabilities are in regular classrooms. Some learn to adapt and do well in class. Many students are placed outside of the district to get the support they need. There is a legal process established to deal with these situations. Sharon Tate is the person in our district who works with special education.
- Safety at Drop Off: Kathy and Brian would like to see more of a police presence to make drop-off and pick-up safer.

#### 🚩 **President's Report:** Barb Peterson

- Barb thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.
- List of committees and events will be provided at each meeting for new families.

#### 🚩 **New Business:**

- Indoor Recess - a parent asked if part of the gym can be used when the kids can't go outside for recess.
- Naperville Public Library - you can use your library card to check out a museum pass. A suggestion was made to have a Brookdale Day at the Art Institute. We will look into this and try to set up a date.

#### 🚩 **Minutes/Secretary Report on Membership:** Sheila Fleming

- Meeting minutes viewable via the Brookdale website - <http://brookdale.ipisd.org/pta.asp>
- Current membership is at 246.

- 🌈 **Treasurer's Report:** Ron Heger  
Treasurer's Report Recap -
- Sales from fundraisers are higher than expected. In October we had a little income from enrichment and more expenses which include teacher allocations. October ending balance is 15,674.
- 🌈 **Committee Reports:** VP - Melissa Winchester
- Assemblies:** Beth Reimen and Rose Baranyk are chairing this committee. Thanks to Beth and Rose for coordinating the upcoming assembly on anti-bullying.
- IPPC:** Donna Scovill is the chairperson this year.
- Service Club:** Beth Reiman and Rose Baranyk are chairing this committee this year.
- Enrichment:** Danielle Baker and Darcy Hutzler are chairing this committee this year.
- Art Awareness:** Theresa Hus is chairing this committee this year.
- Meet the World:** Saily Joshi Moorthy is chairing this committee this year.
- Breakfast with Books:** Christine Marquardt is chairing this event this year. Thanks to Christine and the volunteers who made this event a success.
- Helping Hands:** Pat and Lisa Burke are chairing this committee this year.
- Health and Fitness:** Beth Siwicki is the chairperson this year.
- Red Ribbon Week:** Krista McCann is the chairperson this year. Thanks to Krista for the fun activities during Red Ribbon Week.
- Family Fall Social:** Linda Watkins is the chairperson this year.
- Classroom Coordinator:** Laura Heger chaired this committee this year. Holiday celebrations will be 12/18.
- Directories:** Janet LaRocque is chairing this event again this year.
- Yearbook:** Janet LaRocque is chairing this event again this year.
- Brooktales Publication:** Peg Kolar is chairperson for this committee.
- Apparel Wear Sale:** Lisa Howard is chairing this event this year.
- Book Fair:** Dawn Yorke is coordinating this event. Thanks to Dawn for coordinating a successful book fair which earned \$1339. Thanks to all the volunteers.
- Kids Note Cards:** Tricia Smith is chairing this committee this year.
- Wrapping Paper Sale:** Deb Snyder and Amy Hausman are chairing this committee.
- Basketball Nights:** Amy Elston is chairing this event this year. Amy organized last Friday's basketball night for girls and this Friday is set for boys.
- Variety Show:** Linda Bock and Jennifer Streder are the new chairpeople this year.
- Family Dinner Night Out:** Heather Lang is the chairperson for this committee.
- LMC:** Cathy Collins is the chairperson.
- Reflections:** Rachel Jackson is the chairperson this year.
- Tyson Labels:** Barb Marshall is chairing this event this year.
- Buzy Bobcats:** Peg Kolar is chairing this event this year. K-2 sale will be 12/4. Grades 3-5 will be 11/20 and 12/18.
- Title I:** Julie Knoll is the chairperson for this committee.

**Silent Auction:** Donna Scovill is the chairperson for this event this year.

**Spring Fling:** Nancy Lee and Cherrie Quarles are the co-chairs for this event.

**Math Center:** Barb Marshall is chairperson this year.

**PDAC:** Saily Joshi Moarthy is the chairperson this year.

**School Supplies:** Jennifer Sanchez is the chairperson for this committee.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Party:** Christi Grezlik is chairing this event this year.

**Box Tops for Education:** Stacey Ramsey is the chairperson this year.

**Dominicks/E-Script:** Stacey Ramsey is the chairperson this year.

**Hospitality:** Dina Bradshaw and Beth Martinson are the chairpeople this year. Dina and Beth did a great job of organizing meals. Thanks to everyone who prepared a dish or dessert for the staff.

**Market Day:** Tricia Smith is chairperson this year. We sold a record number of pies!! November sales and pie sales were \$383.37 which was the biggest profit from Market Day sales in 4 years. Congrats to Tricia for doing a fantastic job in renewing interest in Market Day.

**PBIS:** Melissa Winchester is the chairperson for this committee.

🚩 **Adjournment:** 8:26 pm

🚩 **Next Meeting - January 21, 2009 @ 7:00pm in the Multipurpose Room**

🚩 **Members Present:**

Julie Knoll

Brian LeCrone

Donna Scovill

Christi Grezlik

Melissa Winchester

Ron Heger

Cherie Quarles

Ann Luttrell

Lisa Howard

Vicki Varzino

Meridith Aiello

Theresa Hus

Sheila Fleming

Danielle Carstens

Saily Joshi

Barb Peterson

Christine Marquardt

Beth Siwicki

Christie Willhite

Pat Burke

Rachael Batchu

Sarah Williams

Beth Martinson

Kevin Reiman

Kellie Frieheim

Dina Bradshaw

Mary Brigman

Monique Kirkland

Kathy Kiefer

Jennifer Sanchez

Danielle Baker

Mary Hensley

Lindsey Willhite