

**BIRCH GROVE PTO MEETING MINUTES**  
**APRIL 15, 2008**  
**Birch Grove Media Center**

**Board Members Present:** Lori Swedeen, Scott Noland, MaiLee Lee, Janean Huser.

**Agenda Topic:** Special Education teachers Ruttie Strand and Michelle Gauck presented how they and the other special education teachers teach those who have emotional and learning disabilities. They also teach those with autism. Students are assessed and an IEP (Individual Education Plan) is developed for them. Teachers use the IEP to help the student learn language, reading, spelling and math. 13% of the students at Birch Grove have an IEP. Over time, some of the students are brought into a regular classroom are able to learn in that setting.

**Geckler Presentation:** Representative Renee Gullickson presented the Geckler Fundraiser and some of the products they sell. The company is known for having very personalized and helpful customer service. A suggestion was made by her to offer frozen food (soup, pizza, etc) as the school receives 50% of the profit off of those sales. She also noted that we have until May 1, 2008 to sign up for next year. The PTO would be given a bonus (if we sign) of money to be used towards inflatables for the end of the year ice cream social.

**Nominations:** Lori Swedeen stated that nominations for the 2008-2009 PTO board positions are being accepted. Also, if anyone would like to chair a fundraiser, names will be taken.

**Burger King Night:** The last BK Night for this school year is Thursday, April 24. **Family Movie Night** will be held Friday, May 16. 2 movies will be showing: "The Bee Movie" and "Snowbuddies". Need volunteers to run the projectors. Pam G. will contact people to volunteer for the event.

**Approval of March Meeting Minutes:** Minutes approved by JoEllen Ricci, seconded by MaiLee Lee.

**Budget Update:** Since a quorum was not present, the changes to the 2007-2008 budget were tabled until the next meeting. Also proposed budget changes in planning for the 2008-2009 school year were tabled until the next meeting.

**New Business:** Ideas were discussed on how to raise money for the school and the programs that PTO funds. Suggestions made were: Market Day, The Chip Shoppe--a presentation will be given at the May PTO Business meeting. Janean H. will check with Lisa Cowart about next year's Gold C coupon book and prices. It was also suggested that we have the choice of giving parents an "opt out" option. What this means is if parents/students do not want to participate in a fundraiser, they have an option to give a dollar amount instead.

**Adjourn:** Lori Swedeen motioned to adjourn, seconded by MaiLee Lee at 8:30pm.

**Next Meeting:** *Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at 6:00pm in the media center. Please note time change due to the ice cream social and the Art Troupe performances.*