

## Brown International Academy

### PTA Membership Meeting – October 3, 2013

#### Officer attendance

- President, Erika Taylor - **present**
- Vice President, Sabrina D'Agosta - **present**
- Treasurer, Garrett Phillips - **present**
- Finance Chair, Kristin Shiramizu - **present**
- Secretary, Caiti Dolegowski - **present**
- Co-Secretary, Stacie Bogan - **present**
- Membership, Heather Berg – **not present**

#### Agenda

- **President**
  - 2013 – 2014 PTA Community Surveys, Erika Taylor
  - **Committee Leaders – Those present introduced themselves. Celeste Richardson (Festivals), De Bonnell (Mile High Five), Nicole Kazenske (CSC), Basha Cohen (Communications), Steph Martens (Fundraising), Julia Miller (After School Clubs), Barbara Farley (Wellness)**
- **Principal's Update**
  - **Technology Plan and our increase of technology recently, Lynn Heintzman – Thank you for passing the 3A and 3B Bonds. Brown used it for technology to take tests. Social for 4<sup>th</sup> and Science for 5<sup>th</sup> will now be using a computerized assessment. Tests to be administered perhaps later in April. Same number of testing dates just spread out this year. By 2015 it will all be electronic.**
  - **Performed complete digital tech inventory. Over the summer Lynn wrote a technology plan.**
  - **Ordered 80 chromebooks, 30 of them are on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for 3-5<sup>th</sup> grades. Needed to provide two computer labs for all the students. One is located on 1<sup>st</sup> and one is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. The remaining 50 chromebooks are in the classrooms. Added more electricity for the computers.**
    - **3 laptops in each Kinder classroom**
    - **5 laptops in each 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade classroom**
    - **6 laptops in each 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classroom**
    - **Still to order: new computer for circulation/book check out in Library and items yet to be determined**
  - **We have 4 generations of promethium boards. Need new projectors, &750 per projector. Set aside over \$7,000 to replace the projectors. Want to be prepared.**

Receiving over 100 headphones through DonorsChoose. Thank you for your support and know we are doing everything we can to increase the technology. All monies have to be used by 2015. Not using all of the money now, keeping some aside for unforeseen events.

- What do we do with old computers? There is a process of elimination.
  - Is Senor McFalls teaching keyboarding skills? Yes.
  - How many kids were here on count day? 553 were present. Garrett one the bright blue duct tape!
  - Name the most IB attitudes: Curiosity, Appreciation, Commitment, Confidence, Cooperation, Creativity, Empathy, Enthusiasm, Independence, Integrity, Respect and Tolerance. Stephanie PB won the 2<sup>nd</sup> duct tape.
  - Asked Mr. Q to speak – He helped to organize and create a new mosaic in the cafeteria. It is based on 580 interpretations of base and fruit. Our attempt to bump the cafeteria vibe. Public Art! Community Room added track lighting to showcase his work and the kids' work. Will be official Brown gallery!
  - Working on PTA budget. Created a survey for all to take. Will make it available to everyone via online or hard copies. The surveys will be translated and there will be a translator available. Lots of space for "other" we really want to know what the community would like to see at Brown. We are trying to create a good understanding of our mission and our role. What other roles do we have and what is expected of PTA.
  - If you have additional questions please contact Erika.
- **Communication**
    - **Directory update, Basha Cohen – Over \$2,000 raised so far. Emails no bounce back on to phone numbers**
  - **Brown Voyages**
    - **Co-Chair replacements, Julia Miller & Michelle Malgesini – Enrichment is extremely important and Julia and Michelle were happy to keep it alive at Brown. It has been a really great opportunity but the way that it's run with two volunteers that work full-time, it is too much work. It's not sustainable the way it's being run currently. Looking for replacements and trying to split up the work so it can be more manageable. They have created job titles and looking to fill them. Looking at different avenues for the future to keep the enrichment at Brown, it's just getting too big and Lynn and Maureen need to be involved to help tackle any issues that arise.**
    - **Thank you!**
  - **Fund raising**
    - **Jewels of Highlands Home Tour – 10/13, Stephanie Martens – Last year we made \$13,000. All new houses, all new area. Three Brown families are featured. Volunteer to be a Brown ambassador (guardian and child). If you are willing to put up a yard sign, please grab one on your way out. Tickets are available and can also be found on the playground. \$20 per ticket, \$15 senior and \$25 day of.**

- **Poker Night – 10/25, Stephanie Martens – Organized by Brown Dads. All levels welcome and you can be a spectator. Event will be held at the Sculpture Studio on 23<sup>rd</sup>. Tickets available through Eventbrite.**
- **New! Read a thon – coming in November, Stephanie Martens – New this year and coming in November perhaps over Fall Break. Students ask for money to read books.**
- **Taste of Highlands – Brown brought in \$1,000**
- **Little Man Hula Hoop Contest – results, press, ice cream party! , Basha Cohen had to leave early and did not speak to this.**
- **Literacy**
  - **Books & Bagel Schedule, Kerry Morrissey**
  - **November Scholastic Book Fair, Kerry Morrissey – Could use volunteers for books and bagels. Email has been sent out. We will have Book Fair in November. More info to come.**
- **Wellness**
  - **Walk to School Day, Barbara Farley – Next Wednesday! Event gets the students exercising and familiar with routes to school. We will meet at 31<sup>st</sup> and Julian at 8:30 for those students whom ride the bus or are unable to walk to school. Volunteers needed.**
  - **Youth Farmers Market at the Harvest Festival, Barbara Farley – Local farmers are offering their produce at a reduced price and there will be a produce parking station so you can enjoy the festival too! Volunteers needed! 5<sup>th</sup> graders from Mr. Hines class will be working the booth.**
  - **Healthy classroom celebrations and incentives, Barbara Farley – Working to get rid of some of the junk that is brought into the school. Really want to be a Wellness School.. We want to educate parents through class parents and to be mindful of students who have allergies. Important to keep classrooms safe and healthy. A subgroup of the Wellness Group has formed to advocate for safety of students with allergies at Brown. Please let Barbara know if you are interested.**
- **Festivals**
  - **Harvest Festival volunteers needed, Celeste Richardson – Fall Festival is Oct 18<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm. Each classroom has a booth and volunteers are needed per class. Also need volunteers for the PTA ticket booth. Jen Gaurke will be selling t-shirts and would also like volunteers to help. The Pow Wow will run from 2-7pm. Separate vendors will be on site as part of the Pow Wow featuring traditional dances, drums and Indian Tacos.**

### **Teachers Present:**

**Katherine Redhorse – Indian Education**

**Ernesto Marquez – Parent and head baseball coach from North**

**Mr Q – Art Teacher**

**Michelle Santorino – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher**