

Ben Franklin Elementary PTO

September 2022 Meeting Minutes

WHEN: Tuesday, September 27, 2022

WHERE: In person and Zoom **Facilitator(s):** Bonne Giglio

PTO BOARD: Bonne Giglio, Petra Crevier, Rachelle Picarello, Nicole Bottrel, Kristen Paladino, and Megan Coopersmith

ATTENDEES: Principal Jay Billy, PTO Board, Ben Franklin Parents/Guardians and LTEF's Karen Faiman

START TIME: 7:03pm **END TIME:** 8:05pm

Topic and Spokesperson	Discussion Points
<p>Introductions Bonne Giglio</p>	<p>Board introduced themselves: Bonne Giglio-PTO President, Petra Crevier-VP1, Rachelle Picarello-VP2, Nicole Bottrel-Corresponding Secretary, Megan Coopersmith-Recording Secretary, and Kristen Paladino-Treasurer</p>
<p>Principal Update Mr. Billy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -He wrote the weekly newsletter, but forgot to send it on Saturday so he just sent it out tonight. -Great opening to the school and many new hires for the staff so you will see some new faces at BF -Back to School Night this year had the biggest attendance ever! The format was changed this year and he thinks it worked well. The kids were excited to show their families around to see what they're doing in school. We will likely keep this format next year too. -Friday was our first all school assembly since before COVID. Assemblies help children practice how to act and emphasize good manners. A lot of kids lost track of manners during COVID and he is trying to bring manners back. Mr. Billy is trying to teach the children to respond when someone says good morning and using please and thank you. -Spirit Day is this Friday so dress in blue and white -Next week is the Week of Respect and there will be a special assembly on Monday - The district has allowed the school to have field trips again (which were not allowed since the start of the pandemic). Mr. Billy thanked the PTO for helping with the financing of the field trips. Each grade will get one field trip a year.

<p>Principal Update cont.</p> <p>Mr. Billy</p>	<p>-School is in need of substitute teachers so if you want to substitute, apply</p>														
<p>PTO President's Update</p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p>-A lot of great events to start the year- Popsicles on the Playground, Chalk the Walk, and Ice Cream Social.</p> <p>-The idea of the PTO is to help the school with any unmet needs and bridge the gap between parents and teachers. The PTO is meant to help provide opportunities for parents of different grade levels to interact and meet each other.</p> <p>-We sent out a PTO Calendar of Events at the beginning of the year and if you need another copy, please find it here.</p> <p>-We're always looking for ideas for assemblies, teacher clubs, PTO events, etc. We want to be here and be responsive to what parents want to see in the school so please reach out to bfptorocks@gmail.com if you want to share your ideas.</p>														
<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Kristen Paladino</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Treasurer's Report: September 2022</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">September Meeting Summary</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">1. Made \$975 (less \$13.87 in Clover Fees) selling Spirit Wear (\$100 of "income" was prepay from Bonne/Kristen for Clover Credit) vs. \$134.85 for Stickers</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. \$1,471 collected from Direct Appeal (less \$11.13 in Clover Fees)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Spent \$865 to Stock the Fridge, Popsicles and Teacher Gifts.</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>4. Spent \$69 on Welcome Pack supplies (Operational Exp)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>5. Additional Operational Expenses: \$225 (Website, Clover Device)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	September Meeting Summary		1. Made \$975 (less \$13.87 in Clover Fees) selling Spirit Wear (\$100 of "income" was prepay from Bonne/Kristen for Clover Credit) vs. \$134.85 for Stickers		2. \$1,471 collected from Direct Appeal (less \$11.13 in Clover Fees)		3. Spent \$865 to Stock the Fridge, Popsicles and Teacher Gifts.		4. Spent \$69 on Welcome Pack supplies (Operational Exp)		5. Additional Operational Expenses: \$225 (Website, Clover Device)			
September Meeting Summary															
1. Made \$975 (less \$13.87 in Clover Fees) selling Spirit Wear (\$100 of "income" was prepay from Bonne/Kristen for Clover Credit) vs. \$134.85 for Stickers															
2. \$1,471 collected from Direct Appeal (less \$11.13 in Clover Fees)															
3. Spent \$865 to Stock the Fridge, Popsicles and Teacher Gifts.															
4. Spent \$69 on Welcome Pack supplies (Operational Exp)															
5. Additional Operational Expenses: \$225 (Website, Clover Device)															

<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p><u>Homeroom Coordinator & Homeroom Helper</u> -Rachelle Picarello spoke -Still need coordinators for: Vinch (PreK), Dunn (PreK), Pacuta/Halbruner (Kindergarten), Brown (1st Grade), and Smoots (3rd Grade). We also could use Coordinators for Earle, Basmagy, and Taglairino. -There is a facebook page you can join if you're a BF Homeroom Coordinator. Please click this link to join. To volunteer as coordinator, send an email to Rachelle: rachelle@ellehcar.com</p> <p><u>Spirit Wear</u> -Rachelle Picarello spoke so far tie dye hoodie is a hot item -Spirit wear items can be found here -order forms are due October 7th</p> <p><u>Directory</u> -Megan Coopersmith spoke -all Ben Franklin families will receive a digital copy of the school directory that has all the student's names, teachers, and the parent/guardian email and phone numbers. -the directory is a great resource to plan playdates, school class parties, birthday parties, and organize teacher gifts. -To remove a parent/guardian email and/or phone number, please fill out this form by October 2nd.</p> <p><u>LTEF-Karen Faiman</u> -Lawrence Township Education Foundation has been around since 1992 and has given 4.4 million dollars to the Lawrence Township public schools -teachers and administrators that have ideas can apply to them through two different grant cycles with an idea that they want to bring to the school that isn't in the school's budget -LTEF typically gives \$150,000-\$170,000 each year 2 fundraisers this fall: 1. No Tricks Just Treats fundraiser (31 prizes and for \$10 you can enter) email info@ltefnj.org and ask where to buy them 2. Paint n Sip (juice) fundraiser happening October 8 at the Lawrence Fall Festival. The 4 elementary school PTOs are also helping with that event and the proceeds will be split amongst the PTOs and LTEF. Handbag bingo- Feb 24 at West Trenton ballroom. Tickets will go on sale in December and it sells out within a week and a half</p>
<p>New Business</p>	<p><u>Teacher Clubs</u> -Bonne Giglio spoke -Teacher club is an after school activity that children can sign up for. There is a fee. The fee gets split between the teacher and the PTO. Sign up with signupgenius and pay right away.</p>

Event chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Club cost is \$55/child for each club, except for Cupcake Club that is \$60/child. -Click here to view the club offerings -each week of club, you write a note to the teacher saying your child is staying after for the club and you will specify how to dismiss the child after club (car pickup, afterschool program) -Thursday Sept. 29th at 7pm the signupgenius goes live to sign up
New Business cont.	<p><u>Coin Wars</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Nicole Bottrel spoke -started September 19th and will go through October 14 so still a couple weeks left -winning class will get a pajama day, extra recess and popcorn -Rachelle will be counting jars for first time tonight and we will post the update on social media
Event chairs	<p><u>Fall Fest</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Megan Coopersmith spoke -Fall Fest is Sunday, October 16th from 1:30-4pm -The admission fee is \$5/child and adults are free. Admission includes games, crafts, magic show, and prizes from winning games. -There will be a magic show at 2:30 -Other activities will be Mummy Wrap Mr. Billy, pumpkin painting, can knock down, tug of war, bulb planting -There will be raffle baskets to try to win, 50/50 raffle, snacks and drinks to buy, and spirit wear to buy -We are in need of volunteers to help at the event. To volunteer, please email Megan at bfptorecordingsecretary@gmail.com -A signupgenius will be sent out with a list of stations that you can volunteer to help at during the event <p><u>Trunk or Treat</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Nicole Bottrel spoke -happens in parking lot on Friday Oct 28 6-7:30pm -free event -Families volunteer to be a trunk. This involves decorating your car trunk and purchasing candy and non-candy items to hand out to students and their siblings (younger and older siblings of BF student can attend) -if want to be a trunk, email bfptocorrespondingsecretary@gmail.com -rain date: Sat Oct 29 -winning trunk gets a prize <p>Mr. Billy mentioned: Halloween parade will be 1:15 on Monday Oct 31 outside the front of the school</p> <p>classroom parties are up to the teacher-how they do it and if they do it</p>

	<p>-BF PTO's weekly email newsletters-keeps going into spam folder so if you didn't receive it, please check your spam folder</p> <p>Committee Sign-Ups -We are in need of chairperson and/or volunteers for many events that are happening this school year: Book Fair, 3rd Grade Committee, Teacher Appreciation Meals, Dine to Donate, Parent Night Out, food drive, Fall Fest volunteers, Winter Wonderland, Book Exchange, Earth Day, Stream Cleanup -We have created a form to volunteer as a chairperson or a volunteer at some of the upcoming events happening during the first half of the school year. Please view the form here and sign up to volunteer. Thanks!</p>
<p>Questions or Comments</p> <p>All</p>	
<p>Announcements</p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p>-This was the first PTO meeting of the school year!</p> <p>-next PTO Meeting is October 17th at 7pm</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Thank you all for coming! Stay connected with us: Ben Franklin PTO Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/BFLawrNj Ben Franklin PTO Twitter: @bfpto Ben Franklin PTO website: http://bfpto.org/</p>