

LIZ LABRUM
PTA PRESIDENT



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OUR FACEBOOK PAGE
FOR ALL THINGS PTA.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT IT IS ALMOST SUMMER ALREADY! WHAT A YEAR THIS HAS BEEN. ONE DAY WE WILL LOOK BACK IN HISTORY AND TELL STORIES OF WHAT IT WAS LIKE TO LIVE THROUGH COVID 19. BUT FOR TODAY WE CAN SAY "WE MADE IT!" WE MADE IT THROUGH A CRAZY YEAR OF ONLINE SCHOOL, HYBRID SCHOOL, MASKS AND CONSTANT HAND SANITIZING.

A YEAR THAT STARTED WITH SO MANY UNCERTAINTIES NOW ENDS WITH HOPES OF SUMMER AND A NORMAL FALL.

AS WE FINISH UP OUR YEAR I WANT TO SAY THANK YOU TO SO MANY PEOPLE THAT HAVE PUT SO MANY LONG HOURS IN THE PTA, OUR SCHOOL AND OUR KIDS.

THANK YOU TO ALL THE STAFF AT BROOKSIDE! AS CRAZY AS THIS YEAR WAS, YOU MADE OUR STUDENTS FEEL WELCOMED, CALM AND READY TO LEARN. NO MATTER WHAT WAS THROWN AT YOU, YOU ROSE TO THE CHALLENGE. AND YOU CREATED A WONDERFUL AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR STUDENTS TO LEARN AND GROW. THANK YOU FOR THE MANY HOURS YOU HAVE POURED INTO OUR KIDS!

THANK YOU TO THE AUCTION COMMITTEE FOR OUR FIRST VIRTUAL AUCTION! THANK YOU TO **JON MITTEN, EMILY JO RAJOTTE, TIFFANEY LANSING, LISA GOLDEN, EURA SZUWALSKI, JESSIE WYLIE, AND KIND AND CO.**

THANK YOU TO **TIFFANEY LANSING AND TAIGEN FERGUSON** FOR PROVIDING YUMMY TREATS AND GIFTS FOR THE BROOKSIDE STAFF DURING STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK.

THANK YOU TO **HILLARY BENDIKSEN** FOR ALL THE HOURS YOU HAVE POURED INTO CREATING THE PTA NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH!

THANK YOU TO THE 2020-2021 PTA BOARD! I HAVE ENJOYED SERVING WITH YOU THIS YEAR- **CASEY ARTIM, COREY HUISMAN, EMILY JO RAJOTTE, EURA SZUWALSKI, HILLARY BENDIKSEN, JONATHAN MITTEN, LISA HILL, NOEMI JOHNSON, TAIGEN FERGUSON, TIFFANEY LANSING, TYLER DITTMAN.** THANK YOU FOR AN AMAZING YEAR!

LIZ LABRUM, PTA PRESIDENT

2021-2022 PTA BOARD

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE 2021-2022 PTA BOARD!

President- Eura Szuwalski

Co President- Molly Hodges

Treasurer- Casey Artim

Secretary- Tiffaney Lansing

Legislative- Tyler Dittman

Ways and Means- Alice Pedersen

Communications- Molly Brunjes

Ben Brunjes

Membership- Lisa Hill

Student Events- Noemi Johnson

Staff Support- Tina Buss

Jessie Wylie

Face/DEI- Rosie Charmando

Lauren Berliner

Community Resources- Megan Jones

Enrichment- Emily Rajotte

2021-2022 PTA PRESIDENT

HI, I'M EURA SZUWALSKI AND I WILL BE THE 2021-2022 PTA PRESIDENT. I AM THE MOM OF A 1ST GRADER AND A PRESCHOOLER.

THIS PAST YEAR I SERVED IN THE COMMUNICATIONS ROLE AND CREATED THE NEW PTA WEBSITE. I ENJOY READING (AUDIOBOOKS OR PRINT), LISTENING TO MUSIC AND PODCASTS, COOKING AND BAKING, ENJOYING THE MANY PARKS IN OUR AREA, TRAVELING, AND ANYTHING CRAFTY.

I AM EXCITED TO MOVE INTO 2021-2022 AND WORK WITH THIS INCREDIBLE PTA BOARD!



SPRING AUCTION

THANK YOU EVERYBODY WHO HELPED MAKE THE 2021 BROOKSIDE PTA FUNDRAISING AUCTION A SUCCESS. YOU HELPED RAISE MORE THAN \$20,000!

SPECIAL THANKS TO EMILY JO RAJOTTE, JESSIE WYLIE, TIFFANEY LANSING, EURA SZUWALSKI, AND LISA GOLDEN FOR THEIR VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS, GETTING SOME GREAT AUCTION ITEMS, GETTING THE WORD OUT, AND FOR ALL THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND GUIDANCE. SPECIAL THANKS TO KIND + CO. EVENTS FOR PUTTING ON A GREAT SHOW.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW PTA FUNDRAISING CHAIRS! IF YOU LOVE TO PLAN EVENTS, IF YOU HAVE A BACKGROUND IN FUNDRAISING, OR IF YOU KNOW SOMEBODY WHO DOES, PLEASE CONSIDER A NOMINATION FOR THE CHAIR, WHICH IS BEING VACATED THIS SUMMER.

PTA AWARD WINNERS

Outstanding Advocate Amelia Johnson

AMELIA BEGAN HER POSITION AS BROOKSIDE'S NEW REGISTRAR NOT LONG BEFORE COVID. HER FLEXIBILITY AND ABILITY TO LEARN NEW PROGRAMS, BE A CALMING FORCE IN THE OFFICE AND KEEP TRACK OF ALL THE CHANGING LISTS, ABSENT STUDENTS, COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND OTHER HIDDEN DETAILS TO SUPPORT OUR MOST VULNERABLE LEARNERS. SHE QUICKLY LEARNED AND ASSISTED IN COMPILING MATERIALS AND GETTING THEM TO FAMILIES DURING NOT ONLY SUPPLY PICKUPS AND OTHER TIMES. THIS INCLUDED ARRANGING MATERIALS TO BE DROPPED AT HOUSES AND EXTENDING HER HOURS TO ACCOMODATE DIFFERENT NEEDS. THROUGHOUT THIS TIME, SHE ALWAYS HAD EMPATHY FOR THOSE FAMILIES IN NEED.

DURING THE YEAR SHE STEPPED UP AS A LEADER BY JOINING OUR RACE AND EQUITY. SHE AND JANET PADEN CREATED A 5TH GRADE BOOK CLUB THAT MET FOR MONTHS TO DISCUSS HOW TO BE AN ANTI-RACIST. THIS WAS DURING A TIME WHEN MANY STAFF WERE STRETCHED TO THE LIMITS AND FELT THAT NO MORE COULD BE PUT ON THEIR PLATE. YET, SHE RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS WORK AND THE NEED TO DO THE WORK NOW. ALREADY, SHE IS LOOKING TO EXPAND THESE TYPES OF CLUBS FOR YOUNGER STUDENTS. AMELIA, IN SUCH A SHORT TIME PERIOD, HAS GAINED THE ADMIRATION AND RESPECT OF THE ENTIRE BROOKSIDE COMMUNITY. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING HOW HER KNOWLEDGE AND VOICE HELP BROOKSIDE GROW IN UPCOMING YEARS.

Golden Apple Christina Torres

CHRISTINA JOINED OUR STAFF AS OUR LIBRARIAN PARTWAY THROUGH THE YEAR. EVER SINCE THEN SHE'S CREATED, ORGANIZED AND SHARED A CONTINUALLY GROWING LIST OF RESOURCES FOR THE CLASSROOM. SHE EVEN ORGANIZED AND IMPLEMENTED A SCHOOL WIDE READING ACTIVITY IN WHICH EACH FAMILY RECEIVED A COPY OF WISHTREE - A BOOK ABOUT NOT LOSING HOPE. PLUS, SHE'S ALWAYS HAPPY TO JOIN A CLASS IN ORDER TO SHARE A BOOK WITH US!

True Blue Award Christy Gallotte

CHRISTY HAS GONE ABOVE AND BEYOND FOR THE PTA THIS YEAR. SHE HAS BEEN OUR EYES, EARS, AND HANDS INSIDE THE BUILDING THIS YEAR. SHE HAS CONSISTENTLY HELPED US AS WE HAVE TRIED TO SUPPORT THE BROOKSIDE STAFF!

Golden Acorn Outstanding Volunteer Emily Jo Rajotte

SHE WORKS FULL TIME, AND PARENTS TWO BROOKSIDE STUDENTS IN ADDITION TO ALL THE WORK SHE PUTS INTO BEING A MEMBER AND VOLUNTEER SUPERHERO OF THE PTA. SHE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE PTA BOARD FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS HOLDING ONE OR TWO BOARD POSITIONS. SHE HELPED TO START THE SCIENCE DOCENT PROGRAM AT BROOKSIDE AND HAS BEEN A HUGE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE SUCCESS OF THIS YEAR'S AUCTION.

RACE & EQUITY

Brookside's Race & Equity Committee, along with the support of the BKS PTA and some dedicated parents, has worked this year to encourage and normalize conversations on race and racism. Starting in December, we held monthly zoom meetings called "Community Conversations on Race" which were opportunities to join with other Brookside caregivers to talk about some of the realities of race and racism in our society.

We encourage all BKS families to continue to seek ways to have these important discussions in your homes. Some people argue that talking about race only divides us. But not talking about race ignores the fact that we live in a racialized society in which individuals and systems act in ways that negatively impact people of color. As our children grow up, they are taking in information from all around them and they will draw their own conclusions about our society if we do not intervene to interrupt common racial narratives. If you are not feeling comfortable or prepared to engage in these discussions, it is time to get to work. Ask other parents what they are doing to ensure these conversations happen in their home. Read some books, watch some videos or listen to podcasts. Need some ideas? Here is a very [comprehensive list](#) of resources created by some staff and parents of LFP Elementary.

The school Race & Equity Committee would love to continue to partner with the PTA on the Community Conversations on Race next year and consider other activities to try. If you'd like to be involved in this planning, please reach out to Susie Moore at: susie.moore@shorelineschools.org.

Many thanks to the parents who partnered with me this year: Javana Polenska, Rosie Rimando-Chareunsap, Liz Labrum, Lauren Berliner, Eura Szuwalski, and Anthea Vining. Your commitment to this work, your ideas and contributions to our planning, and your willingness to share your personal experiences and stories has been so invaluable. I am tremendously grateful to you!

Susie Moore, BKS Family Advocate & Equity Lead

YAY!



WE MADE IT!



*Happy last week of school &
have a great summer!*

