



BLAKELY
ELEMENTARY

#BULLDOGPRIDE

Blakely PTO General Meeting Minutes

Date: December 14, 2018

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Blakely Library

Attendees: Leigh Ann McKeen, Christina Doherty, Deb Rudnick, Rebecca Miller, Melanie Danelli, Siri Miller, Lindsay Fiorito, Lara Deits, Michelle Hecker, Krista Tracy, Ida Cornelia, Alison Lum, Amy Shock, Kristine Cox, Meghan Carpenito, Laura O'Connell, Elise Dunn, Lisa Timmins, Chris McCann

9:00 a.m. Coffee/Treats & Mingling

9:10 a.m. Welcome & Introductions - *Lisa Timmins & Chris McCann*

9:15 a.m. Save the Tree - *Christina Doherty & Deb Rudnick*

- Raising funds to move the Japanese maple that graces the entry
- Dave Hannon (our custodian's brother) was one of the boys who helped plant the tree.
- Why are we moving the tree? We can't design around it. Over 12 generations of Blakely kids have walked under that tree, it has welcomed families since Blakely was built.
- It will cost somewhere between \$15,000-\$20,000 to move the tree. Applying for a \$5000 grant, but community funding will be a big part.
- We will be moving it during mid Winter break – it is the only time it can be moved, since it needs to be dormant.
- We will plan to put a link on our website – they will handle the advertising campaign, and we (the PTO) will be the payment processor.
- Contact Christina and Deb if you have questions or want to help:
Christinad@islandwood.org, debrudnick@gmail.com

9:50 a.m. Principal's Report – *Reese Ande*

- Peter Bang Knudsen is coming to our PTO meeting in January to talk about the capital levy that will be on the ballot in February.
- New Blakely! It continues – the rain is hard. The admin building is dried in – head and dry rock will be added in January. The gym will be next, but they need dry days for that to happen. Timeline - they still stay we are looking ok, we just need a few days of sunshine to catch up. Building will be completed, but pick up and drop off won't be ready, so we're working on a plan. The playground won't be ready. There will still be some growing pains in the Fall, but we should be completely up and running by January?
- This is our first winter on our temporary playground – learning to deal with the standing water.
- As concrete gets poured and we move into January we'll start to talk more about showcasing the site, and how/if/when some might be able to tour and see it.

- They will start talking and planning the specialist and cafeteria schedule for the new building.
- Question – new building will have a cafeteria? Yes, they won't be eating in their classrooms. There will be some growing pains, but we will get to borrow some of the systems that are in place at Wilkes.

9:50 a.m. Auction – *Meghan Carpenito & Kristine Cox*

- Updates – donations and sponsors are coming in! Using Greater Giving as our new platform this year.
- Looking for day-of volunteers (3/23), and classroom art volunteers. Our hope is that teachers will not volunteer this year – we want them to be able to come as guests. If you go to the auction website, there is a sign up genius link that lists the different roles and times. As we get closer to the auction, emails will go out to the entire school with links to the sign up.
- Katie Bonanno is looking for parent volunteers to come in during each class' designated art time. This will start in January, and we will reach out for volunteers through room parents.
- The “Buy a Brick” or paver ideas keep coming up. Reese - Buy a Brick (from the old Blakely) is no problem, he can work with the district. Buying a “paver” for the new Blakely is more of a problem since it excludes some people.

10:15 a.m. Presidents' Report & other PTO business - *Lisa Timmins & Chris McCann*

- Approval of Nov 2018 meeting minutes (passed) - *Laura O'Connell*
- Bainbridge Prepares parental survey: www.bainbridgeprepares.org/survey They want to get a more definitive school reunification plan in place. They need to hear from parents, so they get a sense of how many parents work on island vs. off island. It only takes 2 minutes to complete. Bainbridge Prepares will be coming to our PTO meeting in Feb to talk about disaster preparedness.
- Trex Challenge at Sakai (recycling plastic film). They have bins right outside the school where you can leave non curbside plastic recycling (think Ziploc bags, plastic wrapping, bubble wrap, cereal bags).

10:20 a.m. Calendar items, community events, etc.:

- Winter break (no school) - Weds 12/19 through Tues 1/1
- Coach Henry's sports camp is back! Begins Mon 1/7 from 12:50-2pm
- “Like” movie (social media) encore screening at Bainbridge Cinemas- Weds 1/9; tickets through RaisingResilience.org
- Also returning is Chan Hellman, with a parent presentation on “The Science and Power of Hope” - Tues 1/22 from 6:30-8pm at BHS Commons; tickets through [Bainbridge Youth Services \(askBYS.org\)](http://BainbridgeYouthServices.org).

10:15 a.m. Adjourn

(You are welcome to stay & continue mingling, collect more cookies, exchange ideas with other parents, etc.)

NEXT MEETING: Friday, January 11th at 9:00 a.m.