

**Burke PTO Meeting Minutes**  
**December 7, 2020**  
Meeting Called to Order: 7:01 pm

- Second of our on-line meetings via Zoom. 28 people signed in

**Principal's Update: Darren Rasmussen**

- Announcements are updated weekly on the school website through Mr. Rasmussen's digital newsletter. Always look there first if you have questions. All information about school updates, calendar, activities and health information will be there for parents to access.
- First semester ends this week, school resumes Jan. 5, with high school students in full remote status until Jan. 19. Class schedule will be communicated, but it will be the same full remote schedule we had at the beginning of the school year. There will be hour-long classes with a half hour lunch during that full remote time.
- Burke is at over 1,000 students opting for full remote learning at this point.
- There will be materials collection and distribution dates for students who need to drop off and pick up books and supplies. These dates will be communicated by email and on the school website.
- Inter-session days last week were designed to allow students time to make up, re-do and retake tests and assignments to help them academically to give students grace to catch up amid the stresses of 3/2 learning. Looking to work some of these days earlier in the semester moving forward.
- Teachers are working so hard to keep students engaged whether it is remote or live instruction. Working to get students communicating their thinking.
- Planning for a virtual open house for 8<sup>th</sup> graders on Jan. 12 from 6-8 pm. Completely virtual setting. There will be some live Q&A and other presentations of information for families who will be choosing their high school for next year.
- Winter sports: No pause or changes in winter sports over winter break and during the remote weeks.
- Remote learning opt in/out: It can change by the day. Students can come back into the 3/2 family plan or opt for remote learning as their needs dictate. Staff is very flexible about working with each student and family. They just don't want to have students flopping back and forth week to week. Students must be in the 3/2 plan to participate in sports.

**Teacher Spotlight:**

**November: Barb Boltinghouse, social studies teacher**

**Academic Decathlon Program**

- Grateful for PTO grants and donations to academic decathlon team for practice tests, supplies for resources for in-class support. Team this year has been all remote (no in-person practices yet). It is both a class and competition team (local and national). Each year a topic is given that includes math, science, history, art, music, language/literature, economics, essay writing, interview, speech. From the team, the highest scoring 12 teammates are chosen to participate in the competitions. Other class members then become coaches and teachers.

- Last year 2019 Burke took 2<sup>nd</sup> in regionals and 3<sup>rd</sup> in state. Top scoring public school in the state. Regionals are in January and State competition is in February. Nationals are in April. There are trophies, scholarships and cash prizes.
- Student Ambassadors: Renzo and Leah
- Renzo: This year's topic is: The Cold War. Reading Cat's Cradle by Kurt Vonnegut. Rigorous study. Great group of students who focus on both competition and offers an opportunity to form friendships with a diverse group of people. It's an engaging and fun club.
- Leah: Remote situation has made it harder to communicate and connect with students. Some members are not as engaged and communicative. But for those who are engaging and making the effort, it has made an even stronger bond. Remote has been a challenge and has some resistance, but there is a dedication to the club that allows

### **Teacher of the Month: Terese Hammond**

She was inspired to become a teacher by HER high school social studies teacher. Her goal is to make her students feel connected to and proud of their Burke experience.

Very grateful for the teacher grants that she has received and the relationships she forms with students.

### **December: Constnace Navratil, special education**

Teaching 11 years, 7 at Burke

Inspired by her own children's learning differences to make sure all students succeed in school.

Grateful for the teacher grant opportunities to keep classes in Kleenex, stylus pens for ipads.

Appreciates the care and shows of appreciation for staff at school.

### **Fundraiser: Cash Instead of Bash (CIOB)**

- Week 4-ish of our fundraising campaign
- Hoping for contributions from 500 Burke families
- Perks for Burke – Burke spirit swag for donations at certain amounts
- We are not close to our goal of 500 families ... we are so hoping the final week of donations will bring in more donations of any amount. Every dollar donated goes directly to support staff and students at Burke High School.
- So far ... we have raised \$5700 from corporate sponsors, \$9000 from 83 family donations so far.
- Ask coaches and club sponsors to reach out to their families to encourage donations from their members.
- Our PTO goal is to build awareness and support of the academic clubs, activities and sports. We are hoping CIOB donations allow us to have the budget to do this.

### **Treasurer's Report: Alan Hauschild, Michelle Krapfl**

- CIOB: Budget was \$20,000 anticipated in revenue with \$5,000 in expenses, currently at about \$15,000 for revenue. We are about \$5000 short of our goal.
- \$4600 in membership, exceeded expectation
- Expenses in the last month: \$4100 in teacher and department grants
- Account balance: \$55,855.14

- Teacher grants will be offered again in January
- Upcoming expenses: Prom Experience, scholarships

**Secretary's Report: Wendy Kendeigh**

- Minutes are linked on the PTO website and sent out in email
- October Minutes Approved

**Closing Remarks: Susie Gundersen**

- Thank you to CIOB committee to be so outside the box to still provide funding for our PTO budget
- Thank you to teacher grant committee: Alan Hauschild and Michelle Fryzek
- Thank you to Karen Burmood and Michelle Fryzek: Providing a Panera gift card instead of our usual catered lunch to get themselves lunch while they are on holiday
- Banners were installed in our parking lot poles to give a visual shout out to our CIOB sponsors.
- Thank you to Mr. Rassmussen who did landscaping outside the activity entrance, mainly on his own time with his own hands!
- Looking for ideas of upcoming staff member and program spotlights.
- Outstanding Alumnae Awards were given remotely this year. Thank you to the alumnae board for putting that together.
- Update on Burke sign on 120<sup>th</sup> and Burke Blvd. working to get that project completed and will have extra signs to use in other building areas.
- District Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting tomorrow. CJ and Susie are members that have access to small group meetings with Dr. Logan. Any questions or issues you have can be given to the Burke PTO website and shared with CJ to bring to these meetings.

**Meeting Adjourned: 7:50 pm**

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 8, 7:00 pm, Zoom**