

Broadneck Elementary School Monthly PTO Meeting Minutes

Nov. 4, 2025

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 pm

Attendance:

- Board Officers in Attendance: Paige Skrickus, Cindy Sumner, Shannon VanHoesen, Sue Ellis, Mr. Cordts, and Mrs. Miller.
- Additional attendance: See final page for full list attendees.

Officers Reports:

- President (Paige Skrickus):
 - Welcome
 - There are still spots left for the last session of Hamilton Images Photos on Nov. 12th at Ulmstead Barn.
 - Veterans, there are guest reader spots available at BES on Monday, Nov. 10th, and Tuesday, Nov. 11th.
 - There will be a Toys for Tots collection bin in the office of the school (new, unwrapped toys), headed up by Mrs. Fitzpatrick.
- Vice President (Cindy Sumner):
 - Committee updates (see committee section below)

School Administration & Faculty Reports:

- Principal (Mrs. Miller):
 - The school had a great Halloween with the parade and the parties. Everything runs so smoothly at the school, so a big thanks to the parent volunteers.
 - Principal for the Day, Georgia, a fifth grader, did a great job and had a wonderful time.
 - Students enjoyed their low-key PBIS marking period 1 celebration.
 - Harvest for the Hungry donations are getting picked up tomorrow. Thank you all for your generosity, especially in these tough times. Please reach out to the school if you or someone you know could benefit from some assistance.
 - 3rd grade endured a wet field trip to the Zoo and came back with big smiles having had so much fun.
 - This week is School Psychologist week.
 - We are currently in CoGat testing (2nd & 5th graders). Two more days left. Used for Gifted & Talented and Advanced recognition.
 - Last year our school ranked as a 4 Star school, we had 66.24 points earned out of 100. This year we are now at 74.6 points! We missed the 5 Star ranking by 0.4 of a point. So, we are hungry and striving for that 5 Star ranking. We will plan to have a Town Hall type meeting to talk about what all goes into this point system and what aspects we actually have control over to work on/highlight, things like absences that we can control (non-illness type absences). We already know we are a 5 Star school and do wonderful things!!
 - Veteran's Day recognitions – the paper that came home (also a link provided in the PTO weekly email) can be filled out and sent in to be hung in the school, and the guest readers mentioned above.
 - American Education Week is coming, family (adult family members) visitation day is Nov. 19th (K 8:30-9:30, 1st grade 9:05-10:05, 2nd grade 8:30-9:30, 3rd grade 9:15-10:15, 4th grade 10:15-11:15, 5th grade 8:40-9:40). Notice and sign-up will be coming out soon.

- Parent/Teacher conferences are Nov. 24th & 25th. The county is guiding us to really try and do virtual as much as possible and really only use in-person when the conversation is needed. Nov. 25th is all virtual.
- Teacher Reports:
 - Mrs. D'Ascoli (Primary Grade Lead Teacher):
 - Teachers still so excited about all the additional CKLA culminating activities that they've been able to do with the students, funded from our wonderful Boosterthon fundraiser. (Tomorrow students will use air-dry clay to write their names after learning about Mesopotamia; after learning about the human body, they got to put together puzzles and play the game Operation, and many more cool activities.)
 - Ms. Cockcroft:
 - Waste Free Wednesdays – try to bring reusable containers (food and beverage) and less items that get thrown out for use at school. Students can earn a Bee Buck at lunch for bringing in a waste-free lunch.
 - Mrs. Welsh (Music Department):
 - **Music T-shirts:** Thank you for letting us use your spirit wear sale to sell our t-shirts. Thank you so much for sorting all the shirts for us!!!!
 - **Musical:** The students are doing great. 5th grade stage crew registration forms went out last week and are due on the 21st. We are currently collecting ad sales and well wishes for the program. We would appreciate it if you could post our ad flyer on the PTO page and in the newsletter.
 - **Steel Drum Residency:** The 4th grade students had a great time at the steel drum residency. We had 75 families register to attend.
 - **Winter Concert:** The winter concert will be held at Broadneck Elementary School.
 - Strings students will perform first and will enter at 5:45pm. Their performance will start at 6pm. Chorus students and families will enter around 6:20pm and start their performance at 6:30pm. Band students and families will enter around 6:50pm and start at 7pm.
 - We are requesting \$200 from the accompanist line item to pay the accompanist for the winter concert.
 - We are trying to get the restaurants in the bay hills shopping center to do a fundraiser night after the winter concert. Froyo house and Spizzico's have confirmed they will hold fundraisers. The bus costs for the chorus Kings Dominion trip have risen \$1000 since last school year so we are hoping to make money to go towards the cost of the buses.
 - On January 8th, our 5th grade chorus students will be taking a field trip to the high school to participate in Broadneck Sings!, formerly our cluster concert. During this field trip our students will get to meet and work with the middle school and high school chorus directors as well as meet and work with the other Broadneck cluster elementary, middle school and high school students. The field trip will culminate with a concert at the high school at 6pm that evening.

Standing Committee Reports:

- **5th Grade Committee** (Sheri Berberian):
 - 5th Grade Dance is now set for Feb. 27th. On the books with Mrs. Miller
 - Committee has grown and have lots of wonderful participation.
 - Questions have come up in regard to the change in schedule at the end of the school year (with no longer having 2-hr early dismissal days for marking period end) and what happens if we don't use all our snow days.
 - Mrs. Miller informed us that the county usually announces the official end of school date and information after Spring Break once we're past all the possible changes.
- **Restaurant Fundraiser Nights** (Melissa Patterson):
 - Vita Taco (Severna Park) Surprise Bartender Night on Nov. 8th 6-9pm
 - Chipotle on November 18th from 5-9pm.
 - Looking into Domino's "Slice the Price" fundraiser (students sell cards for Domino deals) as a January fundraiser for restaurants.
 - We are questioning it since we really present Boosterthon as our "one fundraiser", so does this one feel more like a fundraiser than a restaurant night? Are we asking too much? This is a sales one, so it's different than the choice of going out to eat. Possibly earning free pizzas for students may be a good thing. We will continue to discuss it and solicit feedback from the community about how they feel. Maybe something more for the future but not this year.
- **Broadneck Ball**: Photographer and DJ booked
- **Yearbook**: Happy to say all classes have a designated yearbook photographer. As of right now we are not asking for parent photo contributions. We have a "staff" of designated parent volunteer and some volunteer professionals working on taking our photos this year. We are currently working on the information for the Cover Contest and all the 5th grade specialty sections (baby photos, messages, etc.)
- **Boosterthon**: We did fabulously!! We were only \$73 from our goal so that is OUTSTANDING. We raised \$39, 927. We do recognize that our enrollment is down from the last couple of years, and numerous families are dealing with the government shutdown, so it really was incredible.
 - One plan for next year will be to not have the designated prizes. Students will earn points for their amounts raised and then they can choose from the list of prizes as to what to "spend" their points on.
 - Next year's Boosterthon is already booked for Oct. 9th, 2026.
 - Feedback has helped us see we should explain the Corporate Matching process more and make it clearer to the community how it works to try and take advantage of that too.

Open Discussion

- PBIS staff committee is trying to figure out if the "holiday gift craft" (which is "replacing" the Holiday Shop we used to have) is something they are supposed to plan or if the PTO is taking the lead. (Ms. Burkowski & Ms. Earley are the heads of the staff committee.) Discussion about if the younger students should have a different project than the older students.
 - Some PTO volunteers have been doing some research on crafts and price categories. The PTO didn't have a line item budgeted for this since it's a new idea so we are trying to figure out what we can do.
 - Ms. Cockcroft is offering model magic from her supplies. We are now going to pick Ms. Cockcroft's brain as to types of good projects.

Meeting called at: 7:56 pm

Music Calendar for the '25-'26 School Year

TBD	Band Dress Rehearsal	Cafeteria
TBD	Strings Dress Rehearsal	Cafeteria
Dec 8th 8:10am	Chorus dress rehearsal	Cafeteria
Dec 11th	Band/strings/chorus concert	Cafeteria/Gym
Dec 12th	Winter Concert Assembly	Cafeteria/stage/music classrooms
January 8th	Cluster chorus concert-field trip	Broadneck High school
January 22 or 23	Middle School Band/strings assembly	Cafeteria/stage/music classrooms
Jan 23, 26, 27, 28	Musical Tech Week 2:25pm-7pm	Cafeteria/stage/music classrooms
Jan 30th	Musical Assembly	Cafeteria/stage/music classrooms
Jan 30, 31	Musical evening shows	Cafeteria/stage/music classrooms
TBD	Volunteer Celebration Performance	Cafeteria/stage
May 4th	chorus dress rehearsal 8:10-9:10am	Cafeteria/stage
Thursday May 7th	band/strings/chorus combined concert	BES cafeteria/gym
May 8th	spring concert assembly 8:30am	Cafeteria/stage/gym
5/15/2026	Kings Dominion Chorus Trip	Kings Dominion
5/21/2026	Bowie Baysox	Bowie Baysox Stadium
TBD	3rd grade Recorder Showcases	Welsh Music Room

Additional Attendance from Google Meet

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| 1. Christine M. | 12. Molly F. |
| 2. Colleen C. | 13. Mrs. Welsh |
| 3. Courtney H. | 14. Natalie R. |
| 4. Eden T. | 15. Mrs. D'Ascoli |
| 5. Ms. Cockcroft | 16. Mrs. Earley |
| 6. Jamie B. | 17. Tenika W. |
| 7. Kana | 18. Tierra R. |
| 8. Linda M. | |
| 9. Lindsay N. | |
| 10. Lisa B. | |
| 11. Loretta Goodridge | |