

Brichta Elementary PTO Minutes

Location: Brichta School Library

Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Time: 6:30 pm

TUCSON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Members Present: Sabrina Cruz, , Jennifer Schroeder, Diana Kingfisher, Liz Dalglish, Jodi Thompson, Kerry Hodgkinson, Jane Simpson

Teacher's Report: None available – the teacher's have not returned to school.

Principal's Report: Good news, the budget reduction is 14%, which is much better than forecasted. Recalled teachers: Rhonda Smith. Two highly qualified positions still need to be filled for teachers. Brichta will receive two DIT or District Internal Transfer people to fill positions. The DIT's will be filled first and then the RIF's or reduction in forces will be filled next. New teachers currently are: Debbie Altamirano for 3rd grade and Vanessa Miller for 2nd grade. Remaining to be filled are two 4th grade positions and one kindergarten position.

Title I funds have been received. This is money to support specifically identified students. The proposed group is the students who have not yet passed the AIMS/TERA Nova. The ELL students, exceptional education and early childhood groups were not chosen. A First Committee meeting regarding was held to decide how to support utilizing these funds. The 2nd and 5th grade students were targeted through an Intervention Specialist with a reading endorsement costing \$55,000. This would be in the form of pull out's or help in the classroom and would target 1/3 of the school's population.

Brichta did receive a Performing Plus Label. Yea! There were some students who did not perform well and the 4th grade did not do well as a whole. That will be a targeted group.

School counselor position, some budget items still need to be worked out. There have been discussions on a ½ time counselor and a ½ time parent liaison position.

The desegregation issue has not been settled for TUSD.

The First Choice proposal to Dr. Fagan for Brichta on June 25th was not approved. There will be a meeting next week with 6 teachers to continue the application for Brichta as a First Choice school.

Budget report for Brichta: Brichta currently has 3 monitors in place. These positions will not be

able to be fully funded for the upcoming year. Brichta is in a good position for supplies. Plenty have been ordered. Only an office manager position will be funded, not an attendance clerk. Brichta will have a full time librarian and an instructional media specialist. A CCP, kindergarten and 4th grade teacher are needed. Currently Brichta does not have a counselor, however that is still being discussed.

Liz provided parent feedback for Principal Cruz. She did an excellent job of addressing the mass numbers of students at Brichta. We all want more for our kids than what we had when we were in school. The PTO will support her recommendations for staffing at Brichta.

Some fourth graders will be asked to move to 5th grade.

Regarding the street alignment for Brichta, it has been approved by the projects manager along with hand dryers for the school.

Site Council Report: A meeting has not yet been held.

Treasurers Report: A report was not available. Jim Carrasco was nominated as the new treasurer; it was seconded and passed – unanimously!

Registration Day: It will be Thur Aug 13th and Friday Aug 14th. Patsy needs assistance with copies, telephones and general directions to parents. It was suggested to have a PTO welcome table set up. An evening reception for the kindergarteners was suggested as a social and informational event. The PTO will fund refreshments for registration day. Principal Cruz will write a welcome letter to parents outlining general information for the first day of school. A possible ice cream social was also suggested. Volunteers are needed. Stephanie Hamilton will be contacted regarding assistance and possible returning students could be utilized. The scheduled time is 8am to 3pm. Diana will work Friday from 8am to 3pm and Jodi will work on Thursday. Jodi made a motion for up to \$50.00 to be spent on refreshments for registration, it was seconded and passed.

Stargazers Night: Suggested nights are September 22nd and 29th. Liz will bring more information to the next meeting.

PTO Directory: Principal Cruz suggested room parents to fill this need.

2009-2010 Event dates: A stargazer night, Fall Festival, PJ night (Feb 16th), Culture Night and Brichta Blast (Friday, April 30th).

New business: New bins for Brichta T-shirts. A motion was made to purchase bins to store the t-shirts for no more than \$50.00, it was seconded and passed. PTO reminders should be sent to staff as well as parents. 1020 is the 50 year anniversary for Brichta.

Next Meeting: Third Tuesday of the month – Aug 18th. Following meetings are Sept 15th, Oct 20th and December 15th.

Meeting Adjourned