

## Benjamin PTO Board Meeting

Monday, February 10, 2014

6:30 pm

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Secretary Report
  - a. January Minutes approval- Shanna Phillips motioned to approve, Amanda Fischer seconded the motion. Approved.
- 3) Treasurer Report-\$1,495.78 from fall box tops collection added to our income. Paid various expenses, budget sheet was reviewed, no questions.
- 4) Principal Report- Enrollment at 588 and holding;
  - a. Benjamin Chess Tournament was a success- 1<sup>st</sup> place for both upper and younger grades!
  - b. Jumprope for Heart Thursday 2/13/2014
  - c. Young Authors due Thursday, 2/13/2014
  - d. Valentine Parties Friday, 2/14/2014
  - e. 2/26/2014- next late start Wednesday
  - f. No school Mon/Tues 2/17 or 2/18/2014
  - g. Bloomington Thunder hockey game this Saturday, 2/15/2014 at US Cellular Coliseum
  - h. Yearbook order forms due 2/20/2014
  - i. ISAT March 3-14, 2014
  - j. 2 randomly selected 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms will be doing PARC test pilot for reading; those two classes will still have to take full ISAT.
  - k. April 24- 6<sup>th</sup> grade orientation at Evans Junior High (in the evening)
  - l. May 7 – Young Author tea for all participants
  - m. May 22- 5<sup>th</sup> grade recognition
  - n. May 23- talent show
  - o. June 2- last day of school- this year it's a half day.
- 5) Teacher Report
  - a. Jump Rope for Heart has been a huge success already – THANK YOU!
- 6) Vice President
  - a. Fundraising-no dine to donates scheduled yet
  - b. Working on Assignment Notebook orders for next school year
  - c. Will need to discuss if we want to include added cost to make a small profit on Supply Kits. Will discuss at March meeting.
- 7) Committee Reports
  - a. Playground and Field Improvement- we will need to determine how many more trees we will still be purchasing for the school. We had 25 trees purchased by Unit 5 this past fall but we could still use a few more. Will determine how many more trees we want to plant at March meeting.

- b. Box Tops –
    - i. Reminder box top collection goes through Feb 21<sup>st</sup>. Is there anyone available to supervise for the extra recesses in April. Contact Kiersten Douglass if available.
    - ii. McLean County box top collection- first collection location is at WalMart with more locations coming soon at other grocery stores and restaurants.
    - iii. Some Box Tops expirations are coming soon- check your dates
  - c. Carnival
    - i. Basket donations are coming in quickly and we're off to a great start!
    - ii. Games committee is well underway
    - iii. We are in need of a REASONABLY priced photo booth- if anyone knows any photo booth companies, PLEASE let Ebony Nebel know.
  - d. Hospitality
    - i. Staff- gifts were sent for new babies, birthdays and late start breakfast. This Friday we have a special treat for the teachers.
    - ii. Student- will need volunteers for PBIS hot chocolate afternoon Friday Feb 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. If you are available to volunteer, please let Karen Osborne know. Kindergarten registration will be March 18<sup>th</sup> and we will provide cookies and milk for the incoming kindergarteners.
  - e. Labels for Education – We are in the middle of our Labels Drive. There will be one final collection at the end of the school year. We get extra bonus points for participating in Jump Rope for Heart.
  - f. My Coke Rewards-7,166 points are now available. We will evaluate options for equipment we can purchase for PE teachers
  - g. Room Parent Coordinator – Valentine's Parties are Friday. Those classrooms without a lead room parent have really pulled through for coordinating parties- thank you!
  - h. School Directory- no update
  - i. Spirit Wear- no update
  - j. Supply Kits-contracts for Supply Kits and Assignment notebooks have been finalized. Sample boxes will be available at Kindergarten registration. Volunteers will be needed for unloading supply kits and organizing of all the material.
  - k. Tyson A+ no update
  - l. Un-Raiser- no update
  - m. Volunteer Coordinator
- 8) Old Business
- a. Voting for gift for fifth grade graduates. Kiersten Douglass motions to purchase an LED flashlight with "Benjamin Elementary" or "Class of 2021". Carrie Baumann seconded. 110 will be purchased by Laura Avery.
- 9) New Business
- a. Guest speaker: Ericka Hunt- Tax Referendum; McLean County will be voting on a sales tax referendum. Sales tax increase is one cent on the dollar. This will generate \$9.4 million dollar revenue increase annually. The most recent property

tax increase will expire in 2015 so this is a way to come up with a funding solution for the schools in McLean County. The tax revenue will go specifically to security, technology and facilities (for both building new and renovating schools). March 18<sup>th</sup> is the vote. Referendum committee is in need of canvassing volunteers to go door to door. Canvassing dates are Sat Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup> and March 8<sup>th</sup> and you will be given specific neighborhoods and houses to canvas with a script and tools to help track. If you are interested please contact Laura Avery. More information will be coming to all students at Benjamin.

Additional information can be found at:

[www.voteyesforschools.org](http://www.voteyesforschools.org)

Facebook-One Cent Makes Sense

b. Evan's PTO is looking for PTO members

10) Adjourn- Laura Avery motioned to adjourn; seconded by Kiersten Douglass

Next PTO Meeting: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014; 6:30 pm