



## Beaver Creek PTO Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, November 8, 2022 - 7 PM  
**Location:** In-person (BCE Library)

**Welcome & Introductions** – Jenni Gruenisen, Rachel Miller, Hannah Israel, Ariana Twitty, Eliza Dy-Boarman, Janette Lems, Cory Root, Elizabeth Van Gundy, Julia Griffin, Chanell Abing, Amber Albizures, Mr. Toot

### Principal's Report – Mr. Toot

- The Beaver Creek birthday party day was a big success! Thanks to the PTO for organizing the fun run and for providing the birthday treats for all of the students
- Today was day 53 of the school year. Progress reports will be sent home tomorrow, November 9, and conferences are being held the next two Thursdays.
- We have had a few field trips already and more are planned in the coming weeks. Kindergarteners attended a show at the Civic Center last week. Second and third graders are going to the Civic Center next week. Our third graders are also making their annual trip to a Nutcracker performance as part of the music curriculum in early December.
- Our first concerts of the year will be held on Monday, November 21, with the fourth and fifth grade concerts.
- Safety Drill: A lock down drill is being practiced on Wednesday, November 9. This is one of many safety drills we practice each year (fire drill, tornado drill, reverse evacuation drill)
- Display screens being installed: These were purchased with carry over funds and will be used to display messages, announcements and acknowledgements
- National Education Week: November 14-18 is National Education Week, which is a time to reflect on the importance of public education to our society and to acknowledge those who work in public education. When researching this, I read that the first National Education Week was a campaign by the National Education Association and the American Legion to promote education as 25% of the US soldiers drafted to serve in World War I were illiterate.
- One purpose of the week is to acknowledge all who play a part in public education. Here are a few of the important groups included in this week.
  - November 16 Education Support Personnel Day: There are approximately 45 people serving Beaver Creek students in a support personnel role (associates, custodians, and nutrition). We could not do what we do without people willing to serve in these roles. A huge thanks to all who choose to do this important work!
  - November 18 Substitute Educator Day: It is rare to have a day at Beaver Creek where we do not have a substitute employee supporting students. Without substitute educators, we could not meet the needs of all learners, or even have school on some days. Big thanks to those who are willing to step in and serve students when our educators need to be away from school.
- Iowa School Performance Profile: Beaver Creek is designated as a “commendable” school on the Iowa School Performance Profile due to our composite score. This score is compiled using many different data points from the 2021-22 school year. ISASP data for third through fifth graders is used. FAST data is not.
- Based on Iowa's school accountability and support under ESSA, our school has received a designation of Targeted Support and Improvement. This is because our school has more than one student subgroup that performed as low as the lowest 5 percent of schools.
- Winter parties and winter break: Friday, December 23 will be a three hour early dismissal day. Tentative plans are for classroom winter parties to be held on Thursday, December 22, starting at 2:40. Friday, December 23 will be reserved for our annual winter sing-along and our school-wide movie day earned through the fall fundraiser. I will be asking teachers/grade levels what type of support they will need from families-volunteers to assist with the planning and party, donations from families.

### President's Report – Jenni Gruenisen

- Fall Fundraiser - thank you to everyone who helped and families who donated. We plan to do a similar fundraiser next year.
  - Volunteer feedback: the course was too long for younger grades (won't be a problem in future as the 2.5 km course was intentional for the 25th birthday this year), we need a microphone next year which will help with starting/finish line clarification. Grades wearing their t-shirts was very helpful. Water hand outs should be monitored and mini bottles might be nice.
  - Overall, it went well. Chalk the walk the night before, class made signs around the course, and kids seemed to have fun. We officially met our goal of \$10,000! Mr. Toot will announce tomorrow and we will have a dunk tank in the spring. Cupcakes were bumpy but ended up great (all should be from a peanut free facility - now we know for the future). So many parents came to be involved and there were many new faces.
  - Incentives seemed great and the assembly was really fun. Having an online donation option was great, having a clear use for donations was helpful. More to come in the spring after some plans can be made. Amber will post social media updates as we plan and get moving on the space. We have a master gardener (in training) helping (she assisted in writing grants that were approved for us to get several new trees around the school). Maybe we can make sure it is a sensory friendly area.
  - There was a question as to why we sent home envelopes because it seemed like a waste. We did this to serve as a tangible reminder of the Fundraiser, and about half of our donations came to the school in these envelopes so it seems to have worked well. There was an idea to include something else in the envelope next year like an activity or craft.
- Mr Quam would like to do a Color Run - we can work on doing that on a weekend, open to families/community. If interested in helping, we will be doing that in April/May.
- We now have childcare at meetings! Kids will be watched by Silver Cord students in the theater portion of the library.

#### Secretary's Report – Rachel Miller

- [October 2022 Meeting Minutes](#)
- **Motion to approve meeting minutes as presented - Elizabeth Van Gundy; second - Eliza Dy-Boarman. Motion passes.**

#### Treasurer's Report – Cory Root

- Restaurant nights: Culver's \$450, Tropical Smoothie \$300, Chick-fil-a \$123, so overall we are way over our budget for the year. Currently right around \$1000 with some carryover from last year (we haven't received the check from Chick-fil-a yet).
- Leader in Me shirts had deposits of about \$2620 (this is money sent in by families), which was short \$447.62 of the total cost.
- **Motion to approve covering extra \$447.62 for shirts - Rachel Miller; second - Elizabeth Van Gundy. Motion passes.** Cory will send payment to Joan.
- We met our fundraiser goal of \$10,000! Previous years: 2021 was about \$4500, 2020 was \$0, 2019 was almost \$3000, and 2018 was about \$3600.
- Boxtops, Amazon Smile money came in (\$32, \$65) - Amber will post about these on social media

#### Committee Reports

- Book Fair - Rachel Miller, Hannah Israel
  - Started today! All volunteer slots are filled, huge thank you to everyone. Previews were today and again tomorrow, students are excited. We have a "change jar" to help kids who are a little short due to sales tax.
  - Rachel met with Mr Toot and Ms Pille to make a plan for distributing free books. This plan will be emailed to volunteers. Each teacher will have eight free book certificates to give out to students in their class. Certificates will be handed out the rest of this week and can be redeemed next week 11/14-11/17. There will be a certain section to choose from (not the entire fair) so volunteers will handle this with students who have earned a free book. Rachel and Hannah will have a few extra certificates should teachers see a need for additional students.
- Restaurant Nights - Eliza Dy-Boarman

- o Charlotte's Kitchen: Tuesday, December 6 from 5:00-7:00 pm; 10% of sales when guests mention BCE
- o Panera (Merle Hay): Monday, January 9 from 4:00-8:00pm; 20% of sales when guests show our fundraising flyer (can show image on phone, so we need solid online promoting)
- Teacher Appreciation - Rachel Miller
  - o Taco Bar meal for teachers during conferences on 11/10. Joan sent out sign ups on Friday for various food items, all slots are filled. Taco meat and chicken fajita meat has been ordered through JCSD Catering. Snacks will be provided for teachers during conferences on 11/17.
  - o \$10 Casey's gift cards along with student written thank you cards are being given to BC Custodians and Nutrition staff for a belated celebration of Custodial and School Nutrition Appreciation Days. We plan to include these days on our Staff Appreciation event calendar next year.
  - o On the horizon is the Annual BC Staff Cookie Walk in December. Will be setting up a sign-up genius for cookie donations to be provided by BC families. We did not have a cookie walk in 2020 and last year all cookies were donated by Hyvee and Fareway so it's exciting to get back to a pre-COVID BC tradition where families can share their favorite homemade cookies and treats! 12/12 date planned, staff members are excited!
  - o What about teacher/staff appreciation/gifts or wishlist for holidays? Brainstorm - have all staff create their own wishlist, then parents "adopt" and put a dollar amount toward that teacher?
    - Maybe a gift card drive (\$5 increments) to hand out to all teachers/staff (associates, custodians) 75 adults work at BC each day, many support roles are often forgotten and we want them to be recognized. We can do a Sign Up Genius link and promote in Joan's newsletter the want to acknowledge all staff members. We can mention no planned class gifts. Jenni and Rachel will work on this.
- Yearbook - Julia Griffin
  - o Julia and Natalie will start working on the yearbook when the system opens on January 1! Any pictures can be emailed directly to them at [bcpto.yearbook@gmail.com](mailto:bcpto.yearbook@gmail.com).
- Winter Meltdown - Kalli is taking the lead. There will be a meeting next Friday 11/18 (time TBD - will be posted on BAND). Anyone can help as much or as little as they choose.
- Social media
  - o In the last 30 days we reached 3000 more people than the previous 30 days. People from community (realtors, district page, etc) are liking our posts
  - o Average posts are up to about 200 people (was down to about 95)
  - o 7 new followers
  - o 1st live video by Amber for Chalk the Walk the night before the Fun Run. 30 people watched.
  - o BAND events have been created through end of year
  - o PTO shirts will be \$15. A survey monkey link was sent out through BAND, deadline is Wednesday 11/16 - should have shirts by mid-December.

### Unfinished/Old Business

- We have the same QR code to use at events for donations. We can get a donation box to accept cash and to put the QR code on.
- Did we get gift cards from Jethro's? We should have five \$20 gift cards coming.

### New Business

- Get a gardening group going? Katie Talley showed interest before.
- Spring Color Run (see above)
- Janette's husband Jason is on the Johnston Community School Foundation with Jill Trobaugh - in the future we can reach out before the fundraiser for matching donations. They also have teacher grants.

### Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:18