**Bedminster Township School**

**Parent Teacher Organization**

**Meeting Minutes-November 15, 2016**

**Start Time – 7:05 pm**

**Special Information –** Jen Giordano

* New student with an airborne peanut allergy.
  + Teachers, students and families have been wonderful while we spread awareness and take appropriate steps to ensure all reasonable accommodations can be met.
  + Hand washing should be occurring no more than 2 times/day
  + Any questions can be directed to Ms. G, Mr. Swan or Kelly Kreikemeier [kellykathleenk@icloud.com](mailto:kellykathleenk@icloud.com)
* Teacher Contracts – still ongoing, hoping to be resolved this Thursday at BOE meeting.

**Welcome and Comments** – Anna Spitaleri, President

* Thank you all for coming
* No December meeting. Next meeting is Tuesday, 1/10/17 from 9:30-10:30 am at school, in Faculty Lounge

**Principal’s Report** – Corby Swan

* Spooktactular/Trunk or Treat/Dance/Parade were all a BIG hit! Thank you to all that attended and organized.
* Marking Period 1 has ended. Report cards will be available on 11/23.
  + **All grades** will be available via the Genesis System
* Wednesday, 11/23 is an early dismissal day, 1:25 pm
* Parent/Teacher Conferences went well. Try to stay on top of your child’s progress all throughout the year. This will help the teachers, your child and yourself so that at conference time you are ahead of the game and the conference will basically be a check in with the teacher.
* Always feel free to check with the middle school team leaders:
  + 5 and 6 grade – Mr. Schoch
  + 7 and 8 grade – Mr. Philips
* Thank you Lis Leob and Faith Constabile for your hard work on all school assemblies
* Help your child learn about the structure of the Presidential Election
* Governor's Educator of the Year nominations are due to Mr. Swan by Wednesday, 11/30. Applications can be found on the school’s website as well as the PTO’s
* 6th grade Stokes trip-November 29-29-30
  + Help encourage your child to ‘enjoy the moment’
  + If you are feeling anxious, try not to let your child see that emotion on you. Feel free to reach out to Mr. Swan or Mr. Philips for guidance.
  + Box Tops Contest – I can’t wait to be Silly Stringed by the winning class!
  + Purnell School visit - Mr. Swan and Ms. Giordano spent the day at the school along with some 4th grade students and teachers. The female students of Purnell are running a Learn2Lead /PLUS program for the female fourth grade students at Bedminster. The program is based on the PLUS model.  
    PLUS﻿is aglobal campaign to raise awareness of the potential of females in sports as a natural, accessible, platform to reach and teach children. PLUS helps girls in how to better use sports to teach self-advocacy, leadership, literacy, and health. The students thoroughly enjoyed their experience.
  + Thank you to the PTO for all you have done this school year and we look forward to what is to come.

**Teacher Representative** – Chuck Hogan

* Thank you for so many events:
  + All Halloween related festivities
  + Grade level assemblies
  + Dinner for Parent/Teacher Conferences
  + We hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving

**Board of Education repor**t – Jennifer Johansson or Howard Wolkow

* Next meeting Thursday, 11/17 @ 7:30 pm
* The new budget will be rolled out.
* Our audit came back with no discrepancies
* Per Anna S., please support the teachers on Thursday as we hope contracts will finally be settled.
* Congratulations to Suzie Stevinson for being elected to the school board. She will be sworn in January 2017.

**SHEF** – Anna Spitaleri – all information will be posted to the PTO website

**Correspondence and Minutes** – Ramsey Melendez, Secretary

* Thank you:
  + Teresa Collins & Alicia Subervi for Conference night dinner
  + Patrick McNamara for the whiteboard grant
  + Jennifer Griffith – sugar skulls grant

**Treasurer’s Report** – Mimi Brown, Treasurer

All specific line items may be requested at any time. [marieelena\_brown@yahoo.com](mailto:marieelena_brown@yahoo.com)

Total Inflows: $2,462.69 (membership, ’16 class gift, Halloween, donations)

Total Outflows: $8,631.51 (SF down payment, assemblies, Halloween, grants, K field trip, bulletin board)

Bank Balance: As of 11/14/16 $**29,287.32**

* Check with your employer to see if they offer a match program or payroll deduction to charities.
* Bedminster School PTO is a 501c
* Thank you to Howard Wolkow & United Health Group for their generous donations

**BHS HSA** – President, Karen Mlynarski – [mlynarskifamily@comcast.net](mailto:mlynarskifamily@comcast.net)

1/10/17 – noon, 3/14/17 – 7:30pm, 5/16/17 – noon

**New Business**

**Conference Hospitality –** Jen Calpin

* Thank you to all that helped and especially to the newer faces we had offering their time
* Teachers really appreciated a hot meal

**Budget Committee** – looking for chairperson

* Some responsibilities may include:
  + Attending BOE meetings
  + Meeting with Alicia Schauer
  + Being a voice for the PTO at budget meetings

**Spirit Wear** – Meryl Bender and Kim Rich

* Due Friday, 11/18
* [www.thecampspot.com](http://www.thecampspot.com) “Bedminster”
* Delivery in approximately 3 weeks

**Spring Fling** 4/28/17 - Trump National Golf Club– Anna Spitaleri

* Please keep us in mind while out holiday shopping for items we could use in our baskets.
* We will be trying a few new ideas this year…..stay tuned.
* Chairperson(s) are still needed. Please see **bold** listing below
* Chair People:

Admissions – Liza Pizarro-White & Lis Clark

Program – Martin Johansson

Graphics – La Rhetta Bradley

Advertising – Laura Govan

Silent Auction – Susan Corbett

Baskets – Jodi Coleman & Suzie Stevinson

Class Baskets – Danielle Fredella & Jessica Jasilli

PR – Martin Johansson

Solicitations – Jen Calpin

Night of Volunteers – Kori Edwards

**50/50 – Anna willing to mentor**

Database – Anna Spitaleri

IT – Liza Pizarro-White and Martin Johansson

**Old Business**

**Book Fair** – Suzie Stevinson

* Scholastic is having issues with their website; therefore there will be a delay for the teachers in spending their Scholastic Dollars. They will be kept informed.
* Approximately $6,000 was distributed to BTS teachers!

**Fall Fest** – Marisa Austenberg

* No follow-up meeting has been announced. Once information is known, the school will be informed.
* Fall Fest needs a new chairperson. They would work with the core group of

co-chairs and volunteers to help make the event fun and profitable.

**Halloween** –

* Spooktacular - thank you Susan Corbet for a wonderful night. Families were very happy.
* Trunk or Treat – We had so many awesome and creative trunks this year. Thank you to all that participated and to Jessica Jasilli for coordinating.

Feedback for 2017:

* Both ends of designated parking area will be blocked off so there is no thru traffic.
* Allocate specific handicapped parking spots
* Increase admission to $10 per family
* 8th grade dance – thanks to the Student Council, with help from Kim Rich &

Liza Pizarro-White. A fun time was had by all.

**Events** - **Never Forget Tribute Classic –** The Prudential Center**–** Anna Spitaleri

* December 10th 2016 – Double header –
* Villanova vs. Notre Dame & Pittsburg vs. Penn State

**Ongoing Committees**

**Homeroom Parents** – Ramsey Melendez

* No winner in the Homeroom PTO Membership Contest
  + Any and all ideas on how to increase membership are welcomed. Please email [melendez.family07@yahoo.com](mailto:melendez.family07@yahoo.com) or any PTO Board member.
  + Families may join at any time of the year. There is a $10 suggested fee/family.
* Thank you to all that helped with the elementary grade Halloween parade. The teachers were very appreciative.

**Box Tops** – Ramsey Melendez

* Silly String Mr. Swan Contest ends, Friday, 11/18! Get those Tops into your teachers. Winner will be announced after Thanksgiving.
* Next contest will take place in January and it will be geared towards our amazing teachers. The class that collects the most will win a gift certificate for their teacher. Stay tuned for details after the December break.

**Programs/Assemblies/Author Visits** – Faith Costabile & Lis Loeb

* Increased exposure/communication re: upcoming events through social media
* Assemblies scheduled, as of today:
  + 10/24 National Constitution Center: Being an Active Citizen (for grades k-4) and The Presidency (5-8)
  + 11/17 Theatreworks -The Lightning Thief (5-8)
  + 1/23 Brain Wash Game Show (K-2, 3-5, 6-8)
  + 2/6 Kit's Interactive Theater:  Colonial Life (K-4) and Civil War (5-8)
  + March (1st, 6th or 7th TBD) author Wendy Maas
  + 6/8 Theatreworks- Charlotte’s Web (K-4)
  + To be added: Screenagers (ages 10+)

**Helping Hands** – Linda Fragassi: potential family Christmas list to be sent via HR Parents

**8Th Grade** – Suzie Stevinson and Tina Costello

* Pie Sale: pick up Tuesday, 11/22, 3:30-6 pm, main lobby

**Extra Notes** – Anna Spitaleri

* NEW bulletin board will be arriving this week!
* Gift from 2015-2016 PTO Board
* Community Service hours will be available to students that help with the upkeep.
* Next PTO meeting will be Tuesday, January 10th, 2017, 9:30-10:30 am at Bedminster School in the Faculty Lounge.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Ramsey Melendez – 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.*