

## **BES PTA General Meeting Minutes**

**October 1, 2024, 7PM**

The BES PTA met on October 1, 2024, at Bannockburn Elementary School (BES). PTA President Sarah Hurt called the meeting to order at 7:09PM.

**Attendees:** There were 25 participants in attendance, including Jill Brafford, Kelly Wohlgemuth, Lara Pukatch, Cristin Kumar, Margaret Cantrell, Min Shih, Susan Limb, Katie Harris, Sarah Hurt, Alison Serino, Virginia Alencio, Brandi Hight, Savvy Welch, Hillary Ghent, Paich McIntuff, Prashant Yadav, Lea Mosena, Myriam Escobar-Genes, Yvonne Lo, Elizabeth Shah, Tiara Vadiiee, Kate Gannon, Devin Maroney, David Hecht, Edward Sanders.

### **Agenda**

- Remarks from the Principal
- Approve Last Meeting's Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- New Sign
- Calendar
- Board Updates
- Vote on Cub Scouts Charter

### **CURRENT PTA NEEDS:**

#### **OPEN EVENT LEAD ROLES**

- BINGO night (October 25th from 6:30-8 pm at Pyle MS): We need a lead(s) for this event in order to make it happen!

#### **OPEN BOARD OF DIRECTORS ROLES**

- President-Elect
- Assistant Treasurer
- Assistant VP of In-School Activities

### **Principal's Report**

- **MSDE (MD State Dept of Education)** will be doing a site visit of BES in February (2/5-2/6)
- **Parent Volunteers:**
  - NEW opportunities: Outdoor Lunch in Courtyard, Library Shelving
  - Any additional opportunities will come from teachers
  - Lunch, Indoor Recess, Recess
- **Open House:** Fri 11/8 with coffee conversation @ 9:10-9:45AM
  - Visit classrooms between 9:45-11am for a 25-minute segment
- **PAWS Reward Program:** Kids responding well, kids are awarded PAWS, they put them in teacher's buckets, Ms. Fleming picks from all PAWS at end of each week
- **Student Government Association/SGA** (Ms. Thaler)
  - In the works (4th & 5th graders can be officers)
- **Outdoors:** Exploring new outdoor classroom at top of hill
  - Encouraging use of existing, shaded tables/benches
  - Recruiting volunteers for outdoor lunch

- **Communication**
  - Teacher email updates: Fridays at 6:15pm
  - Principal newsletter and phone call on Sunday at 6:15pm

#### **Parent Questions to Principal Serino**

- **Technology:** Principal Serino not using tech to fill gaps and being more intentional use
  - Any parent can check out a ChromeBook from the school (Storyline Online or Tumble Books)
- **Which drills did we cover BES Safety Day (9/27)?**  
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1xThJP9ebRIj2NLt3LrQscYHM01H1dEXin1g0sTIFR4U/edit?usp=sharing>
  - 4 Regular Drills (Drop/Cover/Hold, Severe Weather, Shelter, Lockdown) & Parent Reunification Drill
  - Canceled Fire Drill & Reverse Evacuation bc of Weather
  - Any Emerging Incidents: Principal Serino would manage, MCPS communications office would help disseminate notifications to parents.
- **Parent Volunteers Question:** Pre-COVID, each teacher had a SignUpGenius to help with misc tasks (every teacher determined frequency, including helping make copies, helping students with reading, helping with MAP testing)
  - There is a possibility that this could happen, Ms. Serino will look into it
- **Media Center Question:** Is there any moderating of the books for younger kids?
  - Some books are coded for 4th or 5th graders and teacher & Ms. Chuk would welcome requests for students to not bring home certain books

#### **Treasurer's Report**

- Katie Harris presented in place of Girish T.

#### **PTA President's Report**

- **Approve June Meeting Minutes:** Sarah Hurt presented the June General PTA Meeting Minutes. Margaret C. motioned to approve minutes, Susan L. seconded, all approved.
  - For past meeting minutes, click here: <https://bannockburnpta.org/bes-pta-meeting-minutes/>
- **New Sign:** Katie discussed talking to Steven Solomon (BES school beautification rep) about landscaping and planting flowers around the new sign.
- Reviewed calendar (copy to follow)
  - Club Fridays (3rd-6th graders) will be same night as BINGO night again this year

#### **PTA Board Updates**

##### **VP In-School Activities (Min Shih)**

- We have room for 3 assemblies each year.
  - Booked- Assembly on Reading (same magician who did the math assembly last year)
  - Need 2 more assemblies
  - Susan asked Ms. Serino if she had any ideas for assemblies
- Artist-in-residence: there are supposed to be 3 residencies (K-1, 2-3, 4-5)
  - \$12k each, Ms. Thaler is applying for grant, need parent letter
- Looking for Asst VP In-School Activities

##### **VPs Community Service (Lara Pukatch, Jill Brafford)**

- Lara provided an update:
  - Book Drive at BTS Picnic successful (car was filled with boxes of books to Wider Circle)
  - Candy Drive - National Center for Children and Families
    - Might do a pre-candy collection in addition
  - November- Canned food drive for 2 weeks, goes to Manna(sp?)
  - Toy Drive during Holidays (hospital)
  - MLK Jr Day of Service: monetary and amazon wish list donations to prep for in-school event
    - Teach-in: talking to kids about helping others
  - Mayfair: want to try to do something for pets to give back to humane societies

#### **VP Fundraising (Kelly Wohlgemuth)**

- Doing an Annual Fund starting in October for 3 weeks (creating “a Bannockburn pumpkin patch”)
  - Asking parents to donate and telling them everything the funds are going to
  - Know how much \$ we have earlier in the year and put less pressure on auction
  - Goal is to get every parent to contribute, even if it’s \$1
- Auction: Brandi Hight-Bank & Gitika Kaul will be co-leads this year, they would like to get more dads involved this year.

#### **Cub Scouts Charter (Lara P)**

- BES charts the pack (Lara is the charter rep)
- PTA needs to approve the Charter
- Hilary G. motioned to approve the charter, Edward S. seconded, all approved.

#### **PTA Board Members 2024-2025**

Board of Directors

President: Sarah Hurt

President-Emeritus: Katie Harris

President-Elect: **OPEN**

Treasurer: Girish Tumbapura

Assistant Treasurer: **OPEN**

Secretary: Cristin Kumar

VP of Fundraising: Kelly Wohlgemuth

VP DEI: Prashant Yadav

VP of Communication & Membership: Tasha Teelucksingh

VP of In-School Activities: Min Shih

Assistant VP of In-School Activities: **OPEN**

VPs of Before-and-After School Activities: Roshini Thinakaran & Greta Peisch

VPs of Social Activities: Gina Ridder Beardsley & Billy Robison

VPs of Community Service: Lara Pukatch & Jill Brafford

#### **Position Appointed by BES Principal**

NAACP Reps: Dana Shaiyen

#### **Positions Appointed by the Board**

Cluster Rep: Amber Rickhoff

MCCPTA Delegates: Margaret Cantrell & Yvonne So  
MCCPTA Special Ed Rep: Dimple Mohan  
MCCPTA GT Rep: Edward Sanders  
Green Schools Clubs & Activities: Katy Levine

### **Volunteer Leads**

Website: David Hecht  
Social Media: Brandi Hight Bank  
Woodland Stewardship: David Hecht  
School Beautification: Steven Solomon  
CUPF facilities booking system: Cristin Kumar  
Back To School Picnic: PTA Board  
International Fair: Prashant Yadav & Atoosa Rabiee  
BINGO Night: OPEN  
Book Fair: Emily Parsons & Ashlie Hubbard  
Auction: Gitika Kaul & Brandi Hight Bank  
Drama Club: Rebecca Slaughter  
Fun Run: Kate Musser  
Earth Day: Katy Levine  
Mayfair: Margaret Cantrell  
Teacher Appreciation Week: Christina Martens

### **PTA CALENDAR**

2024

- 8/30 - PTA welcome coffee (9:30-10:15am)
- 9/13 - Back-to-school picnic (5-7pm on BES playground)
- 10/1 - First PTA meeting (7pm in APR)
- 10/5 - International Fair (4-6 pm on blacktop)
- 10/25 - BINGO night (6:30-8pm at Pyle MS cafeteria)
- 11/8 – Parent Coffee before BES Open House (9:10-9:45am)
- 11/7 – 11/12 - Book fair (Media Center)
- 12/3 - PTA meeting #2 (7 pm in APR)

2025

- 3/4 – PTA Meeting #3 (7pm in APR)
- 3/15 – Auction (7-10pm at Praline Bakery & Bistro)
- 3/21 & 3/22 - Drama Club Performances (Whitman HS)
- 4/5 - Fun Run (9-10:30, blacktop)
- 4/23 - Earth Day (during school)
- 5/5 – 5/9 – Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5/9 - Mayfair (blacktop 5-8pm)
- 6/3 - Last PTA meeting (#4) (7 pm in APR)

**\*\*This list is ONLY PTA events. It does not include MCPS closures or other non-PTA events at BES.**

Motion to adjourn by Cristin K., seconded by Margaret C., all approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:23PM.