

Burning Tree PTA Meeting Minutes  
October 3, 2006 at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Dorene Rosenthal. The 8/30/06 Minutes were approved.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** 23 people came to the Committee Chair training. Burning Issues is the once a month newsletter (deadline is this Friday, 10/6) and the Friday Update comes out once a week. There will not be a Friday Update the week that the Burning Issues comes out. The storage area is being cleaned out.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Last year's budget was handed out. The Budget is being redone for next year (it is being looked at line by line). There is still plenty of cash. We are still looking at Wish List items and trying to keep some extra money for the gym. There will be a new category for next year: Mini Staff Grants (teachers often have something they want to do for the class/school in the \$50 to \$100 range). This is a "Wish List" so that teachers can go to their Executive Board representative for extra money for small projects. The only restriction is that they bring up their request before they commit to the project. We have authorized \$400 for the Assistant Principal to use. The only revenues have been from the school store and the directory.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:** Dr. Chaset reported that the first official meeting with the contractors is tomorrow at 10 a.m. (pre-construction conference). We will learn about all of the modifications we need to make. We will try to organize a groundbreaking ceremony. Henley Construction will be doing the construction (they are the largest contractor for Montgomery County schools). Kiss N Ride contracts were handed out at Back to School Night. The staff has indicated that the Kiss N Ride contracts have helped. Dr. Chaset attended (along with 19 other principals) the Washington Post Principal's Leadership Institute. The focus is on value driven leadership. She took a survey about her values and the school's values. She will report to us on what she learns. She will be out of the building three more days for these meetings. The school is participating in the PLCI for the first time. They use case study as a tool for improving organizations. 18 people will be going to meetings in order to engage in activities to better the school. PLCI meetings focus on inclusion (making sure all of the students are "well"). We will work on how to educate those students who struggle with learning. This will be a major focus. Nextel would like to put up a cell phone tower here at Burning Tree. The incentive is \$24,000 a year. Dr. Chaset will get more information and share it with us. All Learning Center vacancies have been filled.

**STAFF REPORT:** Mrs. Granof reported that she is looking forward to the Open House next Monday (October 9<sup>th</sup>) from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. The Open House is a visiting day for all schools in Montgomery County. The Open House lasts for about 1 hour.

**VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORTS:** Wynne Sitrin reported that Martha's Table is this Thursday (please bring in sandwiches), October 14<sup>th</sup> is the school wide clean-up (Beautify BT), October 27<sup>th</sup> is the Talent Show for BT students at a local nursing home, UNICEF boxes will be here at the end of the month. Laura Weiss reported that Bingo Night is Friday night from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Pyle. She has \$1 off tokens for the Family Pack of bingo cards for anyone who wants them. Sally Foster sales need to come in. October 19<sup>th</sup> is International Night. International Walk to School Day is tomorrow. Trick or Treat for UNICEF is important. Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup> is the Darcars Young Run. Ms. Loftus would like to have 20% participation. Brenda Conroy reported that Mr. Brian Liu would be the school historian. Photographs can be given to Brian. Parent Get Togethers will be held for Learning Center, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> Grade. The new family event will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> at Olivia Lai's house. Volunteer Forms were discussed (we need more volunteers).

**MCCPTA REPORT:** Lisa Davenport reported that there are two resolutions that will be voted on at the next MCCPTA meeting. One is about the Student Service Hours, and the other one is about extending the health technician's hours. The resolution would increase the time that the technicians are in school by one hour. Everyone seems to be in favor of this resolution. Lisa and Dr. Chaset passed out feedback cards. Everyone was encouraged to fill out the cards and return them to Lisa tonight (or they can be mailed). There are also some cards in Spanish. No new business. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amy Lenkin, Recording Secretary