

Students Vote for New Mascot: A Genie

By Britta Swanson

There's a new character on Brookfield's campus. It's the new mascot, a genie. The student council decided to have a new student mascot to promote school spirit.

The genie was designed by Arima Claypool, Jillian Johnson, Rebekah Lucien, Christine Nishite, and Sonja Darwish. The genie was selected by a school-wide vote. Everyone filled out ballots, which were sent to the office and counted.

Sonja Darwish, president of 7th grade, is the person who came up with the idea to have a student mascot. Mrs.



Ashizawa says that she thinks the genie is an excellent student mascot since the lamp of learning is still the school's symbol. Although the new mascot doesn't have a very big role, it is an excellent way

to promote school spirit.

The other options offered in the election were an owl with books, a buffalo, a beaver and a dragon. Rod Mackey, a 3rd grader, came up with the owl. Kevin Crawford, a 6th grader, is the author of the buffalo. Taryn Yee and Shelby Chen offered the beaver. And Britta Swanson came up with the dragon.

Sonja said the contest seem to be very popular with the students. She said she came up with the idea because things like mascots give students something to display their affection for the school.

Middle School Meeting Impresses Parents

By Kate Johnson

On November 12th, a meeting was held for 5th and 6th grade parents so that they could see what the curriculum is for grades 6-8. Those who participated came away impressed with Brookfield's program.

The parents were put into four groups, each one consisting of six to eight people. The groups went from class to class to hear the teachers' presentations. Madame Stehr, Miss Hansen, Mr. Branscombe, and Mrs. De Marco each talked about the courses that they teach.

Some of last year's Brookfield graduates, now freshmen in high school, also spoke. Ellis Munoz, who now attends Jesuit, Stacey Chin, who now attends Mira Loma, and Lauren Kawano, who now attends St. Francis, all talked about their experiences. They attended Brookfield in the middle school years and talked about how they are taking sophomore classes at their high schools

in science, math, English, and French because they are more advanced than other freshmen. They said that they probably would not be taking these higher-grade classes if they hadn't been educated at Brookfield.

The parents of the graduates spoke, too, expressing their appreciation for the good grounding that Brookfield had provided their children.

Mrs. Ashizawa is the one who came up with the idea to hold a meeting. She wanted parents to be aware of what the curriculum is for middle school. "The turnout was terrific," she said, estimating that there were 35 people who attended the meeting.

If there were one thing Mrs. Ashizawa could have changed about the meeting it would be to have more time for each presentation. The teachers had so much to say and they didn't have enough time to say it all.

Miss Hansen, one of the teachers who spoke at the

meeting, wanted parents to recognize most of all what it would be like in an 8th grade language arts class. To show this, she gave them a simple presentation of what 20 minutes of class would be like. They talked about Romeo and Juliet because Miss Hansen felt that almost everyone would have read the story. She said that she really enjoyed meeting the parents of her students and talking to them.

Harriet Kiyon, mother of 6th grader Katie Jelicich, thought that the meeting was good and very informative. She liked hearing from the recent Brookfield graduates because they were all from different schools and yet all made the same point about how Brookfield prepared them well. Mrs. Kiyon liked the teacher presentations, too. She liked the plans that are in place for the middle school students.

Mark Swanson, father of
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