



# MINUTES

BEDMINSTER TWP PTO • 234 SOMERVILLE RD • BEDMINSTER, NJ 07921 • PHONE: 908-234-0768

## Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2025

Virtual meeting

**Start time:** 7:06 pm

**President's Welcome:** Jenn Chang

Happy New Year everyone and welcome back. I know it's been a few months since our last meeting and we are excited to update you all. Welcome to the new parents our february mtg will be virtual as well and be back in person for our March meeting. We have been busy working on our gala fundraiser which is Spring Fling April 11, 2025. It really does take a village but also makes our village. Thank you to everyone who has been involved and volunteering. You are making our community. It has been nice to see parents getting to know each other better by getting involved. Tonight we will hear from our PTO board, the school, administration and our BOE. We will have a special spring fling presentation and updates for everyone at this meeting as ticket sales will open in a few weeks. So whether you are new to the Gala or have color coordinated your outfit to match the annual color themes we do believe there is something for everyone to take away from with the presentation so please stick around for that presentation tonight.

## **Elementary Principal's Report: Corby Swan**

### **Mr. Swan's PTO Meeting Elementary School Report - January 15, 2025**

Happy New Year everyone. Since we last met we had some exciting news and we are back in the swing of things in the month of January.

Congratulations to Mrs. Erin Sullivan (previously Ms. McCoy) on being named the 2024 - 2025 Bedminster Township School Governor's Educator of the Year. We hired Mrs. Sullivan as a substitute teacher in 2017 and her flexibility, rapport with students, and ability to meet students where they are stood out to me. Shortly after that, we hired Mrs. Sullivan as a full-time special education teacher, and with her amazing skill set, she has been able to move so many students forward academically, socially, and emotionally. I want to say a special thank you to Mrs. Chang who assisted us on the Governor's Educator of the Year Committee representing the PTO.

We are in the planning stages for our annual Read Across America Week which will be in late February and we are looking forward to it. Our students and staff enjoy that week and we always like to promote reading in general and specifically a love of reading. I will be sending formal invitations to the PTO Executive Board to hopefully be guest readers during that week. Our students and teachers continue to work hard in the classrooms with the use of our Ready Mathematics Program, IXL, and grades 2 and 4 piloting a new Benchmark Education ELA program.

Beginning in Marking Period 3, grade 4 students will have the opportunity to take part in Genius Hour which is time set aside in class for students to study their passion for a new idea or skill once per cycle for a set amount of time. This time to research a topic of choice is a way of promoting, supporting, and modeling creative and innovative thinking. Students will choose one of the following: solve a problem in the world, create or make something from scratch, or learn/become an expert about something that interests them. More information will be sent to 4th-grade families by next week. Marking Period 2 will end on Friday, January 24th and Marking

Period 2 grades will be available to families on Monday, February 3rd. Please be reminded that school is closed next Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

### **Middle Principal's Report:** Lauren Zugale

Marking Period 2 ends on Jan. 24th; mid marking period reminder was sent; Mrs. Zugale and teachers are working with students to ensure progress relating to grading; students must maintain a C average or higher for participation in extracurricular activities

Student Council:

- Organized a toy drive
- Organizing and planning Winter Fun Night for MS students on Jan 29th 6:30-8pm; tickets sold at lunch

Correspondence regarding technology and social media

- Mrs. Zugale and counselor attending IC/Advisory for lessons regarding this topic
- Parents/guardians refer to School-Family Partnership presentation provided in the fall

8th grade scheduling meetings anticipated on Feb 5th and 6th with HS staff on site in BTS

Grade level trips are being planned: (anticipated) Grade 5 to Liberty Science Center, Grade 6 to Stokes (state park), Grade 7 to Grounds for Sculpture Grade 8 events are being planned with the 8th grade committee; 8th Grade Promotion scheduled for June 24th at 5:30pm Winter Activities in full swing: basketball, Odyssey of the Mind, Robotics, Ski Club, as well as activities running all year; volleyball clinic is opening in mornings NJSLA: Please be mindful that NJLSA testing will be done grades 3-8 in the month of May; we want to do our best to ensure stellar student attendance for that time period.

**Teacher Representative:** Beth Rosnell

Hi everyone, not too much to report tonight. The week leading up to break was a bit of a fever dream with a lot going on. The teachers are excited to get back into the swing of things and get kids back on a routine and schedule. Dr Pulia wanted to thank everyone and the PTO and give an update about the robotics club. They have four teams that will be competing this year on Feb 23, 2025 in the Vex Robotics IQ rapid relay event. Thank you for the support, that's it for tonight, short and sweet.

**Board of Education Report:** Gaby Gomez

- Fires in California -thoughts to those suffering
- Congratulations BTS BoE President, VP, and new member
- BTS Middle School top 100 schools in NJ second year in a row - US News, thanks to all of our staff PreK-8 for this accolade
- State-of-the-art technology lab underway at BTS
- NJ Quality Single Accountability Continuum (NJQSAC) year for us - busy preparing
- Curriculum Tab is updated with all P-8 curriculum documents
- Chain of Command document is on the Website Home Page
- School Law Enforcement Officer (SLEO) will begin in the new school year

[Please see the Board of Education website for more information](#)

**Vice President Report:** Kim Neuss

Hi everyone. We had our shake shack, we made just under \$250. The staff even said how happy they were. Next one is Dig, on Thur Feb 20, they are giving back 30%. Please come out and join us. Two more lined up for the rest of the year. It's been great seeing everyone out. The next one at Dig, this is a special dedication to our teachers and sponsoring their spring fling ticket.

## **Secretary's Report:** Lauren DiMeo

Happy New year. I just wanted to mention a list of sponsors for Spring Fling. See list below

### **Top Dog**

JanJua Facial Surgery  
Primrose School  
Vigneault Law Firm  
Kumon of Basking Ridge

### **Bulldog**

Wine Rack  
Bridgewater Dental Associates  
Mathnasium

### **Support Dog Level (sponsor a teacher)**

Dental Arts Vision  
Primrose School  
Vigneault Law Firm

November minutes approval: Danielle Fredella and Fareeha Rahim

## **Treasurer's Report:** Paulina Lorenz

Report is available on PTO website [www.bedminsterpto.org](http://www.bedminsterpto.org)

**Inflows: \$2,560.52**

**Outflows: \$1,788.74**

Main Account Balance: \$79,478.74

50/50 Raffle Balance: \$300

Total Cash Available: \$79,178.74

PTO will be collecting memberships via square, apple pay and paypal this year.

### **New Business**

#### **Spring Fling: Jenn Chang**

Please see the slide show presentation for more information [here](#).

#### **Closing Notes: Jenn Chang**

Thank you everyone so much for joining tonight. Next meeting is virtual on February 12.

#### **Meeting Closed at 7:41pm**

**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.**