



BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL

Parent Teacher Organization

Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2019



www.bedminsterpto.org
pto@bedminsterschool.org

Start time: 7:08pm

Welcome and Comments: Ramsey Melendez, President

- Welcome everyone and thank you for coming this evening

Principal's Report: Corby Swan

- Absent: will report at December meeting

Teacher Representative – Chuck Hogan

- Thank you for Spooktacular and Trunk or Treat it was a great night
- Thank you for Prismatic Laser Light Show Assembly, the kids really enjoyed it
- Thank you for the dinner during parent/teacher conferences
- Looking forward to Brain Wash Game Show on November 27th

Board of Education Report – Suzie Stevinson report by Giovanna Lameria

- Next meeting is November 21st @ 7:30pm
- We reviewed the SLA scores from the last year and our standing in the district
- Homework Committee has started to meet with Principal Swan in regard to homework for all grades
- Big Ideas Math has started for 5-8 grade, as the new math curriculum

Correspondence and Minutes – Meghan Schulze, Secretary

- October Minutes approved by Laura Kamrow and Jen Calpin

Treasurer's Report – Ralph Wojtech

- Available on tables
- Inflows: Book Fair, Memberships, Spooktacular
- Outflows: Glasswork Studio, LGCC license renewal, Spooktacular, bulletin boards, Township of Bedminster raffle license, and Book Fair

New Business

Mindfulness/SEL Presentation: Jen Calpin

- Review and explanation of SEL/Mindfulness
- Pamphlets are available on the tables

Bulldog Monthly: Executive Board

- Will be looking for some to talk over the publishing of the newsletter after this school year

Coat Swap: Sammy D'Antuono

- Cancelled due to scheduling conflicts at both BMS and BES

PTO Meeting Schedule:

- **December 10 – 9:30am - Faculty Lounge**
- January 14 – 7 pm - Room 315
- February 11 – 7 pm - Room 315
- March 10 – 7 pm - Room 315
- April 14 – 7 pm - Room 315
- May 12 – 7 pm - Room 315
- June 9 – 7 pm - Room 315

Spring Fling: Friday, April 17th, 2020: Laura Kamrow

- Class Baskets sign ups happened prior to this evening's PTO meeting,
- Volunteers needed for 50/50: Chair needed; tickets ready to go next week
- Solicitations will beginning January
- Anyone interested in volunteering, in any way, please email LauradeZutter@yahoo.com

Public Questions & Comments: This portion will be held to a 15-minute limit. We politely ask that each speaker limit his or her time to 5 minutes for comments and/or questions regarding any Agenda point or any other topic related to the PTO. If any written documents are to be given to the PTO Executive Board, please email them to the Board Secretary 2 days in advance of meeting date. pto@bedminsterschool.org

- No comments or questions asked about the above covered agenda topics.

Old Business

Bedminster Charities Fall Fest (BCFF): Saturday, October 26: Tara Mulcahy & Meriah Valente

- Thank you Tara and Meriah for all your of your hard work over the past 12 months. We appreciate everything you put into chairing this event (from PTO Board)
- We had a great day and great weather
- Approx 4,000 people attended
- No information at this time regarding donations being given to the charities everything is still being counted
- Really looking forward to next year
- Thank you to everyone who volunteered and helped

Conference Hospitality: Tuesday, November 5: Amber Cross & Marissa Nolfi

- Used Randazzos and they did a great job, and everyone really enjoyed the meal

Halloween Events: October 18

- Spooktacular: Danielle Fredella
 - Looking into pushing the start time back an hour for next year
 - Possibly other changes as well (clarification of age participation)
- Trunk or Treat: Giovanna Lameria
 - Looking into many changes next year. Lots of ideas being discussed
 - Clarification of age participation (as car participant and receiving candy)
- Pumpkin Decorating Contest: Far-Hills-Bedminster First Aid Squad
 - Kids had a great time with the pumpkins and voting for their top 3 choices
 - Raised over \$220 for pediatric EpiPen®
 - Kids loved being able to enter the ambulance and checking out the skeleton on the gurney.
 - Possible organizational changes next year

PTO Membership: Executive Board

- \$15 per Family
- Forms can be found on website and all current Newsletters

Spirit Wear: October 28 - November 6: Jessica Pascale & Melissa Kircher

- Sale has ended and orders are looking to be in the week before Holiday break
- All items will be sent home with students

Ongoing Committees

Assemblies: Angela Gatto, Renee Hachey & Tina Dadas

- October 23: Prismatic Laser Magic – wrong show was given, company did refund 1/3 total payment, after a company error
- November 27: Brain Wash Game Show
- February 21: Mobil Ed - The Spirit to Overcome (Black History Month)

- March: Researching a presenter for Women's History Month

Cub Scouts Pack #1749- Steve Frantz

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/cub-scouts.html>
- For grades K – 5, new members are welcome at anytime
- Open to both Boys and Girls
- 8 new members this year
- Re-chartering was completed for the 2019-2020 year
- The first popcorn sale was a great success and the kids did a wonderful job
- Scouts participated in the color guard for Back to School night
- Pack received the Gold Journey to Excellence 2019 Council Award
 - **Journey to Excellence (JTE)** is the BSA's planning, performance, and recognition program designed to encourage and reward the success of units, districts and councils.

Box Tops: Stephanie Zultanky & Mariana Wickizer (absent, reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- Contest coming early 2020
- Total so far this year \$621.60
- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/boxtops.html>

Bulletin Board: Faith Costabile & Danielle Fredella

- Changing next month for the winter
- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/bulletin-boards.html>

CIC, The HUB: Anna Spitalari (absent, reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- Meaningful and educational volunteer opportunities for Middle School students are offered throughout the year at Community in Crisis, The Hub; for information please email: Info@communityincrisis.org.
- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/cic-the-hub.html>

SH Municipal Alliance: Anna Spitalari (absent, reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- The Somerset Hills Municipal Alliance budget has been cut by 49% and many alliances are disbanding. During our recent meeting we reorganized the budget and prioritized educational endeavors for all students in Somerset Hills. Funds will be allocated for D.A.R.E. and mindfulness training which hopefully Bedminster School can benefit from as well as Be Well. Future funded educational programs must be chosen from an approved list. Funding for SHMAYSC has been eliminated for Red Ribbon Week and Peer Buddy Program. School teams will do their best to continue these initiatives with alternative funding.

Helping Hands: Linda Fragassi

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/helping-hands.html>

Homeroom Parents: Suzie Stevinson & Jen Calpin (absent, reported by Danielle Fredella)

- A meeting was held prior to the PTO meeting for homeroom parent sign ups class baskets

Social Media/Website: Ramsey Melendez

- Please visit: www.bedminsterpto.org
- Like us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

8th Grade: Karen Rosen (absent, reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- We are selling spring blossoming bulbs to be planted as a tribute to our very special 8th grade class. Please purchase a pack of bulbs for \$5 and our 8th graders will plant them before December on the hill outside Bedminster School. A garden plaque will be displayed on the hill with a special quote. Bulbs need to be planted before December so please purchase now by sending in cash or check made payable to 'cash' in an envelope marked: 8th grade bulbs.
- Sign up sheet for planting will be sent on November 30th for any 8th graders needing community service hours
- 50/50 tickets are still on sale drawing is in January at the PTO meeting
- Please remember all proceeds from any 8th grade fundraiser goes into helping the students pay for their Washington DC trip
- Holiday Workshop will take place: 12/11, 9-7pm in room 315 and 12/12-12/13, 9-3 pm
 - Parents may visit the workshop on 12/11 between 3:30 – 7 pm (prior to the Band Concert)

Public Questions & Comments: This portion will be held to a 15-minute limit. We politely ask that each speaker limit his or her time to 5 minutes for comments and/or questions regarding any Agenda point or any other topic related to the PTO. If any written documents are to be given to the PTO Executive Board, please email them to the Board Secretary 2 days in advance of meeting date. pto@bedminsterschool.org

- No comments or questions asked about the above covered agenda topics.

Closing Notes: Ramsey Melendez

- Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 10 at 9:30 am in the Teacher's Lounge.

Meeting Closed at 8:06pm

COMMENTS – We welcome any comments from the floor. However, please direct any questions specifically pertaining to your child(ren) to the appropriate person after the meeting or to the appropriate administrator during school hours. This meeting is recorded for the purpose of writing minutes and to have a factual record of the meeting once minutes are submitted recordings are deleted.

