

Burlington Township Foundation



At a time when budgets are being cut and unlikely to rebound soon, fundraising for our students may be in jeopardy!
To avoid this from happening, the Burlington Township Foundation needs your help.



What is the Burlington Township Foundation?

The Burlington Township Foundation (“BT Foundation”) was established in 2005 to become compliant with state laws enacted to protect beneficiaries of fundraising groups. The BT Foundation was created to support Burlington Township school fundraising groups (e.g., family associations, sports parent clubs, theater, band, 8th grade dance, project graduation and other clubs and special events) and protect all groups’ tax-exempt status. Without the BT Foundation, **each** group could be required to apply and file for 501(c) (3) statuses to continue operating and raise funds tax-free. (See the attached list of how our students have benefited.)



Why should I care?

The current officers of the BT Foundation are committed to keeping the Foundation on track for 2010/2011, but without the support of the BT community the 2011/2012 school year (and beyond) is at risk. The current officers are considering an exit strategy in the event there are not enough volunteers who step up to be an officer. If officer positions are not filled in June 2011, the BT Foundation will become inactive and the fund raising groups protected by its existence will need to consider alternatives to remain active.



If the BT Foundation becomes inactive, what are the alternatives to remain an active fundraising group in the BT school district?

1. The group could pursue tax-exempt status. This is a lengthy and expensive process for the organization. It takes approximately one year to complete the process and initial filing and ongoing fees could exceed \$1,000 for **each** group. The group may be required to cease activities until the application process is completed.
2. The group could remain active and pay taxes on purchases made and funds raised.
3. The group could disband.
4. The group could join with other school fundraising groups and pursue #1 above to share costs.
5. The group could consult an expert in tax exempt/fundraising for additional alternatives, including a national organization (e.g., National PTA).



What is the likelihood that the BT Foundation will become inactive in June 2011?

The likelihood is very real. The BT Foundation was nearly shut down abruptly this month because the BT Foundation was unable to fill two required officer positions. At the eleventh hour, two residents volunteered until June 2011. This is why the current officers are developing an exit plan, and this communication is part of that plan.



How can we prevent this from happening?

Get involved now! Attend meetings! Volunteer for an officer position! The BT Foundation needs your time and energy to remain active and continue its support of our critical fundraising groups.

The meetings are scheduled in the HS Media Room (Library) at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:

November 8, 2010

February 14, 2011

April 11, 2011

June 13, 2011

Any inquiries can be addressed to the BT Foundation’s email at burltwfoundation@netscape.net