

# MINUTES



## Birchtree Parent Guild

**Mission of Birchtree Charter School:** to nurture and promote the development of healthy, responsible, and creative human beings.

**Mission of Birchtree Parents Guild:** to support the Birchtree Charter School and its teachers for the betterment of the children attending the School.

**The Birchtree Learning Plans includes that:**

- the personal behavior of adults and teachers at BCS will be an example to the pupils.
- each class will be a learning community for respect, tolerance, and understanding.
- BCS is designed to function as a living system that balances initiative and accountability. All teachers, staff, and participants will be asked to make a commitment to develop him or herself along with the pupils.

**Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2014**

**Time: 3:45 PM- 5:20**

BPG members present: Heather Lee, Tiffany Kent, Nancy Black, Amy Sharer, Anna Folsom, Celena Bruno, Kristi Shea, Karie Raynovic, Nancy Brunette, Jennifer Budde, Cathy Busbee, Heather Esslin, Ernie Hetrick, David Auld, Reagan Dervaes, Mary Mueller

- I. Opening Verse
- II. Heather called meeting to order and motioned to approve the agenda, Kristi moved to pass; Jennifer seconded it; all in favor: motion passed.
- III. Heather entertained motion to approve minutes on meeting for bylaw Revision 10/22/14. Kristi moved to pass; Jennifer seconded it; all in favor: motion passed. Minutes from October meeting not available at this time.
- IV. Standing Monthly Reports
  - A. Administration – Cathy
    - Mrs. Busbey and Mr. Bowen met with Lynn Gattis in October. She stated at this time parents cannot opt out of the literacy screener, however she does not agree with this and will follow up with legislators after elections. She also said she would send a letter on behalf of Birchtree about the borough reimbursing charter schools for property taxes.
    - AMP testing: Birchtree has the technical capacity to test students on the computer, (broadband width) so AMP testing will be computer based this year for grades 3-8. Students will have practice tests to familiarize themselves with the computer.
    - Mrs. Busbey found a Waldorf Administrators training through Antioch University that she is pursuing in addition to the foundations classes offered at Anchorae Waldorf also through Antioch University.
    - Discussion on options regarding the purchase of land for sale next to Birchtree .
  - B. APC Liaison – Amy
    - Board Development Committee: APC is still planning an informal, social book discussion about Waldorf philosophy sometime in January after the holidays. This would be for all



<b>Programs - Non revenue</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Balance</b>				<b>Comments</b>
Playscape	\$3,158.83		3,158.83				<b>Playscape</b>
Teacher Appreciation/Gifts			-				
BTC Professional Development		\$2,040.00					
P.I.T.C.R.E.W / Parent Support	\$2,700.00	\$345.78	2,354.22				
<b>Total (non revenue program expense)</b>			<b>5,513.05</b>				
<b>Admin Expenses - non event</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>Balance</b>				<b>Comments</b>
Business Supplies			0				
Tax Preparer			0				
Insurance (BPG liability)			0				
Signs	\$500.00	\$150.00	350				
Bank Fees	\$100.00		100				
Property Tax	\$250.00	\$229.64	20.36				
Retreat			0				
Attorney General Report	\$40.00	\$40.00	0				
Biennial corporate tax	\$30.00	\$-	0				
<b>Total Admin Expense</b>	<b>\$920.00</b>		<b>\$470.36</b>				
<b>Total Funds held in reserve for budgeted items</b>	<b>\$14,378.83</b>		<b>11,671.32</b>				
<b>Total Unrestricted Funds (CHECKING - TOTAL BUDGET)</b>			<b>\$4,339.79</b>				

There are \$0 of old uncleared checks

L#10 School Auction: 8th Grade Profit:  
\$12,463.83

Birchtree Charter School 2013/14 Year      total:  
End Total \$1860.10                              \$1472.04

L #25 Kim Snyder-Vine Professional      BTC \$2040  
Development

#### E. Parent Engagement

- David Aldon talked about fundraising ideas for next year. Discussion on finding a raffle license that we could use before trying to obtain our own was discussed.
- PIT crew is planning on having a meal-making day. Nothing else to report.

#### F. School Store – Laura

- Store earned \$173.75.
- Plan to have store open the week before Christmas Break. Before during and after morning drop. Laura is working on plans to have sixth grade work the table. Jennifer volunteered to also be at the table.
- It was suggested that we have a store table at the Christmas Concert on December 5<sup>th</sup> as well.

### V. **Recently Completed** (5 min)

#### A. Elections – Heather

- Karie Raynovic, Amy Sharer, Heather Lee and Nancy Black were elected to BPG board. Heather entertained motion to approve members voted in, Jennifer moved to pass; Tiffany seconded it. Unanimous vote, members approved.
- Discussion on class representation. Almost all classes have a non-voting representative.

#### B. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Auction – Tiffany

- The auction was a success. Total funds earned were \$12,463.83.

### VI. **Current & Upcoming Events** (30 min)

#### A. Officer Elections

- Heather expressed desire to continue as BPG board member but not in the capacity of Chair. Heather entertained motion for nominations. Heather Nominated Celena Bruno for Chair, Laura Sampson for vice Chair, Tiffany Kent for treasurer and Nancy Black for Secretary; Kristi seconded. Unanimous vote. Positions filled as stated.

#### B. Task Brainstorming and Assignments

- Kristi volunteered to print photos for each member to help community be more aware of who we are.
- It was agreed after each meeting we would have a brief bullet point sheet to hang outside each classroom.
- Nancy agreed to get minutes out earlier so they are available to community.

#### C. School Supply Scholarships

- It was decided that the BPG would supply funds, but it would be up to administration on how the funds were dispersed. Celena moved to set aside \$1000 per year for school supply scholarships; Karen seconded. Unanimous vote motion passed.

#### D. German Thank You

- The school received a gift from a sister school in Germany. The gift was a large amount of books. It was decided to make an Alaska Specific Box to be sent as a Thank you. Krisi moved we cover shipping cost of up to \$200; Tiffany seconded it. Unanimous vote motion passed.
- Heather agreed to talk to Frau Rodgers (sp) to make a thank you sign for Ms. Sharer for the fantastic job on the Lantern walk. Jennifer agreed to buy a coffee card to go with the sign.

#### E. Board Retreat

- Joint retreat in January. Date to be announced.
- Board 101 for new members or members wanting a refresher will be in December.

F. Parent Education Night –January 27<sup>th</sup>

- Simplicity Parenting to be a focus again this year. It was decided to have only two break out sessions and after the first session was done participants would swap to the other. It was decided to focus on the impact of Media for the lecture session and an art focused session for the second.

G. School of Choice Fair – Feb

H. Need for fund raising branch of BPG. Anna expressed interest in being involved with this. This will be added on December agenda.

- Tiffany will talk with Jo about the Amazon Smiles program.

**VII. Calendar Check-in**

A. Next meeting 12/17/14 at 3:45

B. Next Pastries for Parents 12/5/14 at 8:30

C. Agenda Requests

- Micro loans for projects
- Fund raising meeting.

**VIII.** Heather entertained motion to adjourn. Kristi moved: Karie seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

**5:30-7:00pm: Volunteer Potluck**