

# Brewster Korn

## PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

September 8, 2009

**Introductions** – President – Debbie Sokol  
Co-Vice Presidents Brewster – Kristen Prout and Lisa Stopka  
Co-Vice Presidents Korn – Lisa Onofrio and Tonya Little  
Treasurer – Oanh Stephan  
Secretary – Kim Salley

**July Minutes** – The minutes were reviewed. Debbie Sokol motioned to accept the minutes and Oanh Stephan seconded it. All were in favor.

**Committee Sign-Up Update** – Debbie Sokol reported that we had sign ups at the Brewster Bus Ride and Korn Info. Night. She encouraged people to sign up for a committee. There will be 1 more day for sign ups for the committees on Thurs at Brewster Info night.

**Web Site Update** – The District 13 web site includes a PTA e-mail address. Any e-mail to this address will go to Debbie Sokol who will then forward it to the right person.

**Durham Fair** – Tonya Little and Lisa Stopka reported that there is a sign up sheet for 3 hour shifts for this year's fair and there is a separate sign up for the committee for organizing next year's fair. We have been getting donations, which is close to \$1000 to date. We will accept any donations from anyone. We still need a painter's spray gun. We need to paint this weekend or next weekend. Otherwise we are doing well. Stew Lenorads has given us a great deal on products. We just haven't gotten donations for coffee yet. Karen Buckley-Bates had contact information for Kristy at DD corporate office.

**Fall Fundraiser** – Lisa S. reports that we are on schedule with QSP. There are no pies this year. Info will come out a week or 2 after Durham Fair.

**Treasurer's Report** – Oanh Stephan reported that Jennifer Vestaguard completed the audit for last years finances and put it into an excel file for us. Thank you to Jennifer. There are only a few loose ends that need to be cleared up from last year. 1<sup>st</sup>, last year's fall fundraiser money needs to be cleared by Brewster and the check from Brewster needs to be deposited into the playground account. The Wizards money from last year also has

not been transferred to the playground fund yet. The playground fund has \$37,000 + \$1700 from Brewster and the Wizards money which makes the total approximately \$40,000.

### **Principals' Report –**

**Brewster** – Nancy Heckler updated new parents to the BKPTA re: what the BKPTA money goes towards (i.e. Cultural arts programs), and what the situation is with the playground.

Nancy reports that we had a great opening, and things went really smoothly. Meet the teacher day really helps to relieve the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school anxiety for the kids. We've had 2 fire drills and the kids did great. Thurs is Info Night. Please don't bring kids to this event. There was a change of schedule for the Pre-K programs. Pre-K 4 year olds will be from 6-7, and Pre -K 3 year olds will be from 7-8. Open House is Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> and we ask that you do bring the kids to this event. It is 6-7:30 and you can come by at any time during this time frame. You will also get a notice about the First Fri Family Read. You can come at the end of the day and read to a few kids from your child's class. You may bring siblings to this. You can bring a book or find one in the classroom.

**Korn** – Laurie Sinder reported their meet and greet was very successful. Last Thurs was open house and it was very well attended. The 1<sup>st</sup> field trip scheduled is for 4<sup>th</sup> grade for classes to go to the Thimble Islands. Parents are welcome to meet the kids at the Thimble Islands (can't take the bus). The 1<sup>st</sup> combined program for Brewster and Korn is a Character Ed program. The character is Inspector I Wanna Know. On Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> both schools will have picture day. Envelopes will come out before then. The library is automated and ready to go. Please send in the summer reading challenge. It doesn't matter how many books the kids read. Laurie explained the new Starr program. It stands for Students Acting Respectfully and Responsibly. The kids earn points with their behavior during school. They will be able to get some prizes as they earn more points.

### **Other –**

Tonya Little reported that Jerry's Pizza offered to give a free slice of pizza for the students for the Starr program or any other programs we may want to use it for.

Karen Buckley-Bates informed us that there is some stimulus money that can be used towards the playground. The state approved for us to use \$60,000 towards the playground. We therefore need to get approx. \$28,000 to have the playground done. Hopefully we will be able to complete that by the end of the year.

Debbie Sokol reports that she worked with Tiger Robinson and got approval to create professional CD's that will be recorded in November in time for holiday delivery. It will be a musical CD for the holidays with all of the children in both Brewster and Korn singing. This money will go to the playground fund.

Tonya Little reported she got a form from Stop and Shop that they have an A plus bonus books program for schools. Anytime you use your card money will go to the school. Other stores and groups also do things like this. Kathy DeBrum volunteered to make a list of places that give points/money to the school to send to parents so they can sign up for what they want.

Regarding paperless e-mail. Tonya Little reported that last year she was getting paper even though she was on the e-mail list. Nancy reports there were glitches last year however this year it should work out. There are some notices that will still be paper like for Cub Scouts and other out of school activities.

Kim Salley reported that Nancy Boyle from the BOE is working on making communication between the district's PTA's and the BOE easier. Nancy will be working with a committee after their next BOE meeting to finalize a procedure to help with communication.

There were some questions and comments from some parents.

Donna Palmer was curious about our history of fundraisers. She stated she seems to see the same things over and over and can often find the same items being offered for cheaper prices than what the fundraisers can get them for. Some of last year's fundraisers were described as well as what we have planned this year. Recommendations are welcome.

Melissa Wadsworth reported that she ran a scholastic book fair at her old school and was wondering if Brewster/Korn did this as well. It was explained that both schools do the scholastic book fair, which is run by the librarians to help raise money for the school libraries.

Jerusha Gillespie asked if the PTA is involved with any outside educational programs or volunteer activities. She was notified about our education committee, and informed of activities that have been done in the past. Again, suggestions are welcome.

Lisa Onofrio brought up the idea of having a rain date for field day. The principals reported they like to do it rain or shine because otherwise they can have rain date upon rain date upon rain date. The kids really had a great time even with the rain the past 2 years.

Kathy DeBrum motioned to adjourn and Lisa Onofrio seconded.