

Benjamin PTO Meeting Minutes

August 28th, 2023

IMC @ Benjamin

- 2023-2024 Benjamin PTO board
 - President - Candace Free
 - Opened the meeting and mentioned the audit of the prior year financials
 - Vice President- Alicia Wheeler
 - New to the Board
 - Treasurer- Jordan Carpenter
 - Not able to attend
 - Secretary - Jen Kirkpatrick
 - Reviewed responsibilities and shared that the PTO is part of the Benjamin website
- Guest Speaker - Renee Beard from Cunningham Recreation plans to attend our meeting to discuss the playground shade structure options and answer any questions.
 - Woodchips make it difficult for students in wheelchairs to get around
 - Not currently funded - Pour and place rubber. \$68K for a small portion of the playground
 - Rivian Grant: The area for the inclusive playground was chosen to be able to easily use the sidewalk in full for the access to the musical panels, lower play items and swings for those that can move from mobility device to the swing. Plan to purchase 2 swings – can be used by all kids, so you can an inclusive swing area; going in the existing swing structure in the last bay closest to the sidewalk. Around \$3K each. Also, will purchase some musical panels, as part of the inclusive playground plan. Can put in swings and musical panels this year
 - PTO Funds: Hyperbolic Shade Structure is 20ft x 20ft with 10ft eave - \$8K - can carry a 5lb snow load, 95 mph winds, recommend taking the fabric down in the winter and tighten it in the spring, quick release system to put up and take down; may need to relocate an item or two to make it work.
 - 2 benches \$1K/ea to go under the shade structure
 - \$12.5K for the total shade structure and benches
 - The PTO would like to review with the Benjamin families on the Shade Structure plans in the next PTO meeting on September 18th, 2023
- Principal Report - Mrs. Bozarth
 - Introduced herself
 - Thanked the PTO for the food on institute day
 - Mentioned enhancements and updates the playground.
 - \$15K generous donation from Rivian
 - More projects underway
 - Imaginative play ideas
 - Will be at the Unit office on Sept 5th to discuss the maintenance needs of the District Office
- Teacher Report – Mrs. Staver
 - Reached out to the teachers – really appreciated the initial donations for each teacher at the beginning of the year, food for institute day and funding of drinking water for the facility

Committee Reports

- Dine to Donate – Rhendy Bradshaw
 - Not available but looking for a dine to donate in September
- Carnival – Alicia Wheeler
 - Looking for a Co-Chair to help Lead
 - Looking for additional event volunteers
 - Need co-chair with Callie Olivares for games
 - Need co-chair with April Steigerwald for baskets
- Hospitality - Callie Olivares / Holly Carpenter
 - Kindergarten and 5th Grade recognition
 - Once a month early out snacks
 - Babies, weddings, and retirements
 - Teacher Appreciation week
 - Institute day food from Chick- Fil -A
- Room Parent Coordinator & Volunteer Coordinator – April Steigerwald
 - Last year to serving in this role
 - Might already have a backfill but could use additional volunteer
 - Classroom parties, teacher gifts, Carnival Basket, Fall Pictures, Book Fairs, etc
- Spirit Wear – Kelly Smoak
 - Orders 2 or 3 times a year
 - Order should be available within the next couple weeks
 - Feel free to share ideas on what you'd like to order or what was an excellent option
- School Directory – Julie Heinold (last year) / Tarin Stoker – shadowing this year
 - Waiting for the final changes in school enrollment
 - Will send out a couple times a year
 - First time is usually in September
- Bear-ly Used Spirit Wear – Julie Heinold (last year)
 - Recycle the gently used clothing, by donating your items in the basket by the office.
 - There is an online site to go and buy those items at a significantly reduced price– posted usually mid fall timeframe.
- Unraiser – Julie Heinold (last year)
 - Instead of having the kids selling wrapping paper, chocolates, popcorn etc....you give a one time donation instead! Great way to donate to the school without the hassle of deliveries.
- Fun Run – Jen Kirkpatrick
 - Looking for co-chair and 6-8 volunteers
 - 6-8 Parent Volunteer to Cheer on Racers, Timing, Games and Snacks
 - Looking at the timeframe of Sept/Oct
- Grounds Committee – Ashley Cravens and Zac Braden
 - Grant application for seedlings for moon trees

- Will need to work with the district for the area.
- If needed, we can look at setting up a budget for grounds.
- Looking to paint the basketball backboards.
- We can start a list of needs to support the grounds
- Mrs Bozarth to look into the treatment of the grass
- Supply Kits – Marla Call (last year) and Agnieszka Rosinski
 - Wrapped up for the year

Please watch the [PTO Facebook Page for 2022-2023 School Year](#) or reach out to benjaminelementarypto@gmail.com for questions!

Motion to Adjourn – Callie and Candace

Ideas: Donation options to say what you want the funds

PTO Dates: Meeting Times are always 5:30-6:30PM use the “Add to Calendar” link **from your personal computer** (will not work on phone devices) to add to your calendars.

August 28th, 2023 – [Add to Calendar](#)

September 18th, 2023 - [Add to Calendar](#)

October 16th, 2023 - [Add to Calendar](#)

November 20th, 2023 - [Add to Calendar](#)

December 18th, 2023 - [Add to Calendar](#)

January 22nd, 2024 - [Add to Calendar](#)

February 26th, 2024 - [Add to Calendar](#)

March 18th, 2024 - [Add to Calendar](#)

April 15th, 2024 - [Add to Calendar](#)

May 13th, 2024 – [Add to Calendar](#)