MINUTES

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

Meeting Minutes

November 19, 2025

Start time: 7:04 pm

President's Welcome: Jenn Chang
Thank you everyone for coming tonight. We have had a really busy fall. In the last month we have had our Spiritwear Online Store, Spooktacular and the Pumpkin Patch which was a new initiative this year. Our focus at this time is to shift to Spring Fling. This is our last meeting for the year, there is no meeting next month and then January's meeting is virtual. Link to come.

Elementary Principal's Report: Corby Swan
Since we last met, we have now ended Marking Period 1 and we are now in Marking Period 2. Marking Period 1 grades are now available via the parent portal. If you are an elementary parent, even though we use a standards based report card system, treat it like the old school report cards that we used to receive. Make it a big deal if you see improvement or if you see your child thriving.

Thank you to those who attended parent teacher conferences. We hope that you left with your questions answered and with a strong understanding of where your child is at academically, socially, and emotionally.

We also had our annual Halloween Parade on October 31st. The rain held out for us and we had a great day. It means a lot to our students (and to me) to see you there, so thank you to those who were able to make it.

Next week on Wednesday, November 26th, our 3rd grade Drama Club will perform a production of “Toy Story”. If you have a third grader in the performance, we look forward to seeing you there. You should receive specific instructions from the two drama club advisors, Mrs. Rosnell and Mrs. Alfieri.

Academically, our students and staff are continuing to learn and make progress with our new Benchmark Advance program, out TCI Science program, and our i-Ready and Big Ideas math programs.

Our music concert series will begin on Wednesday, December 3rd with our Orchestra & Strings Concert, followed by our Concert Band & Jazz Band Concert on Wednesday, December 10th, and concluding with our Chorus & Handbell Concert on Wednesday, December 17th. Please come out and support our students. Even if you have a child who is not in any of those programs. It is a night of entertainment for our community and it is FREE of charge.

Please go home tonight and nominate a deserving educator for our Governor’s Educator of the Year program. It is easy to fill out. All you have to do is fill out the Google form. The opportunity to nominate a teacher closes this Friday, November 21st.

School will be closed for Thanksgiving break on Thursday and Friday, November 27th and 28th.

Thank you to the PTO for all that you do for our school and community!

Middle Principal's Report: Lauren Zugale

PTO Principal Report for Middle School, November 2025

- Marking Period 1 has ended; grades published to portal today; will continue practice of notifying students and parents of the mid-marking period point
- Winter Sports have begun- boys and girls basketball
- NJSLA-A Fall Field Test completed with grades 4-8

- Student Council:
- Successful Halloween costume contest with winners across grades 5-8; the students loved it!
- Currently organizing a Food Drive to support the Somerset County Food Bank; winning MS student will design a cereal box domino run

- 8th grade news:
- Somerset County VoTech HS visited last week
- Upcoming Winter Workshop organized by 8th grade parent committee on 12/8 and 12/9 during the school day and 12/10 after school (before the band concert);

MS students will have the opportunity to visit and shop during an assigned PE/Instructional Center period

- 8th grade mural planning has begun!

- We are looking forward to the upcoming band, orchestra and choir concerts in December.

We are also excited for Grade Level parties organized by PTO homeroom parents for 12/19

- Please consider nominating a staff member for Educator of the Year
- Wishing everyone a healthy and happy Thanksgiving with families and loved ones!

Teacher Representative: Patricia Leonti & Beth Rosnell

First grade: Regan is helping with shoe tying for students and starting a shoe tying club. When the kids are done you are able to write your name on the board.

Music Dept: Concerts Dates:

Winter Orchestra & Strings Concert, *(2nd Grade Strings, 3rd Grade Strings, 4th Grade Strings Orchestra & Chamber Orchestra)*

Wednesday, December 3rd at 7:00 pm

Winter Band & Jazz Band Concert

(4th Grade Band & Keyboards Band & Jazz Band)

Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00 pm

BOE: Laurie Anderson

First we would like to recognize and congratulate the two new board members, LaShaunda Albert and Michael Marino. Next point is the Feasibility study between Somerset Hills school district and Bedminster. SH school Superintendent presented their referendum and their details to the BOE so they could see how the potential updates could affect us financially

over the next 20 year period. It's funded by the NJ Dept of Community Affairs. Further information will be shared about the progress and please see the BOE meeting notes on their website for more information.

Vice President: Fareeha Rahim
Thank you everyone who contributed to the First annual pumpkin patch, it was a huge success and we hope to continue it in the future. Spooktacular was another success, raising more money than last year.

We have a sign in sheet for the Spring Fling Volunteer in the back if you are interested.

Secretary's Report: Lauren DiMeo
Machio's came in for Support Dog level for the Spring Fling. Thank you for your support.

September minutes approval: Sheryl Roman-Picado and Hiba Nejeed

Treasurer's Report: Nadine Griffiths

Report is available on PTO website www.bedminsterpto.org

Inflows: **$12,148.97**

Outflows: **$11,448.88**

Main Account Balance: **$91,879.58**

50/50 Raffle Balance: $300

Total Cash Available: **$92,179.58**

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

New Business

PTO Membership: Thank you everyone for their annual support.

Spring Fling:
Save the Date! April 17, 2026. We have started reaching out to last year's sponsors. Next on the agenda we are going to start to reach out to donors. Businesses that have donated gift cards, we had almost $20k in goods in services. Nadine is leading that again this year. We have a great team. We are looking for a couple more volunteers to make some phone calls. If there are any businesses that you know of that would like to work together with us please reach out. We have a good crew from last year, Solicitations, baskets, pick ups, 50/50, admissions, silent auction. We can always use the help if you would like to get involved.

Homeroom Parents: Danielle/Jenn C/Jen T
Middle school: Mrs. Zugale touched upon the end of the week of this year's holiday party. Elementary: HR parents should reach out already for winter holiday activity in the classroom and also coordinate teacher gifts. Share with the class. Try to keep the craft neutral and not holiday specific. If you do have food please notify the nurse and the principals for allergies, always offer an alternative. Mrs. Zugale scheduled Dec 19 for middle school. Mention Bedminster School at either Bedminster Dunkin Donuts for 10%

8th Grade Committee: Laurie Anderson
Holiday Workshop - Dec 8, 9 and 10, 2025. (evening hours offered on the 10th before the concert) It's the 8th grade largest fundraiser. Please come to the shop. We need some volunteers, please reach out.

<u>Old Business</u>
Spooktacular & Pumpkin Patch: Fareeha
Thank you to Trisha, Janell and Elvania and all the families who participated. Some feedback was to extend the time to display the pumpkins. Spooktacular was a great event, this year we had a DJ, a balloon artist which made such a difference and everyone enjoyed it. Thank you to our Bridgewater parents who donated the balloon arch.

Next event is in February: Movie Night, in partnership with Bernardsville Cinema. Please come join us! We are open to suggestions on what movie to watch. February 6, 2026 at 6pm. Open to all!

Spirit Wear: Samantha/Allison/Beth
The store is closed, items will be delivered.Any questions please reach out to Samantha or Allison.

Ongoing Committees
Homeroom Parents: Danielle/Jenn C/Jen T
Events: Fareeha/OPEN
Assemblies: Fareeha/Krista/Sheryl R-P
Bulletin Boards: Danielle
Spirit Wear: Samantha/Allison/Beth/Melina
Dine to Donate: Kim
PR / Social Media: Anne/Lauren D/Jenn
Farmer's Market: Jenn/Krissy D/Sheryl R-P
Helping Hands: Christina F

Volunteers Needed: Spring Fling, Events Committees for School and Community, online sign up sheets, through general online PTO membership & volunteer form, or contact pto@bedminsterschool.org

Public Comments:
Parent noticed the participation cost increase this year and asked the Board Rep where the student activity cost went. The BOE member said she would take it back to the board to get the answer.

Closing Notes: Jenn Chang
· December - No Meeting
· January 21, 2026 - VIRTUAL (link to come)
· February 18, 2026 - VIRTUAL
· March 18, 2026
· April -No Meeting
· May 20, 2026
· June 17, 2026

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

Meeting Closed at 7:55 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.