

Bull Run Middle School PTSO

September 10th, 2026 Meeting Agenda

6:00 pm, Bull Run Middle School Library | 6308 Catharpin Rd. Gainesville, VA 20155

Call to order: Welcome, Opening Remarks & Attendance/Sign-In

- In Attendance:
 - Board Members Jennifer West, Mia Batson, Bronwyn Hershberger, Jennie Ledesma, Vanessa Boyd and Melissa Bays
 - Staff: Connor Haupt
 - Additional Parents: Three
- Introductions
 - Best memory from Middle School
 - Biggest hope for your child's middle school experience
 - Highlight/Lowligh feedback from last year
- PTSO Mission and Vision
- Preview of the year: 8 major events, 6 for all grades and 2 co-sponsored events for 8th grade. Ice Cream Scoop and Bingo will require teacher volunteers.
 - Suggestion to connect with Manhattan Pizza for Spirit Night
- Call for parent volunteers, committee chairs

Meeting Minutes: Minutes from last year's meetings are available at brmsptso.com and each meeting's minutes will be added within 72 hours. At the beginning of each meeting, we'll open the floor for any questions or discrepancies from the prior month.

Treasurer's Report:

- Cash levels are sufficient to meet upcoming needs
- New reporting software will give better reporting this year

Teachers' Report:

- Nothing to report: thanks to Mr. Haupt for attending!

Old Business:

- Spirit wear sales at Meet and Greet were a success. Hoodies were sold out, but additional are coming soon!

New Business:

- New Platform, Cheddar Up as launched to try to keep donation, spirit wear sales, and sign-ups more streamlined.

Upcoming Events:

- September 11th: Jersey Mike's Spirit Day, all day at the Stonewall Shops location with lunch delivered for staff around 10:30 am
- Thursday, September 17th and 24th: Back to School Nights
 - PTSO providing a light dinner for teachers and staff and connecting with families via a PTSO table where Eagles Spirit Wear will be available for sale
- Wednesday, September 30th: Back to School Kick-Off at BRMS, 3-5pm
 - Last year moved indoors due to weather, but we're hoping for better weather this year!

- Cotton candy, Kona Ice, and Pizza will be available for purchase with free games and activities for all.
- Free event, with registration required to ensure each student has a permission slip. Intentionally coincides with first home football game, which makes for a really festive atmosphere and great community building.
- Paper permission slips will be provided as an exception where needed
- Wristbands will be provided to advisory teachers to identify students who have parent permission to attend, similar to last year
- Feedback and ideas:
 - Last year was confusing for students because of the need to determine how many tickets they needed to purchase, what to do with the tickets once they were purchased, etc.
 - Students pre-pay and get a wristband to differentiate who gets tickets when they come in.
 - Students tend to wait in a line when they see one: volunteers to circulate and make sure everyone in the line has the info they need and aren't waiting unnecessarily.
 - Can students pay with apple pay/tap to pay?
 - Planning committee will meet at 11:15am at the Crossroads Cafe (inside the Hilton in downtown Haymarket) - anyone who wants to support is welcome to join!
 - Give volunteer hours for NJHS students to put up flyers and help spread the word.
 - Bracelet system last year worked great - purchasing tickets is the challenge.
 - Keep pizza, chips, and drink together with only cotton candy and Kona Ice separate to minimize lines. Use meal deals to keep the pricing simple
 - Denote the places you can go purchase food clearly: eg. go to any table with a red balloon to get your food.
 - Put pricing info in the weekly news bulletin so parents know how much to send.
 - Game ideas: basketball, tennis courts if available, chalk(?), cornhole, ping pong indoors, hacky sack. Mr. Muster is the PE Department chair and would be the point of contact for requests to use PE equipment, while Ms. Harper oversees the use of athletic equipment. Bruno's Bounce House rents outdoor games.
- Tuesday, October 6th: Baskin Robbins Teacher Scoop, 5-8pm
 - We'd like to 60 or 90 minute "shifts" with 2-3 teachers per shift
 - This event generated over \$300 last year, which supported our staff appreciation activities throughout the year
- Friday, October 16th: Ghostly Gala at BRMS, 7-9pm
- As with other school events, we now have a no Bag Policy for all PTSO events
- The county has been pushing the music department to move to online payments (using student Quick Pay / Rycor, which has been beneficial so far. Mr. Haupt is willing to meet and share information on this system as helpful. This system also allows for discount codes for students who qualify for free/reduced price lunch.

Open Questions/Closing and confirmation of next meeting: Next meeting is October 22nd at 6pm in the BRMS Library