

Burning Tree PTA Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Dorene Rosenthal. The December 5, 2006 Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Michael Chelst reported that the fundraising is going well. Both Bingo Night and the Book Fair did well. They were both above budget. We have up to 300 members of the PTA. Sally Foster numbers are lower, but the internet sales are not yet in. The Adult Fundraiser is coming up. We have plenty of cash right now, and we are taking ideas for the Wish List.

Staff Report: No staff report.

President's Report: Dorene Rosenthal reported that our by-laws have been approved. We have three years from now until we have to do the review process. We have sent out online evaluations of events. The feedback is good. She thanked people for responding and encouraged more people to respond. Karen Van Loon has offered to put together a website for the PTA. This should be up and running soon. An additional copier is going to be purchased (this was a Wish List item). A request was made at the Cluster Meeting to urge funding of the Geographic Cost of Education Index (GCEI). Everyone is encouraged to write in and ask that education be fully funded. There is a sample letter being circulated.

MCCPTA Report: Betsy Falloon reported that Annapolis Night is February 12, 2007. This is a night when everyone goes to Annapolis to remind the legislators that we are active, we value education, and we want to be heard. We want them to fully fund the Thornton Plan and GCEI. People can e-mail Betsy if they want to learn more. The Safety Resolution passed. The next resolution is a high school issue regarding a personal finance class in high school. We will vote for that. Other topics of interest are middle school reform. The county recently issued a lengthy report about middle school reform. This will be rolled out in 5 schools. Questions raised have to do with aligning the high school curriculum to college curriculum. Secondary learning centers have been discussed. There has been a proposal to phase out the Learning Centers in middle schools. Betsy and Lisa can be called with any questions.

Vice President's Reports: Wynne Sitrin reported that 1000 Sandwiches Day is March 1st. Britta Battaile discussed 1000 Sandwiches. The kids bring in cheese and meat for the sandwiches. We supply the bread. Volunteers will be needed. Nic Ryba thanked the Science Fair chairs and thanked for the lunch with the scientist. The CAST program is beginning. She worked with the kids today. 40 1st and 2nd graders will be participating. There will be two classes, one for first grade and one for second grade. Laura Weiss reported that the Dine Out at Parkers was very successful. The next Dine Out is March 13th at Armand's in Rockville. We may switch from Sally Foster to another fundraiser in the fall. The Adult Fundraiser is March 24th. A tour of the White House briefing room, weather boy/girl at Fox, tour of the Kids Post, 4 tickets to the NASCAR race, big screen TV raffle, and more fun things will be auctioned at the fundraiser. The Barking Dog will be supplying the food. There will be a live band at the auction (Dave Abramowitz' band). We have a fun auctioneer for the event. Donations are coming in. A sign-up sheet has been put up for volunteers to help with the evening. We may sign up with a program to accept credit cards. This will really help the event. Brenda Conroy reported that the Staff Appreciation Luncheon is Thursday. Strawberries are needed. Playground Volunteers are needed for indoor recess.

Principal's Report: Dr. Chaset reported that Judy Ayers has resigned. Heidi Grunwald has picked up her position. We have gotten additional paraeducator time. Denise Hardy has picked up more time. Angela Haskins will take the paraeducator position that has opened in the Learning Center. She will start next week. Mr. Tark and she have been attending gymnasium meetings. Mr. Tark reported that the gym should be finished on time. It is about 45% finished now. Colors for the gym will be chosen. Phase II is about to begin. The BT Foundation is working on a letter to go out to raise some money to enhance the gym. Their first campaign will be to sell pavers. The architect has designated an area for the pavers. The area around the gym will be re-grated so the area will be usable. The downtown bag lunch will be February 15th at Hogan & Hartson at 12:00 noon.

No new business.

The meeting was adjourned,

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Lenkin, Recording Secretary