



Bellmore Elementary PTA Minutes

Winthrop Avenue School

C.A. Reinhard Early Childhood Center

Shore Road School

Date: 3/10/2026 | *Time:* 6:55pm | *Meeting called to order by:* Brianna Bachrach

In Attendance

Executive Board PTA Members, Committee Chair people

Proposed Changes to Committees

- Reminded those in attendance that it is important to make changes slowly.
- Asked for discussions and feedback.

- **PARP (Brianna led discussion)**
 - Mystery readers are now visiting classrooms throughout the year and the PTA has enjoyed “great feedback on it.”
 - Proposed a committee consisting of 3-6 positions, with at least one representative from each school.
 - Carla said PARP was particularly difficult this year because there were no Reinhard or Winthrop parents on the committee.
 - Reinhard and Winthrop PARP would run for two weeks.
 - All three schools would share one cohesive theme but offer different assemblies.
 - Teachers encouraged to provide committee with advice.
 - Jamie reminded us that teachers used to organize the PARP Literacy Night; now most do not offer help; she asked Winthrop teachers for assistance this year, but none volunteered.
 - No one opposed these suggestions.

- **Health & Safety (Carla led discussion)**
 - Proposed a committee consisting of three positions, with each member representing a different school.
 - Proposed working with the school principals to schedule Health & Safety Week at the same time for all three schools.
 - Gerri Anne Sweikata asked how many assemblies would take place in each school; Brianna said this is dependent on our budget and the way we decide to structure the week.
 - Amy Pilott suggested saving money by scheduling the same assembly at different schools on the same day, and reminded us that Northwell assemblies are free.
 - Jamie suggested scheduling Health & Safety week in November because October already has many events.
 - No one opposed these suggestions.

- **Cultural Arts (Brianna led discussion)**
 - Brianna said she tried to eliminate this committee, but budgetary issues prevented the district from approving this.
 - Proposed a committee comprised of three positions, with a member representing each school.
 - Proposed focusing on cultures; examples include events focusing on Chinese New Year, Cinco de Mayo, Eid, etc.

- **Membership (Brianna led discussion)**
 - A total of \$5 from each member’s registration fee now goes toward New York State/National PTA.
 - Bellmore Elementary PTA made \$4,400 from membership during the 2025-2026 school year.
 - We will need to charge \$5 more per family next year.

- o Amy Pilott asked what percentage of our membership is comprised of individuals, and what percentage is comprised of families; Brianna said there are more individual members.
 - o Brianna asked if we think the registration fee increase should be more than \$5; Sam Quatroni said no and suggested a gradual increase, first to \$5 and then more.
 - o Julie asked how many members the PTA currently has; Brianna said 635.
 - o Vote took place and passed with zero people saying no to increase the membership dues starting for the 2026-27 school year. Individual membership will now cost \$20, with additional family members costing \$10 each; family memberships will cost \$30; teacher/staff and student memberships will cost \$15.
- **Additional discussion regarding committees**
 - o Maria said that some committee members do not understand their roles and asked committee chairs to provide guidelines; Carla said committee members always receive guidelines at the start of the school year.
 - o Amy suggested holding a Meet the PTA event in May.
 - Jamie said we have a Q&A event scheduled every year, but cancel it due to a lack of attendance.
 - Amy suggested making this event more fun to encourage attendance.
 - Jamie suggested providing a “The More You Know” handout with blurbs describing what each committee does throughout the year.
 - Amy said members find joining committees intimidating; Allie suggested that we become more inviting.
 - Amy suggested sending thank you notes to all those who attended the auction, along with information and pictures regarding PTA events. Then, six weeks later, sending committee application forms to the same group.
 - Carla suggested providing dates on which committee members need to attend events on the handout that includes descriptions of committees.
 - Brianna reminded us that we already point out the committees that are ideal for working parents.
 - Amy suggested editing the committee guidelines to reflect the aspects that are most important, as the commitment levels expected years ago are not always possible today.
 - o Allie said there are oftentimes too many members of committees, restricting their abilities to reach collaborative agreements and allocate responsibilities.
 - Sam suggested shrinking the Auction Committee to four members.
 - Maria suggested a large Auction Committee with various jobs; Sam and Jamie disagreed, citing that members are inclined to offer their fair share of work when there are less people to share this workload with.
 - o Jen mentioned that some schools have one PTA fundraising committee, and divvy up the monies raised between the various arms of the PTA.
 - Jamie said it helps to have different faces asked the same businesses for money multiple times throughout the year.
 - Amy suggested asking businesses for a specific amount of gift cards at the beginning of the year, to then be used at various PTA events.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Aliza Schauder