**BEN FRANKLIN ACADEMY PARENT-TEACHER ORGANIZATION**

**2024 PTO ELECTIONS - CANDIDATE BIOS**

**Andreya Flanigan for Vice President**

**Number of children enrolled at BFA:** 3

**Grade of each child:** 1st/2nd/4th

**How long has your family been at BFA?** 5 years

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** 7

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** I love being involved in the school and being a part of this amazing community.

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** I am passionate about BFA and serving the parents, students and staff. I am a great team member and believe that it is an important characteristic serving on the PTO. I am a hard worker. I am friendly and enjoy meeting new people in the community. Serving on the PTO for the past 3 years is beneficial to this position, as I have been able to see how this role served the community, the parents, and other team members.

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** I have been a room parent for 4 years, volunteering in the art room, science, classroom and attending school field trips. I have served on the Executive Board for the PTO for the past 2 years as Fundraising Coordinator.

**Is there anything else you would like to share?** If elected I am looking forward to an amazing 2024-2025 school year and know that there are many great things ahead for BFA!

**Kelly Dees for Secretary**

**Number of children enrolled at BFA** - 1 daughter

**Grade of each child** - Eleanor "Lindy" is currently in 6th grade

**How long has your family been at BFA?** This is our second year at Ben Franklin Academy, and we are so grateful for the opportunity to have our daughter attend!

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** 7

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** I initially expressed interest in the BFA PTO as a means to learn about BFA from a parents perspective and as a chance to meet other families being a new BFA parent. I was immediately welcomed by the group and its leaders and included in the responsibilities from the first meeting and on. I never was made to feel "new" or that I had to prove myself to be part of the group. I was respected and was nominated and elected for the Secretary position for the 2023-2024 school year. It was a one year term, and while I am coming to the end of that term I would like to run again for the position as I feel I “have the hang of it now” and can continue to be successful in the role. We are so happy to be part of the BFA community and the change in schools has been wonderful for our daughter. The structure, curriculum and values taught at BFA are exactly what we were seeking in an education. I want to continue to give back to the school and share with others just how valuable the BFA experience is for a child.

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** I have served in the position for a year now and because it is right up my alley! Professionally I have always been involved in operations and structure of businesses. I believe I am a very organized personal and function best in a structured environment. I am thorough with the creation and implementation of procedures. Any position I have ever held on volunteer boards or committees is that of secretary or a similar position.

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** Other than being part of the BFA PTO, I have helped in Lindy's classroom, helped to organize class parties and volunteered in the Art Room.

**Is there anything else you would like to share?** I am very excited by the prospect of continuing to be part of the PTO and giving back to the BFA Community!

**Erin Wiley for Fundraising Coordinator**

**Number of Children enrolled in BFA** - I have 2 children at BFA.

**Grade of each child** - Remi is currently in Kindergarten and Wyatt is in 2nd grade.

**How long has your family been at BFA?** This is our third year at BFA.

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** I think I have attended ~5 meetings this year.

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** I am interested in serving on the BFA PTO so I can be more involved with the school that my kids are attending and will be attending for many years to come. The school has already provided so much for my two kids, and I would like to be able to give back to the school as well. I also want to learn more about the organization that my kids are part of for the majority of their days.

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** I think I would be a good fit for the Fundraising Coordinator position because I have multiple degrees in business, am very organized and driven, and I truly want to help the school continue to raise money so we can make enhancements for our teachers and students. I also want to be part of something that helps build a strong, friendly community around all of our children, and I think that happens with the events that take place through our school.

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** I was the Trunk or Treat coordinator and a Room Parent for the past two years, and I am the Daisy Co-Leader for the kindergarten girls this year, which included being the Cookie Parent as well. I try to volunteer as much as my schedule allows, and I plan to do even more around the school during this upcoming year. I currently have over 100 hours of volunteer time, and I have enjoyed everything that I have been a part of.

**Is there anything else you would like to share?** I am very interested in being part of the PTO's executive team and learning more of the ins and outs of the school. I appreciate having the opportunity to run for this position, and I plan to be an asset to the PTO whether in this position or a different one.

**Ewelina Chrzanowski for Social Coordinator**

**Number of Children enrolled in BFA** - 3

**Grade of each child** - 8th grade, 3rd grade and pre-k

**How long has your family been at BFA?** We have been at BFA for 4 years

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** 5 PTO meetings attended

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?**

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?**

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?**

**Is there anything else you would like to share?**

I am interested in continuing serving on the PTO to continue to stay involved with BFA. I have been in this position the last two years and have enjoyed planning sweetheart ball, Franklin Fest, spring social, 8th grade dinner, and organizing Ben's Birthday celebration. I have loved being involved in these events as well as helping in other events.

**Katie Duncan for Birthdya Committee Chair**

**Number of children enrolled at BFA:** 2 children

**Grade of each child:** Owen (6th) and Kendall (4th)

**How long has your family been at BFA?** 8 years

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-2024?** 3 meetings, so far

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** Our family adores Ben Franklin Academy and I want to give back to this amazing school community and our incredible teachers and staff in a meaningful way.

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** Celebration is my middle name. Celebrating any and all of life's special moments is a passion of mine. BFA's teachers and staff are so deserving of feeling loved and appreciated, especially on their birthdays, and I'd love to make a big impact in this very special way.

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** In previous years, I've loved spending time in the classroom, helping teachers and staff in any way needed. I also lead a BFA Girl Scout troop and enjoy nurturing the hearts and spirit of the girls, along with supporting them in giving back to our school and community.

**Is there anything else you would like to share?** Helping people feel seen, loved and celebrated is truly one of my greatest gifts. I would be honored to serve BFA in this way.

**Dana Smith for Restaurant/Spirit Night Committee Chair**

**Number of children enrolled at BFA:** 2 now, 3 in Fall 2024

**Grade of each child:**  3rd and 1st, in the fall will have 4th, 2nd, and Kindergarten

**How long has your family been at BFA?** This year is our second year.

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** I think 5.

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** I want to make a school-wide impact for our kids. I am the spirit night coordinator this year so am willing to continue with the role.

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** I am the spirit night coordinator this year so I am familiar with the position and I think I have some good ideas about which events to repeat/where to try something new/when to arrange the spirit nights throughout the year.

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** I helped last year with the Benefit Bash and have been an assistant room parent this year. I also volunteer in the classroom, library, or at specials when I can.

**Is there anything else you would like to share?** I am also interested in helping with the Benefit Bash again next year.

**Cara Brzezicki for Teacher Appreciation Committee Chair**

**Number of children enrolled at BFA:** 2 children

**Grade of each child:** 7th and 4th

**How long has your family been at BFA?** 7 years

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** All but 3 

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** 1. I really love helping others, 2. I love our teachers and staff, 3. I love the PTO community

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** I believe I would be a good fit because I absolutely love serving our teachers and staff. I have been the Teacher Appreciation Chair for two years and would love to continue to serve the teachers, staff, school, and PTO ️

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** I love volunteering at the parties when I can and I often volunteer for the library.

**Is there anything else you would like to share?** I really love this community and I really love this position, so to stay on would be such an honor.

**Uniform Consignment Committee Chair - no nominations, searching for candidate**

**Abby Jenson for Virtues Awareness Committe Chair**

**Number of children enrolled at BFA**: 2

**Grade of each child:** Kindergarten and second grade

**How long has your family been at BFA?** 3 years

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** I have attended 6 meetings.

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** I want to be more involved in the school build a community for my kids here.

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** I am organized and love to send cards. I have done the virtues for the last year and feel like I could continue in this current role.

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** I am a current room mom and have volunteered every year that we have been here.

**Erin Boardman for Yearbook**

**Number of children enrolled at BFA:** 2 kids

**Grade of each child:**  Logan- 5th grade,Sierra- 2nd grade

**How long has your family been at BFA?** We've been at BFA for 6 years!

**How many PTO Meetings have you attended in 2023-24?** I haven't been to as many meetings this year as I would have liked, because of my kids swim team practices, but I've attended maybe 4 this year.

**Why are you interested in serving on the BFA PTO?** I’ve been helping with Yearbook for the past 4 years.

**Why do you think you would be a good fit for this position?** I'm a visual person, so Yearbook is a good fit for me. I enjoy cropping and editing photos and love seeing the yearbook come together as a finished product.

**In what other ways have you been involved at BFA?** I volunteer for parties, field trips, classroom activities, and help at used uniform sales, when I'm able to.