

Benjamin PTO Meeting Minutes
October 16th, 2023 - IMC @ Benjamin

- 2023-2024 Benjamin PTO board
 - President - Candace Free – not in attendance – covered by Jen K
 - Presented agenda items for old/new business
 - Vice President- Alicia Wheeler
 - Continue to post on social media
 - Please continue to share, comment, etc to drive the addition visibility
 - If anyone wants to help out, please contact Alicia Wheeler
 - Treasurer- Jordan Carpenter
 - \$150 per teacher has been delivered to the teachers
 - On pace for budget wise
 - Try to keep a cushion in the PTO budget of \$10K-\$30K
 - Drained the account with the payment of the path payments
 - Carnival last year was a huge success to bring us back towards a better cushion
 - Donations towards the events has been great, but can vary from year to year
 - Had planned to spend around \$20K for capital improvements but need to scale that back a bit until we get back to that comfortable cushion.
 - Comfortable spending around \$10K towards the capital improvements
 - Secretary - Jen Kirkpatrick
 - Website is up to date with the latest minutes from last month
 - Corporate Matching Program with State Farm, Country, Caterpillar etc...
 - Use your company's matching portal, Select Benjamin Elementary PTO, and submit the match and use the following email: benjaminelementarypto@gmail.com to send your company's match request. If you have question, please reach out to Jen Kirkpatrick at jensears05@gmail.com
 - Get the information on how to submit that for Mrs Bozarth to put in the school news letter
- Principal Report - Mrs. Bozarth
 - Thank you for the Fun Run, kids loved it and it was very energetic
 - Mrs Winsler just went through the Large Chart Paper to pass out and it's greatly appreciated
 - Parent Teacher Conference reminders on November 3rd
- Teacher Report – Mrs. Staver
 - Rusty subscription has been paid
 - Subscriptions are paid at the beginning of the year and Jordan has offered for them to go ahead and make the request and PTO will pay for the new idea of getting Mister Brown

Committee Reports

- Dine to Donate – Rhendy Bradshaw
 - Krispie Kreme – NOW through the end of October 2023
- Carnival – Alicia Wheeler
 - No main updates yet

- Carnival heads will get together next week, along with theme ideas and dates
- Hospitality - Callie Olivares / Holly Carpenter
 - Wednesday, October 18th, is an early out and will bring snacks
 - Sweet/Salty options
 - Mrs. Staver will ask the other teachers for ideas
 - Boxed lunches will be provided for Parent Teacher Day
 - McCalister or something like that
- Room Parent Coordinator & Volunteer Coordinator – April Steigerwald
 - Volunteers are going well
 - Halloween needs are met
 - Valentines' day still planning
 - 1 parent needed for Mrs. Caldwell's class (4Ca) – sent multiple emails
 - Fun Run Volunteers went great and School Picture Volunteers were awesome
 - Background checks are required if you're working with students with no present around during school hours. If you're just with your own child, you do not need one. However, the office will continue to inquire on specific situations. If you're in doubt if you need one, please contact the Benjamin office.
- Spirit Wear – Kelly Smoak
 - Just closed the store, will have orders in about 3 wks
- School Directory – Julie Heinold
 - Updated directory has been sent out and will do another one in January.
- Bear-ly Used Spirit Wear – Julie Heinold
 - Will post items in November
- Unraiser – Julie Heinold
 - Will discuss new ideas for the unraiser and rebranding
- Fun Run – Jen Kirkpatrick, Amy Prado
 - Excellent Time – Beach Theme was a hit with the games
 - Fundraising has brought in over \$8K with SF and other matches rolling in
 - Ideas for next Year
 - Leader Board idea – who has the fast time thus far as the race is going
 - Tracking donations by kids names
 - Provide the class schedule for volunteers to know what the day looks like
 - Morning / Afternoon Sign Up Option
- Grounds Committee – Ashley Cravens and Zac Braden
 - Upcoming 10/21 clean-up starts at 8:30am, meet out front
 - Bring your own gloves and gloves
 - Mrs Bozarth will send a reminder of the clean-up date in the Benjamin Newsletter
 - What about kickball bases painted – Mrs. Bozarth will send a note to have that done
 - Paint the Bear Paws on the entrances – need the stencil

- Supply Kits – Marla Call and Agnieszka Rosinski

New business:

-Posting on subdivision site/HOA contact about school grounds use when school in session

- Need assistance with getting the word out and post it on the neighborhood sites
- Parent in the meeting gave contact information to Mrs Bozarth -

-Amazon affiliate & wishlist for PTO

- Creating a wish list for PTO for items that may be helpful for events, school, teacher, etc
- Will get a kick back as an Amazon Affiliate since they got rid of the “Amazon Smile”
- Please submit ideas for the Wish list
- Can we wrap the Unraiser and Amazon Affiliate ideas together

Old business:

-additional vendors/quotes for shade structure

- Jordan recommends one shade structure vs two from a cost perspective

-other capital improvement ideas

- Shade Structure and possible benches to go along with them
- Hammocks for kids for reading
- Outdoor classroom – use of stumps
- Additional Picnic Tables and possible umbrellas
- Technology updates for IMC or a Classroom that would benefit the whole school
- Mrs Bozarth is adding an agenda item to the Teacher Staff meeting to see what ideas the teachers may have

Motion to Adjourn – Jordan Carpenter and Barabara Roan

Please watch the [PTO Facebook Page](#) for 2023-2024 School Year or reach out to benjaminelementarypto@gmail.com for questions!

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.

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](#)