



## Beaver Creek PTO Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 - 7 PM

**Location:** In-person (BCE Library)

**Welcome & Introductions** – Jenni Gruenisen, Cory Root, Hannah Israel, Rachel Miller, Eliza Dy-Boarman, Brooke Whiting, Kalli Hoben, Janette Lems, Mr. Toot

### Principal's Report – Mr. Toot

- Sixteen days left! Hard at work getting our literacy and math screenings done, as well as wrapping up other end of year classroom assessments. ISASP results and FAST literacy screening results will be sent home with students on the last day of school.
- A big thanks to the PTO for all of the treats and acknowledgements for teacher and staff appreciation week.
- The second and third grade concerts were held on April 27. Great shows as always.
- Senior Come Home day is Thursday, May 11. These students left Beaver Creek at the end of the 2015-16 school year.
- Our annual Field Day is scheduled for this Friday, May 12. We are monitoring the forecast as there is a chance of rain. If we call for use of the rain date it will be shared on Thursday night.
- The last band concert of the year is scheduled for Thursday, May 18.
- The last day of school is Thursday, June 1, and this will be a three-hour early dismissal day. End of year progress reports will be sent home, along with literacy and math screening data results.
- Kelly Snow is retiring from teaching at the end of the school year. She has spent her entire career in Johnston as a first grade teacher-34 years. We wish her well on her future endeavors.
- Mrs. Evans will be moving to first grade and a new hire is planned for third grade.
- It has been a positive year at Beaver Creek, and we have seen some great growth from our students.
- Staff members are ready for some down time, but at the same time, we are already thinking and planning for next year. The building will be busy all summer with different projects-carpet, vinyl on community walls, some room modifications and the courtyard project. We also need a new roof soon. I'm hopeful this work will start right away and be done in plenty of time for the start of the next school year, which is on Wednesday, August 23. We recently had skylights replaced due to hail damage.
- Courtyard Project: Matthew Mikles met with our Building Grounds Director, Bob Devens. Still on track to be completed by the end of summer.
- Here are a few next year dates:
  - Kindergarten Jump Start: August 14 and 15 (different date from other schools due to staff availability)
  - Meet the Teacher: August 21 from 2:30-4:00
  - First day of school: Wednesday, August 23
  - There will not be any Wednesday early dismissals next year.
  - Class rosters will be released around August 12 for grades 1-5. Kindergarten rosters will be released after Jump Start.
- Due to new Iowa legislation there is no longer an open enrollment deadline so it's harder to anticipate exact enrollment numbers. There will also be changes with the

new school voucher program, but we don't know what that will look like yet.

- We may look at boundary updates once we have a new Superintendent - next year we will have an Interim Superintendent. The school board is working on this now.
- We are working on better family engagement for next year. The PTO has been helpful with this, specifically looking at the turnout for Winter Meltdown. We need to work on different communications for different families. Our district has 70 languages, with 30 at Beaver Creek.
- Next year we will have a new communication platform (Parent Square) to replace Blackboard.
- Planning changes for student t-shirts next year, hoping to lower the total cost but ask families for \$10/shirt to lessen the gap of shirts that aren't paid for..

#### **President's Report – Jenni Gruenisen**

- 2023/2024 Officers - Co-Presidents: Jenni Gruenisen and Rachel Miller, Vice President: Hannah Israel, Secretary: Erica Metzger, Treasurer: Cory Root
- **Motion to approve the slate as presented - Brooke Whiting; second - Eliza Dy-Boarman. Motion passes.**

#### **Secretary's Report – Rachel Miller**

- [April 2023 Meeting Minutes](#)
- **Motion to approve meeting minutes as presented - Kalli Hoben; second - Eliza Dy-Boarman. Motion passes.**

#### **Treasurer's Report – Cory Root**

- **2023/2024 Budget Approval - Motion to approve budget with amendment (combine Teacher Appreciation with School Support) - Cory Root; second - Rachel Miller. Motion passes.**
- 5th grade celebration: \$1940 donations, budget \$1000 so \$2900
- Original Works netted \$1900, should get around \$1000 to the Art department (half the funds)
- Teacher Appreciation \$550 donations for gift card BINGO
- This year we have had \$41,000 come in and so far spent \$24,000. We have \$10,000 for the courtyard, plus yearbook and supply kits that still need to be paid. Cory expects to be even by the end of the year.

#### **Committee Reports**

- Original Works - Janette Lems
  - Total orders sent to BC students: 551
  - Total magnets purchased: 264
  - Total magnets returned: 145
    - Of magnets returned, families made a different purchase: 30
  - Total outstanding magnets: 142
  - Overall, 294 total orders placed out of 551
  - We looked at PTO purchasing all magnets ahead of time. If we purchased 551 at \$4.65 each, the total would be \$2563. Looking at this year's data that would have only brought total orders to 125.
  - We had more thoughts about magnets because we hate sending them home and making people buy them to keep them. We talked about donations from families, similar to t-shirts (send \$x for your portion, any extra goes toward other students).
- Restaurant Nights - Eliza Dy-Boarman
  - Tuesday 5/23 from 5:00-10:00 pm at El Mariachi. Mention BCE and we will receive 10% of sales. Rachel will create a flier for this event - will share on facebook, send it to Joan and Eliza. Eliza will share with El Mariachi so they can advertise.
  - Orange Leaf was \$87 they want to partner again, maybe in August when it's warmer
- Staff Appreciation
  - Self Care BINGO: donated gift cards, the staff members really like this. They have a BINGO sheet and Joan sends out items to mark off. When they get a BINGO they get to choose a gift

- card. This continues until all gift cards are gone.
- Monday: coffee, juice and donuts (donated from Dunkin & Starbucks)
- Tuesday: charcuterie table - teachers loved it but mentioned that it needs to be set out earlier with more food so everyone gets a chance.
- Wednesday: ice cream bar, hand/neck massages, Flare pens (donated)
- Thursday: Walking Tacos
- Friday: Popcorn Bar
- Family Activities
  - Color Powder Run was great, it's relatively easy so we can do it again. Around 70 people still came (out of 300 signed up) even with the date change and the rain.
  - Skate Night went well, solid turnout again.
- BOGO Book Fair
  - Open during Field Day, 5/12 from 8:30-3:30. We need grocery bags. If you want to volunteer at all during the fair, talk to Rachel. We anticipate needing help during lunch.
- 5th Grade Celebration
  - On the last day of school. Inflatable obstacle course, dunk tank, pizza lunch, clap out
  - Kona Ice is still in the works. We need to have the request submitted for board approval by 5/17 so it can be approved at the meeting on 5/22.
- Yearbook
  - yearbooks have shipped! We anticipate them arriving this week so they can be sorted for distribution.

#### **Unfinished/Old Business**

- Last day of school Kona Ice- after school at 1 pm still in the works with 5th grade celebration plans
- 2023/2024 Committees
  - Thank you to everyone for a great year!
  - Lauren Sandman will be our new Apparel Chairperson - she is also going to be handling apparel sales for ALL the schools.
  - Unfilled positions include: Fundraiser/Fun Run, Staff Appreciation, Social Media Team, Website, New Families, Family Activities

#### **New Business**

- 2023/2024 Calendar (Included)
- Is the Family Picnic ever coming back? This is logistically difficult because everyone has to Raptor in to join the picnic. It may be revisited in the future.
- Next year we plan to add financial aid to events that require money (pumpkin patch, skate night, etc)

#### **Adjournment at 8:29**

## **2023-2024 PTO Calendar**

### **PTO Meetings:**

*We will hold work nights prior to meetings. More information to come.*

August 15, 2023 (7 pm)  
September 12, 2023 (7 pm)  
October 10, 2023 (4 pm)  
November 14, 2023 (7 pm)  
December 12, 2023 (7 pm)  
January 9, 2024 (4 pm)  
February 13, 2024 (6:30 pm - All School)  
March 19, 2024 (7 pm)  
April 9, 2023 (7 pm)  
May 14, 2023 (7 pm)

### **Events:**

*Monthly Family Activities\* and Restaurant Spirit Nights will continue.*

Friday, October 20, 2023 - Fall Fundraiser / Fun Run  
December 12, 2023 - Staff Cookie Walk  
March 1, 2024 - Winter Meltdown  
May 31, 2024 - 5th Grade Celebration

*\*Ideas include: Pumpkin Patch, Indoor Movie, Roller Skating, Color Powder Run, Reading Night*

### **Staff Appreciation:**

*Includes monthly snacks in the Staff Lounge & birthday cards for all staff members.*

August 22, 2023 - First Day Breakfast (meal)  
October 2, 2023 - National Custodian Day (gift cards)  
November 7 & 9, 2023 - Conference Nights (meals)  
February 29 & March 5, 2024 - Conference Nights (meals)  
April 2024 - School Library Month (?)  
April 23, 2024 - Bus Driver Appreciation (gift cards)  
April 24, 2024 - Administrative Professionals Day (gift basket)  
May 1 - Principal Appreciation Day (gift baskets)  
May 6-10, 2024 - Staff/Teacher Appreciation Week (BINGO Game, meals, etc)  
May 6, 2024 - Nurse Appreciation Day (gift card)  
May 31, 2024 - Last Day Snacks (meal)