

June 20, 2014

Dear Members of the Butler Community,

On behalf of the Butler PTA, we would like to thank you for a great year. Many of you participated as board officers, coordinators, members, and participants in our events. We are proud of the Butler community and hope that in some way you have felt the positive impact of what the PTA has been doing. We thought it would be helpful to summarize the year with some numbers.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We had 107 family memberships, including 13 teachers. Because family memberships include up to two adults in a household, our total membership was 206. In all, 94 of Butler's 305 families joined the PTA, or about 31% of families. Memberships of all levels sustain this group, and they counted for about 25% of our income. Thank you to everyone who joined, and to the teachers for increasing their participation.

### **FUNDRAISING**

We raised \$21,290, which was \$5290 over our original goal of \$16,000. How did we do it?

- Membership: \$5170
- Electronics Recycling \$3500
- Box Tops \$2057
- Book Fair \$1900 (along with \$4000 Scholastic dollars, which go toward book and library purchases)
- Professional Development Fund-A-Need \$1770
- Student Pictures \$1335
- Movie Night \$1230
- Matching Funds \$1225
- Conley's Nights/Raffles \$932
- Bottles and Cans \$502
- Income from Wilson Farm, Bake Sale, Bead Sale, Picnic Pizza Sales, Raffles, t-shirts, and Talent Show refreshments and CDs \$1900 (These events make \$100-250 each.)

*Note: Electronics Recycling and Movie Night did unusually well. Raffles did very well too.*

### **BUDGET NOTE**

The Butler PTA budget runs on a three-year cycle, where *approximately* \$10,000 of the budget each year is income from our triennial auction. In past years, the auction has raised around \$25,000-30,000. Therefore, we budgeted \$25K in spending and \$16K in income, and we relied on around \$9,000 from the 2012 Auction. Next year is slated to be an auction year.

## WHAT DID WE SPEND OUR MONEY ON?

- In-School Enrichment \$11,000

-8 field trips (KG-Davis Farmland, 1st-Zoo, 2nd-Nutcracker 3rd-Plimoth Plantation, Holly Hill Farms, State House, Museum of Science, 4th-Lowell Mills

-9 in-school presentations (1st-Kites, Balls and Ramps, Weather, Meteorologist 2nd-Sled Dogs, Kenya, Habitat 4th- Rocks and Minerals, Sound

*Note: Activities are determined by teacher preference, and we follow their lead. Some grades prefer more in-school enrichment at school, and some grades take more trips. Free presentations are not shown.*

-All-school assembly with individual class visits (Crocodile River)

-Supplemental classroom supplies \$2000 (up to \$100 per teacher)

-Professional Development \$1700 (conferences and continuing education for teachers)

-Principal's priorities \$2,500 Mr. McAllister purchased three more document cameras (Now all classrooms have one), books, marbles, maps, and photos.

-368 library books, 118 classroom books, library furniture (with Scholastic dollars/cash from book fair)

-13 community events \$4000 (3 picnics, Library Night, Art Show, Movie Night, Math and Science Night, 2 book fairs/ice cream socials, 2 Walk to School Days, 2 Cleanups, Color Day, Fourth Grade Moving On)

-Organizational Needs \$2000 (national dues, accountant, accounting software, insurance, PayPal fees)

-PTA End-of-Year Purchases \$2000 (display cases and recess cart requested by student leadership group)

-Teacher Appreciation \$1000

## BASEP

The PTA continues to provide a variety of affordable after-school enrichment classes, 19 in the fall and 20 in the winter/spring. BASEP is budget-neutral; it is not a fundraiser. Any money that is left after a session (usually between \$1000 and \$2000) is applied to the next session's scholarship fund.

## WHAT WAS NEW AND DIFFERENT?

- We started a Facebook page, which now claims 120 likes. Those of you who follow the page (Daniel Butler PTA) have had a sneak peek into many of the happenings at the school as well as PTA updates. For privacy, we continue our policy of not identifying children or showing clear images of children's faces on the page.
- Our treasurer, Julie Crockett, worked to make the budgeting process more transparent, and every PTA meeting had a clear budget report.
- We worked with our VP of In-School Enrichment, Karen Gutterman, to clarify and strengthen the policies around field trips and in-school presentations. Even though we spend \$10,000 per year in this category, we have seen the bus transportation still adds up to a minimum of \$560 per field trip, which is about \$8-10 per child, per trip. The PTA budget cannot cover all of the field trip fees AND transportation fees. We have settled on the fact that we will most likely have to ask for an optional parental contribution each year, but that it would not exceed \$15 per child in any year. It is important to us that the donation is optional; any child not able to pay at a given moment will always be able to participate.
- We earned a TREC bench from recycling 78,000 plastic bags. Thank you Ilana Finklestein! The bench is now located across from the gym.
- We helped facilitate donations to Mrs. Filippi after a serious house fire.

- We had a work day where 25 members of the community came in and performed 2 hours of service to the school. What a show of support!
- We brought back the classic Butler t-shirt.
- We had our first Red Sox night, where we sold 114 tickets in 5 days!

### **WHAT HAS NOT CHANGED?**

We love the Butler School, and we are proud of our community. We have tried to continue many Butler traditions this year, and so many of you volunteered your time and energy to carry them out. We continued to support our library with regular volunteers. We held two book fairs, and raised funds to support our main library and our classroom libraries. We continued the tradition of bringing guest speakers to general PTA meetings. Topics included Math Curriculum, Online Safety, and Anxiety in Children. We are grateful for the continuing support of Principal McAllister, who attends all of our meetings, encourages new ideas, and provides much support and guidance.

### **WHAT CAN YOU DO?**

- Join the PTA in the fall, and consider a higher level of membership if possible.
- Find out if your employer does a donation matching program.
- Sign up for one of the PTA positions that still needs filling. <http://goo.gl/SMzmo6>
- Like the Facebook page.
- Give us some feedback! We are listening... at [butlerpta@gmail.com](mailto:butlerpta@gmail.com).
- Over the summer, think about donations you could make to the 2015 auction. Consider the businesses you frequent that might donate, someone you know with season tickets to events, or some unique talent you could share (Some examples from the past: tours of an unusual workplace, a dinner served in your home, tech support). It is almost always the case that if you ask, people are happy to give.

### **THANK YOU**

We owe a big thank you to our PTA officers and coordinators for the year; their names are listed on page 4. We could not have done it without you! A special thank you goes to parents of fourth-graders who are also moving on from Butler.

Your future co-presidents Barbara Bulfoni and Miriam Lapson are excellent; they have been actively engaged all year, and they are well-prepared. We thank them profoundly for their efforts, and with them we look forward to a great 2014-15.

All the best to you this summer and next year-

Laura VanderHart  
Co-President

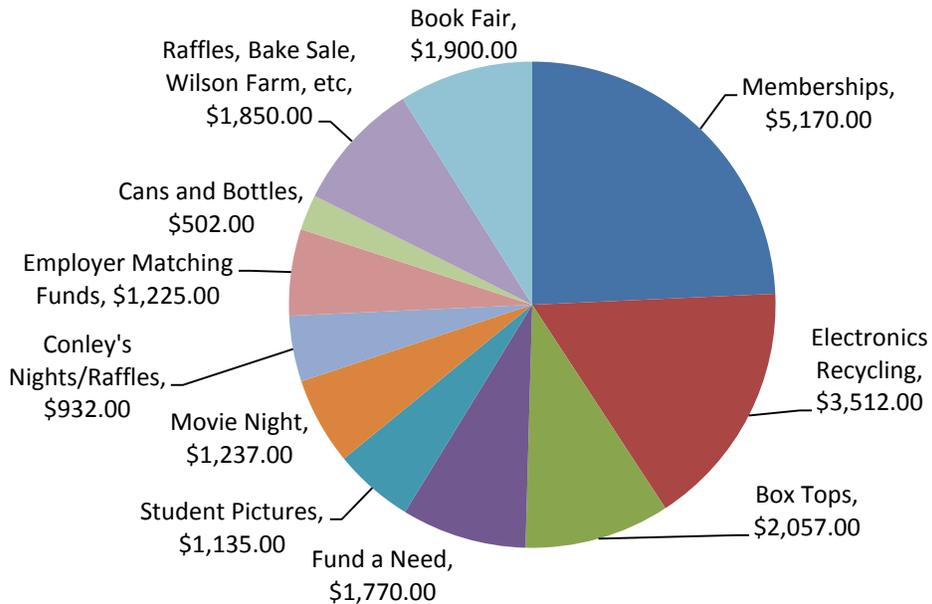
Emma Robichaux  
Co-President

## Butler PTA 2013-14

*Co-President	Emma Robichaux
*Co-President	Laura VanderHart
*Co-President Elect	Barbara Bulfoni
*Co-President Elect	Miriam Lapson
*Treasurer	Julie Crockett
*Financial Secretary	Priti Gaitonde
*VP In-School Enrichment	Karen Gutterman
*VP Ways and Means	Cara Cogliano (Fundraising)
*VP Ways and Means	Maria Samson (Grants)
*Recording Secretary	Claudia Haydon
*VP After-School Enrichment	Kathleen Kim
*VP After-School Enrichment	Kelley Kokoros
BASEP Registrar	Kate Abruzzi
Art Show	Joanne Favreau , Karen Gutterman
Book Fair	Sarah Squires, Miriam Lapson
Box Tops	Alita Sullivan, Andrea Russo
Bylaws	Lucia Sullivan
Color Day	Ernie Thebado, Roseann Thebado
Conley's Nights	Joshua Vernon
Electronics Recycling	Philip Frabetti
Food Drive	Jenny Murphy, John Murphy
Fourth Grade Moving-On	Peter Rosenmeier, Emma Robichaux, Laura VanderHart
Health and Safety	Kevin Sullivan
Hospitality	Joanna Dunn
Ice Cream Social	Jamie Johnson
Ice Skating Night	Jenny Murphy, John Murphy
IT Coordinator	Tracy White Wendland
Kindergarten Picnic	Andrea Russo
Library Night	Parveen Duncan, Dorianne Santana
Library Volunteer Coordinator	Naomi Stevens
Math and Science Night	Julie Crockett, Johanna Collins
Membership Coordinator	Frank Dill
METCO Family and Friends	Kathryn Whittemore
Movie Night	Elena Chartoff, JoAnn Endo
Nominating Committee	Frank Dill, Crate Herbert, Sara Smith
Picnic Coordinator	Alita Sullivan
Picture Day	Jonna Logan, Kerri Benson
Reflections Art Program	Shonool Malik
Room Parent Coordinator	Rose O'Neil
School Directory	Karen Lilla
Talent Show	Devin Brown, W. Scott Hoerle, Lisa O'Neill
Teacher Appreciation	Alita Sullivan, Barbara Bulfoni
TREK Recycling	Ilana Finkelstein
Walk-to-School Days	Rose O'Neil, Joanna Dunn, Kate Bowen

\*indicates board member

## Fundraising \$21,290 (+ \$9K from 2012 Auction)



Our goal was \$16,000 plus we spent +/- \$9,000 from the 2012 Auction. As is Butler PTA tradition, the budget includes earnings from the most recent Auction.

## Spending \$27,700

