



Ben Franklin Academy PTO Meeting Recap

Date: 9/15/14 Called to order by Kimberly Kent at 6:34pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

OFFICER REPORTS

- Welcome
- When you get an email from PTO@bfacademy the person sending will be listed in signature first.
- Will have PTO tables at parent-teacher conferences. Will send out signup genius soon.
- Kimberly/Shana to give list to Paige about what PTO officer emails are needed.

Secretary: Halsley Hoff

- Vote List Review
- Halsley motion to approve By-Laws, Kimberly second. All 7 officers in favor
- Reminder to all chairs & coordinators who haven't signed conflict of interest forms to please do so.

Treasurer: Jen Jones

- Current balance around \$45,000.
- Has reimbursements and is working on them. Hope to have them done by end of week.
- If you have concession stands or events coming up if you need cash please give her advanced notice.

Lunch Coordinator: Pamela Betts

- Lunch going well. Lots of volunteers coming in this week due to 2 staff members out on vacation.
- Lanyards for K-3 are in and the students are wearing.
- Concern that there isn't very much space for the large 3rd grade class
 - Yes it is crowded but there is space for all of them.
 - Teachers had requested to keep 2nd on the west end of the gym. Pam will touch base with Asst Principal Mrs. Spencer to determine if good idea to switch sides.
- Cookie Monday's
 - They cost extra and only offered on Mondays.
 - Why are we doing that
 - Extra money to DCSD – helps cover the cost of the kitchen staff
 - Can put notes on the account to not give cookies, doubles, chocolate milk, etc.
 - Students can't get more than one cookie
- Menu doesn't list all choices that are available
- What happens when there are no sides?

- According to student lunch ran out of fries for 5th grade.
- When that happens
 - Staff will steer kids to another choice
 - Tries to keep numbers close

Fundraising Coordinator: Tiffani Titus

FUN RUN

- Voted on APEX as our Fun Run company for 2014.
- Oct 21st – Pep Rally
 - Collection websites and information will come home with students that day
- October 30th is fun run!!!
- Meeting with Nick again Friday 9/19 to hammer out details.
- Going to be fun and will focus not only on fundraising but also character development, fitness, etc.
- As you get more information please spread the word. This event will replace our BENefit Bash and is major fundraiser of the year.
- Initial talk was to include with Halloween parties on the 31st.
 - We want this event to be a separate event so the focus can be 100% on the Fun Run.
 - Want the Halloween parties to be their own event.

BRICK PROGRAM

- Families have purchased bricks and unhappy they haven't been laid yet
- Roll program back out in January.

Brainstorm regarding parking spots

- Save one spot for BENefit Bash and do remaining in Online Auction to be done in spring along with front row parking spots. Kimberly motion, Jen 2nd. All 7 officers in favor.

Social Coordinators: Mindy Pooler & Kim Stockton

- Huge thank you to Gwen Feifarek, NJHS volunteers, parent volunteers and the baking committee (we had over 125 cakes for the cake walk).
- Over 900 people attended
- Donation from Kona Ice was \$141, Anthony's pizza pending.
- 17 families were given free tickets for having over 30 volunteer hours
- Any suggestions/tips/etc please send to the social committee
 - Food Trucks?

NEW BUSINESS

Box Tops/Soup Labels Coordinator – Patti Vessa

- Since the beginning of the program have raised over \$10K!!!
- New collection ziplock bags and flyers going out in Thursday folders
- Very little participation from Middle School
 - Middle school students doing COACH program. Patti will touch base with Diana to incorporate into that program?
- Will put together a flyer about the program and all the different labels/items we collect – Serena to coordinate with Patti

- Fundraising committee to review before incorporating into program:
 - Loafs for Learning – Country Hearth Breads
 - Kellogs Family Rewards

Baking Committee Coordinator – Mandy Dolittle

- 9/23 Bake Sale is not a baking committee task, but from Baking Elective.
- Mrs. Carson would like to request \$75 to purchase baking supplies for the elective.
- Shana motioned to use \$75 from Mrs. Carson's "auction fund". Carrie 2nd. All 7 officers in favor.

Spirit Wear Chairs – Lisa Fischer & Lisa Watanabe

- August & September very busy months! BFA Registration days 102 items were sold and at back to school nights – 74 items.
- A few orders are still waiting due to vendors. As soon as items are coming in they are filling. If one item from order is backordered they will fill the rest.
- Restocking to have items on hand for Parent Teacher conferences.
- Rolling rack with sizes was very nice
- Will need ipads for the PTO tables at conferences in order to track inventory

Student Achievement Chair – Amber Clendening

- Feedback she is getting is that teachers did not enjoy the Ben Bucks program. They didn't want to do it last year – don't want to do it this year. Feel kids are being rewarded for good behavior they should already be doing.
- Most teachers already have rewards in place already in their classroom.

New idea...

- Do something that goes along with virtue of month – little note, pencil. Every student gets one.
- Vote on change in program. Shana motion to eliminate Ben Bucks program with new positive reinforcement program based upon virtues. Carrie 2nd. All 7 officers in favor.

OPEN COMMENTS

- Amazon Smile program – yes we are signed up for it. Kimberly/Shana will check and report back.

1) Yearbook Chair – Katie Devlin

- Want to start yearbook sales as soon as we can. Start marketing now!
- Very excited to be working with Walsworth. All orders will go through their site.
- Start prices at \$25 now and increase to \$30 January 1 and again March 1.
- Dedications – same as last year. 8th grade pictures & words, lower classes just words.
 - Word Dedications - \$10
 - 8th Grade Dedications - \$15

2) STEM Committee requested PTO support them financially for Destination Imagination. 10 teams – possibly more. Total cost \$1,450 to cover registration. Shana motion to fund STEM \$1,450 to cover, Pam 2nd, all 7 officers in favor.

PTO Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month beginning at 6:30pm in the BFA Library. Please join us for our next meeting – Monday, October 20th