

Benjamin PTO Meeting

Monday, December 12, 2016

6:30 pm - IMC

Welcome - President

Secretary Report

- November minutes approval
- Amanda and Traci approved notes

Treasurer Report

- Checks cleared to date
- Rusty – We are grandfathered in at \$650
- Budget and Expenses have been posted for November
- Dine to Donate is in \$228.73! Who was this for??

Principal Report

- 567 current enrollment
- MAP testing – 1 – 5 grade testing in December
 - K-5 will test again in Spring
 - Reading and Math
- Please share Standard Based Grading questions with Mrs. Bennington and teachers
- Candy Grams – Students can buy them before school until Friday, December 16. They are \$1. They can buy them for friends, siblings, and staff.
 - Parents may also buy them for their children
 - Fill out the form located out on the Benjamin website, located on the Homepage
 - Parents will need to print out the form on the Benjamin website, and include money
- New Hats and Mittens – collecting them until Friday, December 16
- Wednesday, December 14, 2016 – Late Start
- Chorus sings at State Farm Corporate Headquarters from 11:00 am – 11:30 am – Monday, December 19th
- Tuesday, December 20th – Concerts – 5:30pm – 1st Grade, and 7:00pm - Chorus
- Spirit Week next week – Starting December 19, 2016
 - Spirit Days will be listed on the Benjamin website
- Break - Friday, December 23, 2016 – Monday, January 9, 2017
 - School resumes on Tuesday, January 10, 2017

- Business Bears is in its 3rd year!
 - Added to programs
 - High School Innovative Entrepreneurs and their teacher, Julie Hinman will mentor Business Bears on marketing/advertising on Thursday, December 15th
- Mrs. Kummer – Baby Girl - Isabelle – Congrats!!
- Mrs. Buhrow will be doing school psychologist maternity leave
- Popcorn Machine is in!!!! Industrial machine / Large Rubbermaid cart – waiting for the cart to come in

- Teacher Report
 - Nothing at this time
- Vice President/Dine to Donate
 - BBWs – dine and donate made around \$200
 - Waiting for Orange Leaf on November 15th
 - Next one will be at Orange Leaf on December 19 from 3pm to 9pm
 - Hy-Vee – Saturday and Sunday – 5% back to Benjamin
 - Need to take the coupon

- Committee Reports
 - Box Tops - Angela Bailey/Sheri Honzel
 - Collecting box tops as they come in
 - Carnival - Erika Hunt/Dan Fischer/Trisha Oyler
 - Vendors have been secured
 - Waiting for approval by District
 - 3/4 new games will be introduced
 - Have a couple of vendors who have come forward to donate to the baskets raffle
 - Classrooms have already have started putting together their baskets
 - Hospitality - Amanda Esparza
 - Meals
 1. Mrs. Spau and Mrs. Sewell
 2. Late start breakfast – Holiday Theme
 3. January 25th next breakfast
 4. Soup & Potato Lunch in February for Staff
 - My Coke Rewards - Aslihan Spaulding
 - 6325 points = \$94.88
 - Room Parent Coordinator - Trisha Oyler
 - Dec 5th email went out as a reminder for Holiday Parties
 - Holiday Party: December 21 from 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm
 - In Holiday email, did mention carnival baskets
 - School Directory - Kristen Legner

- No update
- Spirit Wear - Angela Redinbo
 - \$3400 sales; profit \$206
 - Going to look at different vendors
- Supply Kits - Shanna Phillips
 - Contacted NCHS Business Group – meet in the next couple of weeks
 - Have a partner this year to do the work with
 - Will check to see if 3-5th grade will be using the Benjamin Assignment Notebooks for next year / may not need to include them
- Un-Raiser - Stacy Herren
 - No update
- Volunteer Coordinator - Traci Sweeney
 - No requests at this time
 - Art Fair will be coming up
- Grounds Committee – Dan Fischer
 - Short Term / Long Term
 - Resurfacing fields
 1. Good top soil
 2. Dragged
 - Landscaping
 - Spring clean up
 - Looking to replace a tree
 - Sign for front of the school – ISU to help
- Line item for grounds and set aside – went into a bigger pot of money
- Little bit of money left from grants and last year's carnival money
- Old Business
 - Matching gift update
 - 6 parents have requested matches
 - Fall and Spring – Dr. Daniel Lunch
 - Good dialogue
 - Standards based grading not working in Skyward the way they had hoped and how they will address it
 - Transportation / Substitutes
 1. Want parents still to call transportation, if there are issues or concerns
 - Start of strategic planning again – 2 reps CAC (Benjamin – AJ Kalitzky and Eric Groonwald)
- New Business
 - Long-term planning –
 - Confirmation of direction
 - Discussion on topics

5 High Ticket Items and 5 Low Ticket Items

- Idea – Choral – Only program after Mrs. Sharp retires
 - All State Choir 5/6 grade
 - Other musical opportunities
 - Currently no opportunities to fundraise
 - Beyond the Books Grant – ukulele - \$2000 set of 35
 - Music sheets / Learn to read - \$100 / \$150
 - Circle Drums - \$2600 set of 15
 1. Can get them on sale right now
 - Music Shop gives discounts
 - Drums would be first
 - Motion that the music department can spend up to \$2000 on drums to come out of operation reserves.
 1. Motioned by Aslihan and Stephanie
- Idea - iPads with Student Friendly Cases
 - iPad cart?
 - How many?
 - The district has access to purchase sturdy cases for iPads – could they get a discount for us?
- Idea – Sign for the outside of the school
 - Stationary; not digital sign
 - Non-lit sign
- Idea – Landscaping
 - Pending approving amount until February
- Idea – Way to move soccer goals
 - Tool Library / Engineering Club project?
- Idea – Document Cameras for Smart boards
 - Just need the basic model
 - USB plug in
- Idea – Shades for Cafeteria Windows
 - Big Cost
 - Long Term spend
- Idea - Stage Curtains
 - Long Term spend
- Idea – Playground Equipment
 - Would need approval from District Committee
 - 7 years ago and curbing was over \$80,000
- Idea – More Hands-on Science
 - Kits that are ready and available
- Group will prioritize them in order
- Survey will be going out in January regarding ideas and asking for others
- Motion to adjourn Traci and Stephanie

NO JANUARY MEETING / Next PTO Meeting: February 13th at 6:30 pm