

# Ben Franklin Elementary PTO

## December 2021 Meeting Minutes

**WHEN:** Monday, December 5, 2021

**WHERE:** Zoom **Facilitator(s):** Bonne Giglio

**PTO BOARD:** Bonne Giglio, Sandy Cayo, Donna Erichsen, Nicole Bottrel, Kate Schumacher, and Megan Coopersmith

**ATTENDEES:** Principal Jay Billy, PTO Board, Ben Franklin Parents/Guardians

**START TIME:** 7:04 **END TIME:** 7:27

<b>Topic and Spokesperson</b>	<b>Discussion Points</b>
<b>Introductions</b> Bonne Giglio	PTO Board introduced themselves Bonne Giglio-PTO President, Kate Schumacher-Treasurer, Nicole Bottrel-Corresponding Secretary, Sandy Cayo-Vice President 1, Donna Erichsen-Vice President 2, Megan Coopersmith-Recording Secretary
<b>PTO President's Update</b>  Bonne Giglio	<p>Teacher Clubs: they're still going on and are going well. Please remember to send a change of dismissal note with your child each week</p> <p>Food Drive: It was a very successful food drive. We received enough food to feed families at Ben Franklin, families at Slackwood, and also give some to Lawrence Community Center</p> <p>Winter Wonderland: event happening this Sunday from 1-3pm outside in the bus loop at the school. There will be hot chocolate, games, crafts, prizes, gifts for sale. We still need help celebrating the different holidays so please consider volunteering to do that. Also, we still need volunteers at the event.</p> <p>To sign up to volunteer to help at Winter Wonderland event:  <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090449a5ae23aaff2-winter2">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090449a5ae23aaff2-winter2</a></p> <p>To sign up at Winter Wonderland to highlight your family's holiday:  <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090449a5ae23aaff2-winter1">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090449a5ae23aaff2-winter1</a></p> <p>In the new year we will have more spirit wear offerings, more teacher clubs, and more family fun events</p>

<p><b>Principal Update</b></p> <p>Mr. Billy</p> <p><b>Principal Update cont.</b></p> <p>Mr. Billy</p>	<p>With holidays coming up in the next couple weeks, kids were a little wild last week. We are trying to refocus on academics for the next two weeks and then celebrate during the last two days before break.</p> <p>Mr. Billy is allowing the two room coordinators to attend if there is a classroom party before break if the teacher would like. Since he's been allowing parents in for meet and greets and teaching family traditions, he felt it was acceptable to allow room coordinators in the classroom to host the party. Anyone who comes into the classroom must be vaccinated and if not vaccinated, must get tested within 24 hours and show the negative COVID test to Mr. Billy prior to entering the classroom.</p> <p>New Jersey has gone into red zone for number of COVID cases</p> <p>Please send children into school with at least one well fitting mask</p> <p>The school does not have a way to keep kids 6 feet apart at lunch. He is hopeful to keep cases down. So far transmission in the building has not happened.</p> <p>The school will be having a lockdown drill in the coming weeks. The school is required to do a fire drill and lockdown or evacuation drill monthly so there will be a lockdown drill happening in the next two weeks.</p> <p>Mr. Billy will now start locking the vestibule so if anyone needs to get into the school after it begins, please use the buzzer on the outside of the building on the right side.</p>
<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>Kate Schumacher</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Treasurer's Report: December 2021</b></p> <p>-Kate Schumacher did not provide the Treasurer's Report</p>
<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p><u>3rd Grade Committee</u>  Megan Coopersmith spoke  -Committee met via Zoom a couple weeks ago to discuss planning  -committee members chose whether they wanted to work on the yearbook, tshirt, party, or willing to do any of the above.  -Winter Wreath sale is still going on and it has been doing really well. There are still 9 wreaths remaining on the website and those plus a few more wreaths will be available for sale at Winter Wonderland.  *If interested in purchasing a wreath, please go to: <a href="http://bfpto.org/wreath/">http://bfpto.org/wreath/</a></p>

<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p><u>Dine to Donate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Bobbi Jo DeFelice spoke</li> <li>-Nino's this Friday, December 10th 4-9pm</li> <li>-don't need to bring flyer, but easier for her so she can staple receipt but it is not required</li> </ul> <p>-5 Below Fundraiser- December 13th-19th bring flyer into the store and will give 10% of sales back to PTO</p> <p>-Megan Coopersmith mentioned that the PTO website homepage has links to all flyers so if anyone needs another copy of a flyer, check the website: <a href="http://bfpto.org/">http://bfpto.org/</a></p> <p><u>Winter Wonderland</u>- December 12th 1-3pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Bonne Giglio spoke</li> <li>-If the weather is bad, the event will be cancelled and supplies will be packaged up and given to Mr. Billy for the students. If it rains on Sunday, the event will be cancelled- there is no rain date</li> </ul> <p><u>Coat/Glove/Hat Drive</u>: due by December 21st</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Bonne Giglio spoke</li> <li>-All winter gear is accepted!-including blankets</li> <li>-There is a bucket in the vestibule, but will be moved to outside the school now that the vestibule will be locked during school hours</li> <li>-Winter items will be split between Homefront and Rescue Mission of Trenton</li> </ul>
<p><b>Questions or Comments</b></p> <p>All</p>	<p>-Kristen Paladino asked Bonne if people could volunteer to run the different Holiday stations even if they don't celebrate the holiday. Bonne stated that she wouldn't feel comfortable running a station for a holiday she did not celebrate, but she would be willing to help out someone else with whatever they need for them to run it.</p>
<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p><b>Next PTO meeting: Monday January 10, 2022</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Zoom only meeting</li> <li>-The date is tentative because we are waiting to see when the Board of Ed schedules their January meeting so it doesn't conflict</li> </ul>
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Thank you all for coming!</p> <p>Stay connected with us:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Franklin PTO Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BFLawrNj">https://www.facebook.com/BFLawrNj</a></li> <li>Ben Franklin PTO Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/bfpto">@bfpto</a></li> <li>Ben Franklin PTO website: <a href="http://bfpto.org/">http://bfpto.org/</a></li> </ul>