

Douglass PTO/SIT Meeting Minutes
February 7 , 2007
2:45- 5:00pm

I. Welcome/Introductions and Sign-In

- a. Principal – Kelley King
- b. Vice President – Natalie Portman-Marsh
- c. Secretary – Jen Patrick
- d. Treasurer – Beth Ellis
- e. DAC Rep – LeNore Kerber
- f. DPC Rep – Cathy Faughnan
- g. Teacher Rep – Lynn Twietmeyer
- h. Teacher Rep – Alisha Cohen
- i. Teacher Rep – Esther Parson
- j. Parent – Lorraine Trezek

II. Kelly King

- a. Resignation – Kelley put a lot of thought into this decision. Wanted to give the district sufficient notice to fill the position. The Gurian Institute approached Kelley in December. The timing is perfect for her to take this position. The district will post the job opening for 6-7 weeks, look at applicants and do a paper screening and narrow it down to approx 10 teachers. The district will meet with the teachers/parents to see what they are looking for in a principal. They will form an interview committee and narrow it down to 3 people. Community members will get to ask questions in a forum to the candidates. The candidates will go into interviews with Superintendent, etc. References will be checked, this information will be forwarded to the board and the board will make the decision to hire. We will plan to hire the new principal before the end of the year. Not everyone received the email letter from Kelley regarding her resignation, Penny will send it out through PTO manager and check with Pete, webmaster.
- b. Student enrollment/class size – Kelley discussed class sizes and ratios for next year.

K – 70 students (had 30 at this time last year, are looking at 4 rounds of K)

1st – 54 current 18:1

2nd - 71 current 23:1

3rd - 72 current 24:1

4th - 72 current 24:1

5th - 85 current 28:1

Teacher negotiated agreements

Max 26:1 K-1

Max 29:1 2-3

Max 32:1 4-5

Class size Reduction – Mill Levy a couple of years ago

Max 20:1 K-1

Max 29:1 2-3

Max 32:1 4-5

We will only be taking open enrollment at the 1st grade level. At this point we have accepted 6. We will take a few more in the 2nd round.

- c. Reviewed progress on School Improvement Goals-See Kelley.
- d. Parenting Safe Children – 30 people in attendance. Went well.

III. DPC Update and Playground/Bond Report –Cathy Faughnan

- a. Playground – Presented that we had our plan ready to go for the playground. Douglass did not get selected for the first round. Kelley brought them in to take a look and they came up with \$85,000 for the playground. Which is only half to 3/4 of what we need. But we still have \$15,000 set aside from last year. The basketball court is the first issue. Basically, they will cover anything with safety issues, but PTO's need to raise money for equipment.
- b. DPC- Tomorrow night at 6:00pm is the forum of the final 3 candidates for Platt Principal. Parents are welcome to attend.
Cathy passed around BVSD 2007 Legislative Platform. See Cathy if you would like to see a copy of it.
Had a presentation from Safe Schools. All about LGBTQ –lesbian, gay, bisexual -They talked about issues around whether or not children of these parents feel safe at school and if they are being bullied. Discussed 'Everybody Counts' which is a book focused on helping these kids feel as comfortable as possible. When children of LGBTQ parents get to high school 43% have considered committing suicide because of the bullying, teasing, etc. There was discussion about what goes on at home and how could we reach out to the parents.

Choices and Changes – they are willing to offer it. Certain grade levels found it very valuable. We would offer 2 alternatives, the teachers could deliver the info themselves or we could have the Choices and Changes teachers come in and deliver it. Kelley is going to go back to the teachers and see what they want to do.

IV. President – Penny Tompkins

- a. Gift Wrap 2007 – We are looking for a new chair if we want to do it in the fall. The board decided to go ahead and do it for 2007.
- b. Impact on Education event – Penny attended a meeting about this last night. 80% of the people who attend are guests of corporate sponsors. These people are not as passionate about the cause and the auction was not as successful. They are trying to reach out to the community and get more people who are passionate

about the cause to come. Penny would like to have a Douglass table. Each person attending would buy their own ticket, but we would get together the table. Discussed sponsoring someone to go from the Douglass staff. Discussion was in favor of the PTO supporting this event. Teachers will put an email together. We need to advertise it to our parent community more. Kelley will get a grant summary from Impact on Education to Penny. We felt principals from all of the BVSD schools should be in attendance. Penny will bring that up at her next meeting with them.

- c. Jog-a-thon – We need a chairperson for this event. Kelley noted that Joann Clark is interested in helping out. Alisha said Devin Cunningham would be willing to help. Penny will help find a chairperson. We will also advertise in the newsletter.

IV. Vice President - Natalie Portman-Marsh

- a. Survey – We will email it to Pete and put it on the web. Paper copies will be available in the office. We will have surveys at the dance for people to fill out. Would like to have it up on the 19th and leave it up for an entire week.

V. Treasurer – Beth Ellis

January –received \$405 from Douglass Dough, received \$444 from a foundation, made \$891 for the month. Spent \$100 on enrichment programs, \$61 on subs, \$25 on babysitting, \$19.95 on Quickbooks online. Made 22.95 on great books, etc. See Beth for detailed budget. Talked about doing a separate fundraiser for the basketball court, maybe at the back to school pizza party.

VI. DAC – Lenore Kerber

Lenore is on the Accountability subcommittee, focusing on Math curriculum. There is a district push to make it more viable. All of the schools use different methods. The research says math used in the home is the largest indicator of success in math. Talked about doing a Math night in our school a few times a year. Lenore wanted some input from the group on what that would look like. Lynn mentioned there were several schools in the district who have a Math Night in place. Heatherwood and Pioneer to name a couple. Parents come in and play the math games with their kids. Penny mentioned PTO today website is a great resource for that. Lenore will email the questions to us and we will give her feedback at the next meeting.