



MINUTES

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

Meeting Minutes (virtual)

January 21, 2026

Start time: 7:03 pm

President's Welcome: Jenn Chang

Happy New Year, everyone, and welcome back! It's great to see you all after a few months, and we're excited to share some updates tonight.

A big welcome to our new parents—we're so glad you're here. Just a quick reminder that our February meeting will be virtual again, and we'll be back in person for March.

We've been busy working on our gala fundraiser, and as always, it really takes a village. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered and gotten involved—you're truly what makes this community so special, and it's been great to see parents connecting along the way.

Tonight, we'll hear brief updates from the PTO Board, parent reps, the school, and the BOE. We'll also have a Spring Fling presentation and some important updates, with ticket sales opening in just a few weeks—so be sure to stick around for that.

Elementary Principal's Report: Corby Swan

Marking Period 2 ends this Friday, January 23rd. The parent portal will close at 3:45 pm on Friday and remain closed until it reopens on Wednesday, February 4th at 4 pm.

I also want to shout out Mrs. Fredlla and Mrs. Johnson for the beautiful bulletin boards in our front lobby. I was giving a tour to a family today after school and they commented on how great the bulletin boards looked and

how nice our school is.

In elementary school, our students are moving and grooving with our Ready Mathematics program, our TCI Science program, and our new Benchmark Advance ELA program.

Speaking of Benchmark advance. Our current unit is called Government in Action This unit is designed to build students' reading comprehension through engaging fictional and informational texts focused on the workings of government at the local, state, and federal levels.

Given the unit's emphasis on local and state government, I collaborated with our Grade 4 team to ask Bedminster Township if we could build a connection between what our students are reading and the real-world structures and leaders that serve our own community. So, 4th grade students and teachers will be doing a walking field trip to tour the Bedminster Township Municipal facilities and do a Q & A with Mayor Jacobs to bring the unit to life.

This Friday from 5:30 - 7:30 BTS will have International Heritage Night, hosted by our Green Team and Wellness Team. There will be cultural dance, musical instruments, and international sports, and much more. Thank you to the PTO for all they do.

Middle Principal's Report: Lauren Zugale

- Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a happy and healthy winter break and holiday season.

- Thank you to the PTO grade level parents for organizing winter parties. The students drank hot cocoa, listened to music, created "Ugly Sweaters" and just had fun with each other!

- Congratulations to our middle school science teacher, Mr. McNamara for being awarded Teacher of the Year 2025-2026 in Bedminster Township School!

- Marking Period 2 ends Friday, 1/23

- Please encourage your student to monitor work completion and/or grades through Genesis and Google Classrooms

- Reminder: Spring sports forms are due March 12th

- Student Council:
 - Winter Fun Night- 2/6 from 6:30-8:30pm; hot cocoa bar, photo booth, DJ, crafts, games in the gym- tickets will be on sale during lunch and on the night of the event

 - 8th grade students versus faculty basketball game- 3/20 from 6:30-8:30pm; schoolwide event for all families and ages; tickets on sale at the door; concessions for sale in the cafe by the 8th grade committee- GO BULLDOGS!

- 8th grade news:
 - Scheduling for BHS will begin in February
 - 8th grade mural planning has begun!
 - 8th grade class trip planning has begun!
 - Please refer to the monthly Bulldog Bulletin for Parents shared by Mrs. Kathy Smith, which contains live links to important and timely information. Thank you parents. I appreciate your ongoing support and partnership!

Teacher Representatives: Patricia Leonti & Beth Rosnell

The team recognized a preschool student, Abigail Chang, who received the Principal's Award this month. Mr. Swan visited the classroom to congratulate her, and the class was excited to celebrate her achievement. Ms. Rosnell shared that 3rd grade students are participating in Hearts Across America, collecting postcards or letters from all 50 U.S. states. Students will use the mail to study geography, map skills, and regional facts, while also spreading kindness through written notes.

Board of Education (BOE): Laurie Anderson

The Board welcomed two new members, **Mike Marino** and **Lashanda Alberts**, who will serve three-year terms, along with returning member **Gabi Gomez**. A fiscal report will be presented at the next meeting. Mrs. Giordano encouraged families to visit the school website for additional updates and information. Please visit the website for information.
<https://www.bedminsterschool.org/administration/board-of-education>

Vice President: Fareeha Rahim

Secretary's Report: Lauren DiMeo

Happy New Year! We are off to a great start with Spring Fling sponsorships. Janjua joined as a **Bulldog Sponsor**; Dental Arts Visions signed on as a **Sponsor a Teacher**; and Primrose School of Bedminster came on board as a **Top Dog Sponsor** and **Sponsor a Teacher**. Thank you to all for your continued support. We have also seen a steady flow of donations, and we are expecting some wonderful baskets this year.

September Minutes Approval

Beth & Anne Van Druff

Treasurer's Report: Nadine Griffiths

The full report is available on the PTO website: www.bedminsterpto.org

- **Inflows:** \$195
 - **Outflows:** \$2,034
 - **Main Account Balance:** \$90,040.87
 - **50/50 Raffle Balance:** \$300
 - **Total Cash Available:** \$90,340.87
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New Business

Family Night – May 1, 2026

Chairs: Allison Opperman / Fareeha Rahim

Families are invited to enjoy games, bingo, and trivia. Volunteers are needed—please contact **Allison Opperman** if interested.

8th Grade Committee: Laurie Anderson

The Holiday Workshop was a success, raising approximately \$3,000 to support the 8th grade class trip.

Old Business

- **Spirit Wear:** Samantha / Allison / Beth
Possibly open a Spring Store (online). Otherwise we will be at the Farmers Market in the Spring, always open to suggestions on Merch.
 - **Book Fair:** Danielle
We received an extra \$1,200 scholastic from the book fair to build our multilanguage section in our library. Also the PTO approved a grant from Ms. Mancini to continue the support of building the multilanguage book in our classrooms.
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Special Presentation

Spring Fling 2026

Ongoing Committees

- **Homeroom Parents:** Danielle / Jenn C. / Jen T.
 - Classroom and/or grade baskets should be decided and purchased. Please coordinate with Nadine for drop-offs.
- **Events:** Fareeha
 - **Movie Night Update:** Date change to align with a new release. The BTS PTO is partnering with the Bernardsville Theatre to show *GOAT* on **March 1 at 3:30 PM.**
- **Assemblies:** Fareeha / Krista / Sheryl R-P
 - January featured the Game Show Assembly for Elementary students.
 - **Next Assembly:** February (date TBD). *Soul Steps* will present in honor of Black History Month. The high-energy performance explores the African-American dance tradition of stepping, its cultural roots, and history.
- **Spirit Wear:** Samantha / Allison / Beth / Melina
 - Exploring a Spring online store and potential participation at the Farmers Market. Suggestions welcome.
- **Dine to Donate:** Kim
- **PR / Social Media:** Anne / Lauren D. / Jenn
- **Farmer's Market:** Jenn / Krissy D. / Sheryl R-P

- **Helping Hands:** Christina F.
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Volunteers Needed

Spring Fling and Family Night

Please contact pto@bedminsterschool.org

PTO Meeting Schedule

All in-person meetings will be held in the Faculty Lounge.

- February 18, 2026 – **Virtual**
- March 18, 2026
- April – No Meeting
- May 20, 2026
- June 17, 2026

All meetings are subject to change.

Public Comments:

· 3 to 4 minutes for comments and/or questions in regards to 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

Closing Notes: Jenn Chang

See you online Feb. 18th- Google Meet

*Please note: ALL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT ANY TIME

Meeting Closed at 7:51 pm

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.