

Burns Park PTO Minutes
November 20, 2008

- I. October minutes approved.
- II. Kathy Morhous: Principal's Report
 - A. The staff is looking at all student's needs and gifts/strengths and are developing goals according to areas of need in the curriculum.
 - B. African American, Latino, and economically disadvantaged students' outcomes are being looked at most closely.
 - C. The staff is looking at welcoming new students and their families.
 - D. The staff is also looking at the Equity issues via book club and professional development.
 - E. The CARE team is made up of 7 teachers and Kathy Morhous to look at culturally relevant curriculum for African American and Latino students.
- III. Elizabeth De Rose: Updates
 - A. Sally Foster raised \$5250.00. We can still get credit if people shop on-line.
 - B. A second Golden Apple Grant Request was submitted by Janice Lieberman for grades K-2 for the "Two of a Kind" musical performance with a focus on anti-bullying.
 - C. PTO minutes will be attached as a link to the weekly e-mail notes 10 days after the meeting.
- IV. Helen Starman: Foreign Language Instruction
 - A. This is the first year that the BPFLI has provided Spanish instruction for grades 1-5.
 - B. The district will start to provide Spanish instruction next year with 3rd grade; the following year will be grades 3-5.
 - C. The district and the U of M will provide the instruction. Student teachers from the U of M School of Education will be supervised by the AAPS Media Area teachers. The program will cost AAPS 50-60K/year, which will contribute 50% of the Professor at U of M's salary and benefits.
 - D. The curriculum will be taught as it would be in Europe based on interest and usage. Instruction will be two-30 minute sessions per week. For more information, please research The Common European Framework of Reference for Language and Learning.
 - E. BPFLI will fundraise to offer Spanish instruction to grades 1,2,4 and 5 next year and then in following years fundraise to offer Spanish instruction in grades 1 and 2 so we can maintain instruction in grades 1 – 5.
- V. Andy Thomas: PTO Council
 - A. Powerschool and education for parents on usage are being considered. This is one of the main sources of communication between families and school at the middle school level.
 - B. There will be a meeting for all PTO/PTSO Treasurer Chairs.
 - C. Book sale profits were \$1100.00 (day of book sale). An additional \$100.00 was from 5th grade bake sale. An additional \$1000.00 was raised from on-line silent auction. Additional funding will be received from contributions; the current total for contributions is \$3800.00. The total funds raised with the matching program is close to \$11,000.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.