



BEDMINSTER TOWNSHIP SCHOOL



Parent Teacher Organization Meeting Minutes

www.bedminsterpto.org
pto@bedminsterschool.org

February 9, 2021

Start time: 7:06pm

Welcome and Comments – Danielle Fredella, President

- Welcome everyone and thank you for coming.

Principal's Report: Corby Swan

- Thank you for your patience, flexibility, and your reading of our eblast communications.
- Bedminster School 2nd Grade Teacher Mrs. McFarland has been recognized as the Governor's Educator of the Year. I made this announcement on Wednesday, January 27th at a virtual assembly for students and staff who viewed it as a YouTube Premiere.
Mrs. McFarland has been with the district as an elementary teacher since 2013 teaching both Kindergarten and 2nd Grade. She has been a key member of numerous committees including the Professional Development Committee, School Climate Team, and Math Committee just to name a few.
Her peers describe her as a team player who keeps her students' best interest first.
Congratulations to Mrs. McFarland on this prestigious honor!
- Parent Teacher Conferences will be held Wednesday through Friday of this week. Wednesday and Thursday conferences are scheduled for 6 - 8pm and Friday conferences are scheduled for 8:45 - 10:45 am. Our teachers are looking forward to giving and receiving some helpful feedback regarding your children.
- Back by popular demand is the Principal's Character Lunch Award. Last week I had lunch with an amazing Kindergarten student who was nominated for displaying three pillars of character: Respect, Caring, and Responsibility. This week, I will have lunch with a 1st grade student.
- Tuesday March 2nd is **National Read Across America Day**, which was established by the **National Education Association (NEA)** in 1998 to help get kids excited about **reading**. Bedminster School is in the process of planning activities for the week of March 1st through 5th and more information regarding that will be communicated to you.
- From January 25th through 29th, Bedminster School participated in The Great Kindness Challenge, a weeklong program dedicated to creating a culture of kindness and compassion in communities worldwide. Each day of the week had a theme, and last week we received a certificate and were

recognized as a Kindness Certified School. Many thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Infante, our elementary school counselor who took the lead in our school's involvement with this program.

- Lastly, I want to thank the PTO for all that they do and especially for giving our teachers a platform and opportunity to do these presentations during our School Family Partnership Series. We started with Mrs. Alfieri and Ms. Spero on Helping Your Child Learn to Read, then transitioned to Dr. Puglia and Ms. Skiba on Ways to maximize Digital and Virtual Learning, and tonight we are pleased to have Title Talk with Ms. Mancini. Thank you to the PTO for all that you do for our school!

Principal's Report: Elizabeth Omegna

Nothing new to report, see Mr. Swan's report above

Teacher Representative – Chuck Hogan – not present

Board of Education Report – Giovanna Lamiera

- New Bernards Ed BOE President is Heather Santoro
- Met January 21, 2021
- MP2 there were 175 students choosing to be virtual.
- Conferences scheduled for this week.
- MP3 recess will be back on for everyone.
- Immunizations are overdue. Please spread the word that these must be updated and reported to the school nurse ASAP.
- Mr. Swan is starting the character lunch once again for grades 1-4
- Volunteer information for older students must email Dr. O for volunteer hours and information.
- Wellness week is March 22-26
- Allergy Awareness week will be held from May 3- May 7

Correspondence and Minutes – Marissa Nolfi, Secretary

- All PTO Meeting Minutes Reports can be found on our websites & social media
- A thank you from Jackie McFarland for gift and greeting card from PTO for winning the Educator of the Year award. Congratulations!

Treasurer's Report – Ramsey Melendez, Treasurer

- Report is available on PTO website www.bedminsterpto.org
- 50/50 Raffle has separate account.
- Inflows: Leftover money from homeroom parents last year as we did not have end of year parties, gifts for the teachers, not all class baskets were made for Spring Fling. We collected that money totaling \$907. and \$1400 (separated cash from checks) and we will hold that for Spring Fling baskets for this year or definitely next year.
- 55 new teacher memberships
- Box Tops check received for \$171.00

- Outflows: Recess games provided by PTO, Gift certificate for Mrs. McFarland
- Total Balance \$48,308.13
- PTO will be collecting memberships via **Paypal friends and family** at btsptotreasury@gmail.com Ramsey Melendez

New Business

Spring Fling: Friday, April 30, 2021: Laura Kamrow

- **Volunteers needed for all commitment types**
- Eblast went out regarding Spring Fling Updates
- Mailer will go out by end of February with more information regarding SF
- This year Spring Fling will be limited to an online silent auction as well as our 50/50 raffle.
- Raffle will take place on our Spring Fling date which is April 30, 2021
- Silent auction will take place during the week leading up to April 30th
- Please keep your eyes open for all of the information you will need to access our 2021 Spring Fling silent auction and 50/50

Anyone interested in volunteering in any way, please email LauradeZutter@yahoo.com

Board Election: Danielle Fredella

Re-election Positions:

- Danielle Fredella – President – seeking 2nd term
- Meghan Schulze – Vice President – seeking 2nd term
- Marissa Nolfi – Secretary – seeking 2nd term

Seeking Election

- Lisa Cohen – Treasurer

*Anyone interested in running for any of the upcoming Board positions for the 2021-2022 school year must let the Board know, in writing, no later than March 9, 2021. Elections will be held at the April PTO meeting.

Title Talk Presentation: Miss Mancini

Please follow the link below to view Miss Mancini's Presentation: Title Talk

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1PF4y9Qe9nrQzLxKRUtuuHC5183gWiBVlbk-qviC-njc/edit#slide=id.g35f391192_00

The link can also be found on the PTO's website as well as all of our social media platforms.

Thank you, Miss Mancini for a wonderful and in formative presentation!!

Public Questions & Comments:

This portion will be held to a 15-minute limit. We politely ask that each speaker limit his or her time to 5 minutes for comments and/or questions in regard to any Agenda point or any other topic related to the PTO. If any written documents are to be given to the PTO Executive Board, please email them to the Board Secretary, Marissa Nolfi, 2 days in advance of the meeting date. pto@bedminsterschool.org

Old Business

Digital/Virtual Learning Presentation: Miss Skiba & Dr. Puglia

- Link to this presentation can be found on our websites and on our social media platforms.
- Link to Google Slideshow:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/e/2PACX-1vToW7Dygg14La2wMO1_KiC3Lo8c_HFjo7DP21qN-a-DNXMz7irYx7ZgYj4K-dVWt78bLCx_NDDRjAo/pub?start=false&loop=false&delayms=3000&slide=id.gabbc18e2d3_0_0
- Please email Miss Skiba at miskiba@bedminsterschool.org or Dr. Puglia at jpulgia@bedminsterschool.org with any questions or should you need any assistance with virtual learning.

Huge Thank you to Miss Skiba & Dr. Puglia for this amazing slideshow Presentation!

CardMyYard:

- Contact Info: Marisa & Corey Hovanec (908) 336-2626 baskingridge@cardmyyard.com
- Facebook: @cardmyyardbaskingridge Instagram: @cardmyyard_baskingridge
- Most recent sign was a Welcome to Dr. Omega.
- We will continue to work with Marissa going forward as the signs are very fun and exciting and the company come highly recommended

Ongoing Committees

PTO Membership: Executive Board

- \$15 per Family
- Memberships fees will be collected virtually through Paypal friends & family using the email btsptotreasury@gmail.com
- Forms can also be found on website and all current Newsletters

PTO Meeting Schedule:

- Danielle will not be hosting a March PTO meeting as there is not much for the PTO to report. Through communication with Mr. Swan and Dr. O, the decision is that they will report to parents and families anything of importance. We will be back April 13th.

- **April 13th, 7:00pm - link to follow**
- **May 11th, 7:00pm - link to follow**
- **June 8th, 7:00pm - link to follow**

<http://www.bedminsterpto.org/meeting-dates.html>

****Please note: All meetings are subject to change at any time. All meetings until further notice will be held virtually through Google Meet.**

Assemblies: Sonia Marto

- Chair people needed (at least 2) reach out to any member of the Executive PTO Board to volunteer.
- We look forward to getting back on track and making the next school year one of the best with assemblies for our children as they have missed out on so much this year.
- No assemblies at this time due to COVID-19 state guidelines

Bulletin Boards: Faith Costabile & Danielle Fredella

- At a halt as there is no one allowed into the building due to COVID-19 restrictions.
<http://www.bedminsterpto.org/bulletin-boards.html>

Bedminster Charities Fall Fest (BCFF): Meriah Valente

- **Chair People needed.**
- **Cancelled for 2020**
- **Seven local charities benefit from the proceeds and the PTO is one of them!**

CIC, The HUB: Anna Spitalari - not present reported by Danielle Fredella

- Meaningful and educational volunteer opportunities for Middle School students are offered throughout the year at Community in Crisis, The Hub; for information please email: Info@communityin crisis.org. ● <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/cic-the-hub.html>

SH Municipal Alliance: Anna Spitaleri- not present

- nothing to report

Cub Scouts Pack #1749 : Steve Frantz

- Contact Cub Scout leader directly at: stevefranz@gmail.com
- Hosting Pinewood Derby.

Donations & Corporate Matching: Executive Board

- We are extremely fortunate to have a handful of families that consider us when their companies offer a corporate matching program.
- PTO is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity
- Amazon Smile Program: Bedminster PTO can be chosen as your charity to receive 0.05% of qualified purchases

Helping Hands: Suzie Stevinson

- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/helping-hands.html>

Homerom Parents: Ramsey Melendez

- Reach out to Ramsey to become a Homerom Parent
- HRP is up & running for the 20-21 school year! Class Lists have been received and HRP's notified.
- Teachers have sent out information on behalf of all HRP's to students' parents for gathering information.
- Thank you to all HR parents who have signed up and gathered the information as well as created class lists to communicate with one another.
- Still awaiting information from a few upper grade teachers, Mr. Swan will follow up.
- Main responsibility for this year, due to COVID circumstances and no parents being allowed into the building, is to collect parent information, generate a contact list and send it out to each parent in the class as well as share any PTO information as given by Danielle, the PTO President.
- HRP's will not be asking for donations at this point this year (again due to COVID circumstances) which is usually collected at B2SN. We will revisit this spring
- Donations will be used for Teacher Appreciation week and End of Year Gifts to teachers.
- Thank you to all who have volunteered their time to the teachers and children!
- <http://www.bedminsterpto.org/homerom-parent.html>

PR/Social Media/Website: Ramsey Melendez

- Please check all social media for updates within the district regarding schedule changes and to follow all the latest news.
- Please search our platforms for our teacher presentations.
- Check for parent teacher conference schedule
- Communication is always on Social Media. All platforms have been very busy to keep our Bulldogs/Bulldog Families well informed.
- www.bedminsterpto.org
- Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
- Dates & times and all information can be found on social media
- Facebook is our highest viewed platform
- Like us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter

Spirit Wear: Jessica Pasquale & Melissa Kircher

- A very great response this year with a profit of \$984.00
- Minor modifications and changes to our logo. Approved by Mr. Swan. The new design is similar to a Varsity "B" which ties in and leads onto Bernards High School.
- All purchases were shipped on November 6th.

8th Grade:

- TBA

Public Questions & Comments:

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Closing Notes: Danielle Fredella

Reminder: no March meeting, resume in April

Next meeting will be April 13th, 2021

Subject to change. Link coming soon.

Meeting Closed at 8:09pm

COMMENTS – We welcome any comments from the floor. However, please direct any questions specifically pertaining to your child(ren) to the appropriate person after the meeting or to the appropriate administrator during school hours. This meeting is recorded for the purpose of writing minutes and to have a factual record of the meeting once minutes are submitted.

