

# Ben Franklin Elementary PTO

## March 2022 Meeting Minutes

**WHEN:** Monday, March 14, 2022

**WHERE:** In person and 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:** 7:05pm **END TIME:** 7:30pm

<b>Topic and Spokesperson</b>	<b>Discussion Points</b>
<b>Introductions</b> Bonne Giglio	
<b>PTO President's Update</b>  Bonne Giglio	<p><b>Teacher Clubs</b> -going well and over 100 kids are enjoying the clubs</p> <p><b>Read Across America Book Exchange</b> -for this event, each BF student was able to choose 3 “new to you” books to have -The book donation collection has now been depleted since every student received 3 books so please continue to send in any donated books you have or come across -donated books are collected all year long and there is always a bin in the lobby of the school for book donations. Also, if you ever see people post on Facebook offering to give away their books for free, you can always get them and either drop them right off at the bin at the school or at Bonne’s house.</p> <p><b>Spirit Wear</b> -new spirit wear designs and choices will be for sale soon. -Orders will be placed by March 30th and orders will be in backpacks after Spring Break</p>
<b>Principal Update</b>  Mr. Billy	<p><b>Mask-Optional Update</b> -It has been a couple weeks since everyone came back to school with masks being optional. It has been going well and kids are being respectful to each other. There have been a couple positive COVID cases, but not necessarily passed along in school. -However, kids are getting colds, sore throats, strep etc. now that many people are no longer wearing masks. -44 kids were out sick today!</p> <p><b>St. Baldrick's Fundraiser</b> -last Friday was the St. Baldrick's head shave event. 6 students shaved their heads and a few teachers did as well to help support childhood cancer research.</p>

<p><b>Principal Update cont.</b></p> <p>Mr. Billy</p>	<p>-Ben Franklin team made over \$8,500, but you still can continue to donate!          -To donate to the Ben Franklin Team go here:  <a href="https://www.stbaldricks.org/teams/mypage/132458/2022">https://www.stbaldricks.org/teams/mypage/132458/2022</a></p> <p><b>Pi Day</b>          -Today was “Pi Day” since it was March 14 (3.14)          -Mr. Billy challenged 2nd and 3rd graders that if they could recite Pi to 30 decimal places, they could pie Mr. Billy in the face          -London Coopersmith was the only student to succeed at the challenge by reciting 30 digits of Pi and got the reward of throwing a pie in Mr. Billy’s face</p> <p><b>Miscellaneous</b>          -A lot of PTO activities coming up          -End of the marking period is Friday          -Report cards will be out posted either the end of next week or the following week (they come out before conferences). Reminder that we are on trimesters now          -Teachers will start reaching out to schedule conferences- virtual &amp; in person options</p>
<p><b>Treasurer’s Report</b></p> <p>Kate Schumacher</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Treasurer’s Report: March 2022</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">**See last page of Meeting Minutes for Kate Schumacher’s Treasurer’s Report**</p>
<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p><b>Clothing and Household Items Drive</b>          -Petra Crevier spoke          -need 250 bags to do a free pickup          -A ton of different items are accepted for this drive so please send stuff in!          -Mr. Billy said there have been lots of bags collected so far</p> <p><b>2nd Grade Teacher Appreciation Meal</b>          -Bonne spoke          -Teacher Appreciation meal will be held on Thursday, March 17th which is also St. Patrick’s Day          -There’ll be sandwiches, parents are sending in food, and there will be St Patty’s day decor</p> <p><b>Fun Run</b>          -Bonne spoke          -Sunday March 27 at 9am at Lawrence High School track          -60 people have signed up so far          -used runsignup system so there’s a built in payment processing system          -medals for runners and they will also get to pick 2 prizes          -Teacher Experiences raffles will be done then too</p>

<p><b>Committee Reports cont.</b></p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p><b>Book Fair</b>  Kristen Paladino spoke  -Preview day is Tuesday, April 4th and this is when kids come down and choose the books they want  -The Book Fair will be open during the day for sales for the kids and then 1:30-4 Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday for sales during conferences.  -Thursday evening will also have a special event which is the day most people will be doing their evening in-person conferences so Book Fair will be open late on Thursday  -Signupgenius will be coming out in the coming weeks for people to volunteer to help</p> <p><b>Dine to Donate</b>  -Bobbi Jo Defelice spoke  -Amalfi's on March 29th from 4-9pm: will take flyer or mention BFPTO by name  -Five Below fundraiser on April 11-17- must bring flyer!  -On the Border on April 19th from 12pm-11pm: must bring flyer! and there's a 20 check minimum for them to donate to us so please tell your family and friends so we get 20 check minimum!</p>
<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p><b>Bylaw changes</b>  voting on bylaw changes. A summary of changes proposed and why:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. dues payment for membership-all parents regardless of availability to pay should be members of the PTO</li> <li>2. qualifications for becoming a board member- Present bylaws were too restrictive so we want to make it more equitable to be a board member</li> <li>3. reword election and vacancy language and tweak language of 2 board member positions</li> </ol> <p>-Kate made motion to amend bylaws and Donna seconded  -Vote was held: 11 people were in favor, 0 were opposed.  -changes to the bylaws have been accepted and will be updated on the website</p> <p><b>Open Board Member positions for 2022-2023 school year</b>  -3 Board positions will be open : 1st VP, 2nd VP, and Treasurer  -nominations will be taken at the April 20th PTO meeting and elections will be held on the May 9th PTO meeting</p> <p><b>Committees in Need of Volunteers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fun Run</li> <li>2. End of the Year Carnival</li> <li>3. Screen Free Week</li> <li>4. Parents Night Out</li> </ol> <p>If you want to volunteer to help, please email the PTO at <a href="mailto:bfptorocks@gmail.com">bfptorocks@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Stream Cleanups</b>  -there will be 2 in our town on April 23: one at <a href="#">Colonial Lake (see flyer)</a> and another at <a href="#">Lawrence Nature Center (see flyer)</a></p>

<p><b>New Business (cont.)</b></p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p>-we may also do one at the stream at BF</p> <p><b>Memorial Day Parade</b> -Parade for the town is on May 28 and there will be a BF group</p> <p><b>Trenton Thunder Game</b> -Game is June 17th at night- BF students will be able to sing a song at the game</p>
<p><b>Questions or Comments</b></p> <p>All</p>	<p>no questions were asked</p> <p><b><u>*Check bfpto.org for all links to flyers!!</u></b></p>
<p><b>Announcements</b></p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p><b>Next PTO meeting: Monday April 20, 2022 in person and virtual</b> April 20: nominations for 3 open seats on the PTO Board May 9: vote for the 3 open seats on the PTO Board</p>
<p><b>Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Thank you all for coming! Stay connected with us: Ben Franklin PTO Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/BFLawrNj">https://www.facebook.com/BFLawrNj</a> Ben Franklin PTO Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/bfpto">@bfpto</a> Ben Franklin PTO website: <a href="http://bfpto.org/">http://bfpto.org/</a></p>

**Treasurer's Report submitted by Kate Schumacher:**

Date	Description	Amount Out	Amount In	Notes
2/2/2022	Teacher Request - Donohue	-76.44		Teacher request
2/7/2022	LMS/ LHS PTO Insurance	-447.16		Operating Cost
2/11/2022	SpiritWear		197	Spirit wear revenue
2/11/2022	Cookie Kit Fundraiser		273	Community events, revenue
2/11/2022	Cookie Kit Fundraiser		570	community event, revenue
2/11/2022	Carnation Fundraiser		1142	community event, revenue
2/14/2022	Flower Gram Expenses	-600		School event, expenses
2/14/2022	Cookie Kit Fundraiser	-690		community event, expenses
2/25/2022	Flower Gram Expenses	-140.81		School event, expenses
2/25/2022	Teacher Vday Snack Appreciator	-97.96		teacher appreciation
2/25/2022	Winter Wonderland Expenses	-23		community events, expenses
2/25/222	Nurse Appreciation	-138.83		teacher appreciation