

**Brewerton Elementary PTO Meeting Minutes  
March 13, 2019**

**1. PRINCIPAL REPORT**

- a. **UPCOMING STATE ASSESSMENTS.** ELA April 1-2 for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, April 2-3 for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. MATH April 30-May 1 for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, May 1-2 for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. We are phasing in computer based assessments starting with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this year, next year will be 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades and the year after that will be 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. One big change is that **ASSESSMENTS ARE NO LONGER TIED TO TEACHER PERFORMANCE** so there is no longer a need to opt out. The state is reinstituting a 95% participation rate. If we fail to meet that then we have to enter a written plan to improve that participation rate. Remember that the purpose of these tests is to see how our school ranks among similar schools. They also provide teachers with additional insight into who needs extra help, especially low to average students who are flying under the radar. It also prepares students later in their education to take tests like Regents and SATs.
- b. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade voted on their year end celebration. Skaneateles YMCA was chosen. They will have access to pool and slides, skating rink and gym. It will be submitted through Arts in Ed.
- c. The district has changed to a two location voting system. West of 81 will be voting in Central Square (at the American legion?). East of 81 will be voting in Constantia. Voting will be open from 6 am – 9 pm. There will be no more voting on school grounds.
- d. Part of the budget vote in May will include a safety referendum that will change how people enter our school due to safety concerns. The front entrance will be changed so that visitors are buzzed into the main office and then will have to be buzzed into the school through a separate entrance. The Board is in discussion with Armoured One on how to do it properly. Brewerton will also have new locks installed on all the doors so they can lock easily from the inside (that is part of the current renovations).

**2. BUDGET REVIEW/TREASURER REPORT** - the budget was reviewed and approved

- 3. YEARBOOKS** – Order online by April 12, \$15 each. March 14 is group/club and candid photo day.
- 4. 5<sup>th</sup> grade planning committee** – Patty Keating and Kerrie Proud met last night with parents to organize the 5<sup>th</sup> grade fun day. 5<sup>th</sup> graders voted on Skaneateles YMCA. When they return to school, Skippy's ice cream will be waiting for them. They are also pricing out keychains with Redhawk Class of 2026 on them. A flyer will be sent home shortly asking for students' pictures for the slideshow.
- 5. UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS AND PROGRAMS** – Anyone that would like to help with upcoming events, please contact one of the PTO officers or email Melissa Walma at [mwalma@twcny.rr.com](mailto:mwalma@twcny.rr.com).

- a. **Spring Carnival Open House and Basket Raffle** – May 23 6:00-7:30pm. Vendors will be set up who donated to our walkathon. Patty Keating will be reserving bounce houses. Candace Fenton will be deciding if the book fair will be going on. Help will be needed with the basket raffle, contact Amy Howard.
- b. **Hanging basket sale** –Patty Keating will be running that. Please contact her if you would like to help out. Delivery date should be May 10.

6. **Donation to Special Olympics** – Still to be decided

7. **Open discussion**

- a. Teacher appreciation week May 6-10

8. **Next meeting Wednesday, April 10 at 6:30pm**