

Benjamin PTO Board Meeting
Monday, February 11, 2013
6:30 pm

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Secretary Report
 - a. January Minutes: Motion to approve them- Carrie Baumann motion to approve Ebony Nebel and seconded by Traci Sweeney.
- 3) Treasurer Report
 - a. Budget
 - i. January growl pizza party was paid
 - b. Deposit down for the carnival
 - c. Submittal of request for fund/reimbursement- Nothing new
- 4) Principal Report-
 - a. Enrollment- 715 and holding
 - b. Valentine's Party check-in will have a new procedure: The lobby will have sign-in sheets and visitors will get a badge. Anyone without a badge will be re-directed to the office.
 - c. PBIS- the school behavior system- has been recognized by the state of Illinois as an exemplary school! Shelley Fisher presented information about our school at a statewide event! PBIS popcorn event was a success- save those bear bucks for future events
 - d. Feb 18-19- Presidents Day and School Improvement day
 - e. Feb 22- end of the semester, report cards March 1st
 - f. March 4th begins ISAT testing. This is the last year for ISAT testing – next year we will change to "PARC"
 - g. March 19- kindergarten pre-registration at 9:30am and 1:30pm
 - h. April 1st – casual picture day
 - i. April 18th – 6th grade orientation night at Evans Junior High
 - j. April 22-May 3rd- next MAP testing
 - k. Young Authors Tea- May 8th (parents are invited as well)- for anyone that submitted a Young Author story
 - l. May 9th- Benjamin Chorus will be singing the National Anthem at the Cornbelters Game for Education game.
 - m. May 16th – 2nd, 3rd and Choir concerts
 - n. May 20th – 4th and 5th grade concerts
 - o. May 23rd – 5th grade recognition
 - p. May 24th- Talent Show

5) Teacher Report

- a. Book Drive started today- 177 books donated already
- b. The ART, IMC and Music teachers are doing an integration project for Kindergarten to support literacy. This will be presented to the first graders.
- c. Thank you for the popcorn party and PTO support!

6) Vice President- Not present

7) Committee Reports

- a. Fund Raising
 - i. Smashburger fundraiser WAS AWESOME! Still waiting to hear total results.
 - ii. Buffalo Wild Wings- Feb 18th from 5-9pm - MUST have flier!
 - iii. Avantis- March 13th – 20% - both locations- you MUST have the coupon physically present.
- b. Box Tops
 - i. In the middle of the Feb Drive!!!
- c. Carnival
 - i. All planning meetings have begun and the committee is well under way
- d. Hospitality-
 - i. Staff- teacher breakfast coming up on Wednesday 1/16
 - ii. Student- N/A
- e. Labels for Education
 - i. In the middle of the Labels Drive
- f. School Directory- transition plan under way to have a new coordinator next year
- g. Spirit Wear- order will be coming up
- h. Supply Kits-need someone to transition this to for next year.
- i. Un-raiser- Nothing new
- j. Volunteer Coordinator

8) Old Business

- a. My Coke rewards – over 900 points have been donated! May have a coke bottle drop off at Carnival!
- b. Facebook page for Benjamin Elementary PTO- Zac Pershall has reached out to Dr. Niehaus and is getting guidelines from his secretary for the Benjamin Elementary School website and PTO. Zac will create the Facebook Page for the PTO and keep it updated.

9) New Business

- a. Mrs. Mroz- Close Pin puppetry- for \$575 they would create a puppet show for each of the four Benjamin Elementary winning young author story winners. As long as this is what they want to go forward with
- b. Mrs. Voyles had a baby boy – his name is Oliver
- c. Mrs. Scott had a baby boy- his name is Landon
- d. Vision and Hearing screening volunteers are needed, and also for the kindergarten registration.
- e. Special Guests: We had two special guests at PTO this month. Mrs Current presented about the Literacy Program and Mrs. Romero presented about the Music program.
 - i. **Literacy Program:** Leveled book sets for guided reading groups. Benefits of guided reading groups allow for continual reading progress in small group instruction; allowing teachers to meet the needs of ALL students more easily.
The ask: Request of PTO to purchase guided reading book text sets for our school book room, (which will include text sets, genre sets, big books, mentor texts, etc.) The district will provide some support for purchasing these books, but with our high number of students we need more. Leveled book sets generally come in sets of 6 (six books given for each title). Questions- how many would we need to be successful? As many as possible- we have SO many students, and we need multiple titles at EVERY level.
 - ii. **Mrs. Romero- Music teacher-** would like money to purchase Musicals for their performance in May. Includes different programs for each grade: Hats (grade 2); Update Earth (grade 3); I Need a Vacation (grade 4); Go West (grade 5). Approximately \$350 to cover all CDs, speaking material, and guide to tie this to the classroom. Rights are given to THIS school only, and reusable as many times as we want them. (Note: Mrs. Romero used the money the PTO gave to each teacher at the beginning of the year to purchase the Kindergarten and 1st grade musical programs. This would just be doing the same for the upper grades.

Discussion and Voting:

- Motion to approve \$350 from the wish list made by Zac Pershall and seconded by Apsara to purchase music programs for grades 2-5 music concerts.
- Motion to donate \$2000 from the wish list made by Zac Pershall and seconded by Kiersten Douglass. Any other money remaining at the end of the school year can be revisited to see what other money we may be able to donate.

10) Adjourn- all were in favor of adjourning!

Next PTO Meeting: March 11th at 6:30 pm. Bring a friend!