



BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL

Parent Teacher Organization

Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2019



www.bedminsterpto.org
pto@bedminsterschool.org

Start time: 7:08pm

Welcome and Comments – Ramsey Melendez, President

- Welcome everyone thank you for coming this evening

Principal's Report – Corby Swan

- We had two awesome Black History Month Assemblies which I know someone will speak to later.
- We celebrated Read Across America Week which was so well organized by Mrs. Mowery. We had a theme each day which revolved around reading and literacy. We also had buddy reading and ended the week with our Drop Everything and Read session where we all read for 20 minutes in the hallways. Thank you to all who gave their time to share the love of books and reading with our students.
- On the final day of the week we hosted some guest readers, so I would like to publicly thank the following people:
 - From the Bedminster PTO: Ramsey Melendez
 - From our Board of Education: Suzie Stevinson, Sonia Rodriguez-Martó and Judy Creelman
 - Our Superintendent: Ms. Giordano
 - Community readers included: Dr. Felicia Nace, Carol Levin, Steve Dill, Senator Kip Bateman and Detective Paul Piano
 - Executive Superintendent of School for Somerset County: Mr. Roger Jinks
 - Commissioner of the NJ Dept of Education: Dr. Lamont Repollet who oversees all schools in NJ. He was a guest reader in Mrs. McFarland's 2nd grade classroom. Dr. Repollet was very impressed with our school and even said that he may attempt to return in the future.
- Some events on the horizon are the following: This Wednesday and **Thursday, March 13th and 14th**, we will have our Spring Production of Legally Blonde Jr. the Musical. Mr. Lefurge, Ms. Deegan, and Mrs. Hershkowitz have been leading the students who have worked extremely hard. If you can make it, we would love to see you in attendance.
- We have three Odyssey of the Mind Teams competing this **Saturday, March 16th** at the Regional Competition at JP Case Middle School. These students have also been working extremely hard under the leadership of Ms. Mancini, Mrs. Ragoza, and parent volunteer Mrs. Velikoselskiy and we want to wish them good luck.
- Next week we will have Unity Day on **Tuesday, March 19th** in which we will celebrate and promote kindness, acceptance, and inclusion.
- On **Thursday, March 21st** we will have our Kits Interactive Pioneer Assemblies to celebrate Women's History Month. This assembly is sponsored by the PTO.
- Our Spring Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled for the evening of **Wednesday, March 27th** from 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. and **Thursday, March 28th** from 8:45 A.M. - 10:45 A.M. Please stay on top of your child(s) progress so that there are no surprises with their grades.
- International Heritage Night will be **Thursday, April 4th** from 5:30– 8:00 pm. This is a school wide event where we share and learn parts of various cultures around the world.
- Thank you to the PTO for all that you do.

Teacher Representative – Chuck Hogan

- Thank you for the Prismatic Assemblies
- Looking forward Spring Fling

Board of Education Report – Suzie Stevinson (reported by: Danielle Fredella)

- Ms. Derrico and Miss Deegan's class won the quarter challenge with \$164.25 donated! Second place went to Ms. Spero's class with \$125, and third place was Mrs. Lovejoy with \$107.75. The winning class will be getting a party that will be given to them by Ms. G and the BoE.
Thanks to the kids, we will be donating \$1,121 to Heartworks!! But before that can happen, I need to get to the bank with all of the coins!!
- People may have read in the Bernardsville news that the "debt" of approximately \$250,000 that the Somerset Hills School District has been alleging Bedminster owes for the past several years was in fact, as Bedminster indicated, not a debt at all. At this time, Somerset Hills is actually the debtor owing Bedminster approximately \$87,000. This was a result of a private audit that the school districts agreed to assess the situation. The audit also resulted in a reduction in HS tuition. For those that don't know, Bedminster is a sending district and we pay a 'per student' rate to send our HS students to Bernardsville.
- Next BoE meeting is 3/18. And it's the budget meeting. Where the budget is being presented

Correspondence and Minutes – Meghan Schulze, Secretary (not present report by Danielle Fredella)

- Thank you notes for Mrs. Isello's kindergarten class for the Prismatic Assembly
- February Minutes approved by Lisa Cohen and Maureen Lopez

Treasurer's Report – Ralph Wojtech

- Treasurer reports available on tables
- Inflows- Spring Fling, Fall Fest Fallout, Amazon Smile
- Outflows- LGCCC-license 50/50, All In, Raffle License Township if Bedminster, Bulletin Boards, Spring Fling, Inter Heritage Night, Glass Works, Bernardsville Printing

New Business

Spring Fling: Sandy Ruzicka & Carolyn Richardson

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/spring-fling1.html>
- Trump National Golf Club on **April 26, 2019**
- Main fundraiser for the PTO
- Bigger than ever as this is the 20th anniversary
- Tickets are on sale please buy early as the price does go up April 1st [CLICK HERE](#)
- 50/50 tickets will be on sale in front of Kings Supermarket **March 31st and April 20th**. please contact Sandy, there are multiple slots still available for volunteers. They are hour time slots
- If you need more 50/50 Tickets please contact [Sandy and Carolyn](#) or [Danielle and Ramsey](#). Remember, whomever sells the most 50/50 tickets will receive one (1) free admission ticket (if you already purchased, the amount will be refunded)
- There will be a Putting Challenge (small fee) this year as well as a Craft Beer Station (included in admission price)
- Anyone that has signed up to donate a basket filler item off of the [MySignUp](#) - please send it in ASAP. We have 24 baskets waiting to be finished but need those items that have already been chosen. If you still want to donate, we are welcoming any donations, but again, as soon as possible!!
- Homeroom Parents Baskets are due no later than **March 15th**; do **NOT** spend money on crinkle filler or cello for baskets.
- **NEW** this year: Please do **NOT** wrap your basket, our Basket Committee will do this.
- Homeroom parents only-Please hang onto any extra money you collected towards your class basket. We will reach out to you if we need more "fillers items".
- The [My SignUp](#) weblink is up. Please consider signing up to donate a whole basket from your family or even just pieces that are needed to complete other already started baskets. Another idea could be going in on a higher priced basket item with friends. Everyone will be credited on the tag.
- Any questions please email: <mailto:sandy.ruzicka@gmail.com>

Barnes and Noble Book Fair: May 28, 2019: Maegan Newman and Mr. Schoch

- Volunteers will be needed the night of for small amounts of time,
- Sign up will be available soon

2019-2020 PTO Board Positions: Ramsey Melendez

- All positions are open each year for anyone to run. Current Board members are happy to remain and complete their 2nd year.
- A Board member may not sit in the same position for more than 2 consecutive years.
- If you are interested, please let us know by the April 9th PTO meeting

Teacher Appreciation Week: May 6 – 10, 2019: Danielle Fredella and Melissa Kircher

- The PTO will host a lunch for our teachers and staff.
- More info to follow as it becomes available

Old Business

Bedminster Charities Fall Fest: October 26,2019 Tara Mulcahy and Meriah Valente

- No rain date due to costs of operation

Ongoing Committees

PTO Corporate Matching Program: Executive Board

- Some companies will offer to match dollar for dollar or a portion of an employee's donation to a non-profit charity such as the PTO
- We are a registered 501(c)(3)
- Tax Id #223-828-817

Bulldog Monthly: Executive Board

- Hope everyone is finding it helpful and informative
- Please email the Board with suggestions

Cub Scouts Pack #1749: Howard Wolkow (reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- One of the scout leader's Ralph Wojtech will be receiving the Black River's Best Award in May for his work in the scouts
- They just hosted their first Blue & Gold Banquet last week to celebrate the scout's accomplishments over the past 6 months.
- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/cub-scouts.html>
- For grades K – 5, new members are welcome at anytime
- Open to both Boys and Girls

Box Tops: Stephanie Zultanky

- Spring String Contest will run **April 1st- April 26th** winning class will get to silly string Mr. Swan
- There will be a Silent Auction for parents to Silly String Mr. Swan at Spring Fling
- You can register your ShopRite Price Plus card [HERE](#) and receive bonus Tops automatically AND also clip the physical Top on the package. Double points!!
- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/boxtops.html>

Bulletin Boards: Jodi Coleman & Faith Costabile

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/bulletin-boards.html>

CIC, The HUB: Anna Spitaleri, (not present, reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- Somerset Hills Municipal Alliance and Youth Services Commission: Project Medicine Drop-Bedminster Township 24/7 anonymous and safe drop off for expired/unwanted medication at Bedminster Township Police Department. Scratch out identifying information on container for privacy. Please no syringes or liquid medications
- The Hub: Spring Hub Club is here: Middle school students will enjoy a fun activity (such as make your own ice cream sundaes, snuggle with a therapy dog and pop quizzes with prizes) followed by a community service project that supports the mission of Community in Crisis... call it service with a purpose. Students are asked to put away

their cell phones; hours count towards community service requirements. When: **Thursday, May 9, 16th, 23rd, 30th, June 6th and 13th**, 3:00 - 4:30 pm,

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/cic-the-hub.html>

Helping Hands: Linda Fragassi

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

Homeroom Parents: Suzie Stevinson & Jen Calpin

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/homeroom-parent.html>

PTO Membership & Directory- Martin Johansson

- <https://bedminster.planitpto.com>

PTO Meeting Schedule:

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/meeting-dates.html>
- April 9: 7pm - room 315
- May 14: 7 pm – room 315
- June 11: 7pm - room 315

Social Media/Website: Ramsey and Izzy Melendez

- We have over 400 followers on our Facebook page and our posts are seen on average 500 times a week
- Please visit: www.bedminsterpto.org
- Like us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

Programs/Assemblies: Angela Gatto, Myla Williams & Renee Hachey

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/programs--assemblies.html>
- The Prismatic Laser Show for Black History Month was extremely well received by students and staff.
- March assembly will be KIT's Interactive to highlight Women's History Month

SHEF: Ramsey Melendez & Marisa Austenberg

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/shef.html>

Spirit Wear: Jessica Pascale & Melissa Kircher (reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- we are looking for a new vendor if you know anyone please reach out.

8th Grade: Suzie Stevinson & Tina Costello (reported by Ramsey Melendez)

- **March 22nd** 8th grade faculty basketball game
 - Doors open at 6:30pm, game time is 7pm
 - Cost is \$5 per person
 - Snacks will be available for purchase
 - snow date in April 5th,
 - if attending please be sure to dress in light layers as the gym gets EXTREMELY HOT
- Scrips gift cards are on sale all year, for more information please see the 8th grade page on the website

BHS HSA: (Bernard's High School and School Association)

- Open invitation from HAS president, Lisa DiScala
- Meet every other month- BHS Community room (across the hall from the PAC)
- May 21st @ noon

NEXT PTO MEETING: Tuesday April 9 @ 7pm, room 315

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Meghan Schulze – BTS PTO Secretary

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 may be recorded for the sole purpose of writing the minutes.