

Helena Public Montessori Parents, Inc.

*Join us as we support and advocate for public Montessori education*

**HPMP Meeting notes**

**Monday, January 6, 2014**

**5:30-6:30 pm**

**Broadwater Elementary School**

Attendees: Co-President Erin Turner, Co-President Perri May, Secretary Erin Lanigan, Treasurer Heather Nicholson, Smith Representative Tiffany Lyden, Alan Woodmansey, Broadwater Representative Anne Woodland, Alana Listoe, Smith Principal Jilyn Oliveira, Central Representative Amy Heuiser.

Co-President Perri began the meeting at 5:30 pm.

Welcome/Introductions

Perri opened the meeting with introductions. Erin Lanigan circulated the sign-in sheet.

Secretary’s Report

Erin Lanigan reported thank-yous had been sent.

Treasurer’s Report

Current balance is **$5648.13**.

Principal’s Report

Jilyn reported that the first school day in 2014 was done, and kindergarten registration thus far had been busy.

The Spring Thing Updates

The Spring Thing will be on April 6 at the Carroll College PE Center. More help is always encouraged for this Helena-wide event. There will be an upcoming work meeting for the event. The sponsorship letter is finished and needs to be distributed.

Karaoke Night

Karaoke Night will be at the Ox Saturday, January 25. It will cost $1 per ticket to sing, and $2 per ticket to nominate someone else to sing. Perri created an awesome poster for the event. Jim Tucker agreed to DJ (thank you!). A karaoke machine has been reserved through Party Plus.

Future of Montessori Report

A meeting was held to discuss Montessori accessibility and expansion. In this initial meeting, all of the challenges were brought up, as was likely. The nine Montessori teachers are all additional full time employees in the district. The children from these classrooms could theoretically be put into traditional classrooms and teacher numbers would not have to change. The Montessori program also carries with it a perception of elitism, which could be remedied by increasing the number of placements and expanding the lottery. If there is expansion in the Montessori program, it looks like it will be easier to move forward with elementary classrooms before middle school or pre-k. Another meeting will be set up soon for further discussion.

Kidworks Report

Tiffany and Heather will be working together on this project and finding a date for the event.

Meeting was adjourned at 6PM.

**The next meeting will be Monday, February 3 at 5:30 pm at Broadwater School.**

**Helena Public Montessori Parents, Inc. (HPMP)** [www.helenamontessori.org](http://www.helenamontessori.org)

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