

Ben Franklin Elementary PTO

March 2023 Meeting Minutes

WHEN: Monday, March 13, 2023

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

START TIME: 7:03 pm **END TIME:** 7:45pm

Topic and Spokesperson	Discussion Points
Introductions Bonne Giglio	-Bonne Giglio-PTO President, Petra Crevier-VP1, Rachelle Picarello-VP2, Megan Coopersmith-Recording Secretary, -Nicole Bottrel-Corresponding Secretary, and Kristen Paladino-Treasurer (Nicole Bottrel absent from the meeting)
PTO President's Update Bonne Giglio	There has been a lot of stuff happening this past month! We will talk all about everything during this meeting.
Principal Update Mr. Billy	<p>Busy February and busy March. March is a busy long month with no days off from school</p> <p>Last week was a great week of school and then we had the St Baldrick's shave on Friday which was a wonderful event! Maureen Hayes brought a guest author to speak at the school and we had the chicks at our school.</p> <p>made over \$9,000 so far in St Baldrick's (third highest in the area) and tomorrow is Pie in the Face day! The Pie in the Face fundraiser has brought in about \$1600 so we broke \$10,000 that will be donated to St. Baldrick's.</p> <p>On March 22 at 6:30pm is DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) Night. Mrs. Menchu and Mrs. LaFlamme who are the Equity Champions will share the books and curriculum and how it is taught in the elementary school. This event is in person at the BF Library and it is for grown-ups only.</p> <p>On March 23 at 7pm in the BF Library, George Scott, a licensed family therapist, will come to talk about childhood anxiety and give parenting tips to support children. There</p>

	<p>will be a lot of question and answer time during the event and this event is for grown-ups only.</p> <p>On March 31, it is Teach Like a Pirate Day! He's organizing a school-wide activity in which students sign up and attend 2 mini-sessions to learn about something from fellow BF parents and guardians.</p> <p>Mr. Billy is looking for some parents/guardians to sign-up to create and run a lesson/activity with students. Here are the basics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Parents/Guardians volunteer to host a session or two at the school from 1:15-3:15pm on March 31st. -Each session is 50 minutes so plan the lesson/activity to take about 50 minutes -Each session would have about 20 children max in attendance (so if it's for 2 sessions, it is 40 maximum) -The lesson/activity can be anything you are interested in: a skill, hobby, passion, craft, cultural experience, or related to your occupation. -On March 31st, the students get the list of all lessons/activities being offered and then choose 2 sessions to attend during the afternoon! (Kindergarten students may travel as a class to different sessions) <p>To sign up to host a lesson/activity, go to: https://forms.gle/Bo1ukYW54yW27EUo6</p>
<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Kristen Paladino</p>	<p>Please scroll to the end of the Meeting Minutes for Kristen's Treasurer's Report</p> <p>-Kristen mentioned that PreK/Kindergarten and 2nd Grade have field trips scheduled. 1st and 3rd grades do not have their field trips scheduled yet so she asked Mr. Billy to ask them if they plan to schedule a field trip this year.</p>
<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p><u>Science Night</u> Bonne spoke low cost, easy going event good event for kids to learn about science that they could do at home</p> <p><u>Dine to Donate</u> Petra spoke Dine to Donate at Crave- Monday night and it was 10% and we made \$100 Dine to Donate at Taco Landia coming up on March 20-24 and there's a Ben Franklin special platter Shop to Donate at JaZams March 27-April 2. There's a coupon that families can use on the flyer Parents Night Out- got 43 paying children signed up and 1 volunteer. Paid about \$110 for the pizza, water and cookies</p>

<p>Committee Reports (cont.)</p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p><u>Book Exchange</u> Rachelle spoke people donated books and there were so many books that we were able to let each child pick 5 books We had to ration the chapter books. 2nd graders could get 1 and 3rd graders could get 2 chapter books we still have a lot of picture books leftover to use next year Added in more board books and sensory books this year for preschool, self contained classes, and for children to pick for younger siblings</p> <p><u>Third Grade Committee</u> Kristen spoke Ilana is collecting pictures for the yearbook. Megan said she would send her some Google Photos links to pictures she's taken the last few years of the current 3rd grade student (field days, assemblies, PTO events) pay-jama day next Friday which is a fundraiser for the 3rd grade party Party- face painter, balloon arch, DJ, food, prepackaged snacks, raffles</p>
<p>New Business</p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p>-Updated calendar is on our website, posted on our facebook page, and clickable HERE</p> <p><u>Spirit Wear</u> Rachelle spoke Spirit Wear sale closes on Friday We will not be running the Video Game shirt next sale (it is a limited edition selection!) so order it now if you want it Tie Dye Michaelangelo is big seller so far We hope to distribute to families the week after spring break. It's made to order so it takes time. See flyer</p> <p><u>Spring Clubs</u> Bonne spoke Clubs will be closing soon for clubs starting in March Teacher Clubs are bringing in a lot of money for the PTO which has been great</p> <p><u>Fun Run</u> Bonne spoke 10am on Sunday March 26th at high school track All registered runners will receive a personalized logo bag and a medal It is a costume Fun Run so you are encouraged to dress up in a costume Kids must pay to run and parents do not have pay to run with their child unless they also want a medal and swag bag Mrs. Cimorelli is doing the start and Jen Baldassari is doing the warm up stretching</p>

<p>New Business (cont.)</p> <p>Event chairs</p>	<p>Teacher Experience raffles will be at this event!!! This is the only time all year these raffles will be available. You can attend the event for free so if you would like to just come and try to win a raffle, you do not have to pay any admission fee!</p> <p>*early raffle!! The first 100 people to register for the Fun Run will be entered into a raffle of 2 FRONT ROW seats the the LMS Production of Beauty and the Beast for Saturday, March 25th's performance. Register for the run for a chance to win this prize!</p> <p>See flyer</p> <p><u>Teacher Appreciation Lunch Sponsored by 2nd Grade</u></p> <p>Petra spoke family favorite and international potluck families have been signing up so it looks like people are excited to show their family heritage in this meal</p> <p>-Teachers have food items they don't eat or food allergies so we are trying to list the ingredients so people know if they can eat -will have place cards to go with the food as well -2nd grade families can sign up to send in an item here</p> <p><u>Book Fair</u></p> <p>Kristen spoke April 18-April 22 The theme is mythical creatures! (unicorns, dragons, mermaids, etc) There will be an Earth Day activity on Saturday called "Read a Book and Plant a Seed of Knowledge"-kids will be planting seeds in glass jars to take home!</p> <p>*Save the Date!*</p> <p><u>Carnival</u> Sunday, May 21 from 1-4pm See flyer</p> <p>Trenton Thunder-Thursday, June 15</p>
<p>Questions or Comments</p> <p>All</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Announcements</p> <p>Bonne Giglio</p>	<p>-next PTO Meeting is April 11 at 7pm</p>

Adjournment	<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>
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March Treasurer’s Report by Kristen Paladino:

3/13 Meeting Summary
1. Made Payment for Winter Teacher Clubs (\$5,470). Paid Deposit for 2nd Grade Field Trip to Snipes (\$50) and funded Author Visit for 3rd Grade (\$150).
2. Science Night (FREE for Families) cost \$162.19. Spent \$151 on Classroom Tissues, Birthday Basket Completion and Valentine’s Day Cookies for Teachers.
3. Collected \$702 for Amerikick Fundraiser and \$300 from Amazon Smiles.
4. Pre-Paid \$1100 for Fun Run and Carnival. Bought Checks (\$49).
5. Began receiving Spirit Wear Payments (\$100 total, vs. \$2 in Clover Fees).

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Teacher Appreciation Monthly		
September	\$ 106.63	Back to School Gift
October	\$ 46.65	Mr. Billy
November	\$ 81.86	Vel’s Day Breakfast + Honey BEE
December	-	
January	-	
February	\$ 105.74	Tissues, Birthday Kits & Cookies for Vday
March		
April		
May		
June		
Total	\$ 340.88	
Budget	\$ 1,000.00	
Remaining	\$ 659.12	

Ben Franklin PTO 2022-2023

*updated 3/6/23

Budget Categories

Income Categories	2021-2022	Recommended	Actual 2022-2023	Dif	Notes
Box Tops	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 133.29	\$ 133.29	
Cash Donations	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,182.26	\$ (17.74)	
Coin Wars Income	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,226.75	\$ 1,226.75	\$ -	
Color Run Income	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 540.00	\$ (1,460.00)	
Dine to Donate Income	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,191.58	\$ (308.42)	*132 carr
End of Year Camival Income	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ (3,000.00)	
Fundraising Activity Income	\$ 300.00	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,231.96	\$ (168.04)	
Grade Level Teacher Appreciation Luncheon	\$ 3,000.00		\$ -	\$ -	<-pass t
Insurance Refund/Reimbursements			\$ 1,590.20	\$ 1,590.20	
Fall Fest Income		\$ 1,454.50	\$ 1,454.50	\$ -	
Field Trip Offset Income			\$ -	\$ -	
Income Category 20			\$ -	\$ -	
Other Income	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 204.42	\$ 4.42	
Raffle/Gaming Income	\$ 350.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 152.00	\$ (98.00)	
Scholastic Book Fair Income	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 4,065.06	\$ (2,434.94)	<-pass t
Spirit Wear Income	\$ 4,300.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 8,478.80	\$ (1,521.20)	
Teacher Clubs Income	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 35,036.80	\$ 5,036.80	
Third Grade Party Fundraising	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 727.61	\$ (272.39)	<-pass t
Trenton Thunder Income		\$ 2,200.00	\$ -	\$ (2,200.00)	
Expense Categories	2021-2022	Recommended	Actual 2022-2023	Dif	Notes
Assemblies		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 590.00	\$ 410.00	
Cash Donations - Fees			\$ 35.23	\$ (35.23)	
Coin Wars Expenses		\$ 46.77	\$ 46.77	\$ -	
Color Run Expenses	\$ 904.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 632.39	\$ 267.61	
Day of Service	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
End of Year Camival Expenses	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 511.23	\$ 2,488.77	
Fall Fest Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,175.39	\$ 1,175.39	\$ -	
Field Trips	\$ -	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 505.00	\$ 6,995.00	
Fundraising Activity Expenses		\$ 700.00	\$ 497.68	\$ 202.32	
Grade Level Teacher Appreciation Luncheon Expenses			\$ -	\$ -	<-pass t
Insurance Expenses	\$ 499.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,082.83	\$ (82.83)	
Misc Family School Activities	\$ 200.00	\$ 355.30	\$ 355.30	\$ -	
Misc In-School Activities Expenses			\$ 26.60	\$ (26.60)	
Operating Expenses		\$ 500.00	\$ 553.22	\$ (53.22)	
Other Expenses			\$ 459.22	\$ (459.22)	*offset by
Postage & Postage			\$ -	\$ -	
Raffle/Gaming Expenses			\$ -	\$ -	
Scholastic Book Fair Expenses	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,396.64	\$ 603.36	
Screen Free Week Expenses	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	
Spirit Wear Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 10,500.00	\$ 6,511.20	\$ 3,988.80	
Teacher Appreciation Activity	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 3,100.00	\$ 997.89	\$ 2,102.11	>>>>
Teacher Appreciation Lunch	\$ 5,000.00		\$ -	\$ -	
Teacher Club Expenses	\$ 7,459.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 12,650.62	\$ 5,849.38	
Teacher Request Fund	\$ 1,512.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 833.49	\$ 666.51	
Third Grade End of Year	\$ 4,630.00	\$ 5,727.61	\$ -	\$ 5,727.61	
Treasurer Expenses			\$ -	\$ -	
Trenton Thunder Expenses		\$ 1,400.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	
Trunk or Treat	\$ 250.00	\$ 103.29	\$ 103.29	\$ -	
Volunteer Appreciation		\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	
Winter Event	\$ 750.00	\$ 663.26	\$ 663.26	\$ -	
Income Total	\$ 37,950.00	\$ 64,931.25	\$ 60,215.23	\$ (4,716.02)	
Expenses Total	\$ 38,754.00	\$ 64,421.62	\$ 34,327.25	\$ 30,094.37	
NET	\$ (804.00)	\$ 509.63	\$ 25,887.98	\$ (34,810.39)	