**Burr PTO Board Meeting**

**October 4, 2016**

Present: Cristal Balis, Melissa Chatfield, Christine Dutt, Justine Fialkosky, Marion Heller, Alex Wen

Laura Towvim made a motion to accept the minutes from the June meeting; Cristal Balis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Creative Arts and Sciences (CAS)**

Laura Towvim presented for CAS:

* Typically three programs per grade per year
* CAS is fully funded by the PTO through the Wolf Fund
* The program is mandated by Newton Public Schools
* Classroom teachers receive and fill out evaluation forms for feedback

**Understanding Our Differences**

* Deanna Salemme has been the coordinator for a few years; she needs a co-coordinator
* Other schools have multiple leaders
* There is a shortage of parents/volunteers

**New Families: Connecting with New Families**

* There was discussion on how room parents learn there is a new family in the classroom
* There was a suggestion on holding a potluck in October to check in with families and present volunteer opportunities

**Budgets:**

Alex Wen gave an overview of the budget to date.

There was a question from an attendee on why Halloween Family Fun Night was defunded and why the budget cut wasn’t communicated to the committee before August 31 (giving a late start for fundraising). The parent disagreed with the budget cut and wanted her objection noted.

The PTO responded that it should have communicated the budget cut earlier; it was a communication error.

Winter Basketball is starting November 20. The group is looking for a professional coach.

**Laura Towvim made a motion to accept budget as presented and Sara Field seconded the motion. There was one opposition; the motion was carried by the majority.**