

Broadneck Elementary School Monthly PTO Meeting Minutes

April 7, 2026

Meeting called to order at: 7:00 pm

Attendance:

- Board Officers in Attendance: Paige Skrickus, Nina Adams, Shannon VanHoesen, Cindy Sumner, Mr. Cordts, and Mrs. Miller.
- Additional attendance: About another 17 virtual attendees.

Officers Reports:

- President (Paige Skrickus):
 - Welcome
 - We will have an opening on our PTO Board at the end of this school year - Recording Secretary will be completing her two-year term. Let us know if you're interested.
 - Free soccer clinic offered on April 15th, Pelota Training (BES Alumni), registration link available in the PTO weekly email.

School Administration & Faculty Reports:

- Principal (Mrs. Miller):
 - Realizing now in trying to avoid too many things being in May, we end up having too many land in March. We're going to work on that for next year.
 - 3rd-5th grade . . . MCAP is upon us. Everyone try their best to be present at school
 - Science Project Fair had WONDERFUL projects. But also, the lowest number of projects (16) we've ever had. Thank you to all the fantastic volunteers and participants.
 - Best of Broadneck happened that same night (as Science Fair). Decently attended. Next year we may look at the day of the week chosen a little better to help attendance.
 - 4th graders all went on Arlington Echo field trips
 - Broadneck Ball also happened in March and was just so much fun and so festive!! Thank you to Molly and all the volunteers who helped to make it happen.
 - Spring Fling was also very successful!! But also in March, so we'll try to spread this stuff out better.
 - Our first PAC meeting happened before break. 3rd-5th graders participated and met together with Mrs. Miller for a breakfast meeting.
 - Art on a cart PBIS celebration happened. Getting some feedback from everyone on that way to see what, if anything, needs to change for next year.
 - Hudson was our Principal of the Day and did a fantastic job!!
 - A BIG thank you to Mr. Cordts and all his hard work. We want to recognize him during this week's National Assistant Principal Week.
 - 3rd & 4th grade students will have ELA MCAP testing next week - M, W, Th, F. The week of the 20th, the 5th graders will have their ELA MCAP testing on M, W Th, F.
 - 5th grade will be having their Water Readiness Training next week, which is why they are not testing next week.
 - Next Wednesday is Purple Up for Military Kids Day. This year we're inviting individuals from students' families who are active-duty military. We encourage everyone to wear purple to school that day.
 - Next Friday, April 17th, is our Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast event. Invitations will be going out. Please let us know if we miss someone who should be included.

- April 30th, Severn River MS is hosting the Multicultural Festival.
- Teacher Reports:
 - Mrs. Welsh (Music):
 - Upcoming music fundraisers (helping with the cost of buses for Kings Dominion as well as the deposit for the trip, and purchasing songs for the chorus songs):
 - Sunday, April 12th from 3:30-6:00pm, Skate Zone Odenton. \$10 admission & \$5 skate rental. For every admission purchased, \$5 will be donated to the bus fund. **Tickets must be purchased online in advance.** They can NOT be purchased at the door.
 - Wednesday, April 15th from 3-8pm, Rita's in Cape St. Claire. Ms. Howe & Ms. Wilson have signed up so far to be Celebrity Scoopers.
 - Raffle for the front row spring concert seats, \$2 per ticket, winners receive 4 front row tickets. Two winners per each performing group.
 - Recorder showcase
 - Third grade students learned how to read the notes on the music staff and play the recorder in the third marking period. Due to snow days affecting instructional days and the 4th marking period state testing schedules, we had to shift to the showcase being recorded and posted on canvas for families.
 - 4th Grade
 - 4th grade students learned about chords and how to play chords on the ukulele during the 3rd marking period in general music class.
 - Volunteer celebration
 - Volunteer celebration is on April 17th. This is an invitation only event. There will be performances by the dance team, select 5th grade theater club students, second grade and a select 1st grade class.
 - Spring Concert is May 7th: at BES
 - Strings arrive at 5:45pm and perform at 6pm
 - Chorus enters around 6:20pm and performs at 6:30pm
 - Band enters around 6:50pm and performs at 7pm
 - There will be fundraisers at Fro-Yo House, Spizzico's, and Vivi's Chicken n' Mac this day.
 - Kings Dominion Trip
 - BES has done a trip for chorus to an amusement park for adjudication since Mrs. Ferguson was the full-time teacher. This trip is for 4th & 5th grade chorus as well as the dance team. We have 130 students in chorus and dance combined. Students have the option to ride the bus or self-transport to the park with their parent/guardian. The cost to participate in the festival is \$200 flat fee which we cover with the fundraiser money from the Baysox fundraiser. We also use the Baysox money to purchase the music we sing for our concerts. The bus fees for this trip increased by \$1000 this year but we were able to raise most of the money to offset that cost through our winter concert restaurant night fundraisers. The cost for the admission ticket is \$46, meals, drinks & snacks in the park are \$45 for the day and the bus fee per student/chaperone was \$49. We reserved 2 buses (110 seats) in August. We budgeted to fill 75% (83 seats) on the buses when creating the price. We had 63 students and 11 chaperones sign up to ride the buses. We were short bus riders in addition to having 7 students requesting financial help to participate in the trip. This led us to have to create

fundraisers to cover the remaining cost of the buses as well as fund the students requesting financial assistance. Friday, the bus company emailed me to tell me they are adding a fuel surcharge because of the rising gas prices. I'm waiting to hear back from them how much that fuel surcharge will add to the cost. In the future, we could only reserve one bus and do first come first serve to fill the bus. It is possible to do it on a weekend, but we think that less students would be able to attend due to sports and weekend plans. I am happy to offer this opportunity to our students, but it is a lot to plan for 130 students plus chaperones and self transporting chaperones: coordinating the trip (buses, ordering/paying for tickets, sorting/organizing/labeling every ticket), collecting the forms and payment, making sure all 65 chaperones attending the trip have completed their backgrounds/SHF and communicating with them to make sure they complete them. Adding coordinating the fundraisers added more to the plate. It took away hours of my in school planning time: calling places, sending emails to coordinate & get approval, creating flyers, making copies etc.

- Promotion - 5th grade will sing a song during the promotion ceremony.
- Chesapeake Baysox - Chorus students will sing the National Anthem at the Chesapeake Baysox on May 21st. The game begins at **6:35 PM**. A portion of the ticket sale money gets donated to the chorus. Below is our fundraiser link to purchase tickets. <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Broadneckelementary2/offer>. The link closes the day before the game.
- Full music department schedule can be found at the end of the minutes.
- Mrs. Hawkins (Intermediate Grade Lead Teacher):
 - Teachers give a big Thank You for the wonderful potato bar lunch before break!!

Standing Committee Reports:

- **Book Fair:** Will be open April 7-17th.
 - Volunteer slots are now open, see FB post. Students will be making wishlists during Media April 8-14th. Family shopping: 4/13 3-5pm, 4/14 3-5pm, 4/16 4-6pm. In school shopping: Friday, 4/17 11:10am – 2:00pm
- **Hospitality Committee** (Loretta Goodridge):
 - School Librarian Day was while we were on break, so tomorrow we will be delivering gifts for our Media Specialists, as well as for Mr. Cordts and our front office staff for their celebrations.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week – coming up in May. We're doing a 90's theme week. Things are falling into place, just finishing some bookings and then we'll let the PTO know all the details to advertise. Some days will involve nice ideas of things students can do, like a note for their teacher(s).
- **5th Grade Committee:**
 - Yard signs & T-shirt survey has been completed. Votes are currently being counted.
 - Working with Ms. Fitzpatrick for ideas with the service project
 - Reached out to Bay Hills about the pool party. We are aiming for the last day of school. Something like 2-5pm.
 - Also working on ideas for the Legacy Gift
- **Yearbook:** Last day to order is this Thursday, April 9th.

- **Restaurant Fundraiser Nights:** Please support the Music Fundraiser restaurant nights
- **Golf Outing** (Alex Berberian):
 - There are only 3 holes left without a sponsor. We're hoping to get all the holes sponsored.
 - We have 13 foursomes signed up
 - Event is on May 4th

Open Discussion

- Stemming off of Mrs. Welsh's update, we all had a good conversation about possibly having a "Music Boosters" type of committee next school year branched from the PTO to help with fundraising and managing of finances needed for special events like Kings Dominion or items like additional school instruments.
- Ms. Cockcroft said Art to Remember items are coming in soon and will be sent home.
- Ms. Smargiassi said there are still a lot of spots open for volunteering during the student wishlist time in Media for the Book Fair

Meeting called at: 8:00 pm

Remaining Music Calendar for the '25-'26 School Year

April 17th	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
Thursday May 7th	Froyo House, Vivi's Chicken & Mac, spizzico's fundraiser	Froyo house arnold
May 8th	spring concert assembly	Cafeteria/stage/gym
May 15	Kings Dominion Chorus Trip	Kings Dominion
May 21st	Chesapeake Baysox	Chesapeake Baysox Stadium