



PTO Meeting Notes
September 9, 2025

Meeting Notes: 6:31pm start

PTO Board in Attendance- *Angel Nelson (President), Stacey McDonald (Co-VP), Nicole Lima (Co-VP), Shawn Nelson (Fundraising Chair), Lindsay Wood (Secretary), Rachel Gonzalez (Events Coordinator), Erin Provensal (Communications Chair)*

Staff in Attendance- *Susan Smith (Principal), Craig Macarelli (VP), Rosalyn Guevara (Family Engagement Facilitator), Mariah Brennan (1st Grade), Anna Hillman (Multi-Language Learner).*

Parents/Guardians in attendance- *Jamie Aubin, Eusabeth Holden Boatwright, Amy Mari, Vergiinus Famka, Renee Montecalvo, Kara Walker, Anduni Adamson, Travis Adamson, Manel Malngelli, Will Wagnir, Theresa Moutafis, Briana Kenny, Tinza Espinal*

What is PTO- staff, family, guardians, working together to give kids great experience

- Recently purchased new rugs, tennis balls for 1st grade chairs, back to school staff snacks, popsicles for Pops with Principal event, Potluck supplies
- Raise money to contribute to after school activities and field trips/field day, events and more

Open Board positions- Enrichment and Treasurer

- Enrichment coordinator- books cultural arts assemblies (2-3x year) and makes sure teachers/staff are aware of event and who is going to be there, comes to meetings, assists with literacy festival, works with principal on mass cultural grant
 - Brianna Kenny interested— all in favor
- Treasurer- accounting of finances, attends monthly meetings, provides finance update at every meeting, meets every Aug with principal to go over budget, responsible for cash/debit/checking transactions
 - 3 nominees to vote- Rachel, Will, Anduni. Will stepped down

- Anduni nominated under written vote

Principal report-

- Teachers shoutout for coming- Hillman, Brennan, Mac. There will be more teacher involvement in PTO this year.
- If you are unable to reach the office by phone, leave message or Parent Square- goal is to reach out within 24 hours
- Newsletters are sent out every week with updates and pictures
- School improvement plan this year is about Belonging, Empowering Educators, and Elevating Learning. The plan is presenting to the site counsel every month.
- Believe, Be you, Belong at Bates motto
- We do not have holiday parties during the school day since some kids did not feel included or have a sense of belonging when they don't celebrate at home. We may have some things around the year after school hours. For Halloween, we take part in the Halloween parade downtown and the Monster Mash after school
- Events for the year in the books- Open House Potluck (Sept), Monster Mash (Oct), Bingo night (Jan), Bates Creates (Mar- STEM focused festival), Walkathon (April/May), Election day bake sale (Nov), Fundraiser calendar (Feb/Mar), Penny Wars, Field Day, restaurant fundraisers throughout the year.
- Parent/teacher conferences 2x per year
- Possible ideas for future events: Science fair, ice cream social/art night, movie night, glow dance party, healthy habits events, philanthropy, Thanksgiving drive
- After school programs being offered again this year- Due to school times extending, buses will be leaving the school at 4pm to transport kids back home after these programs. After school programs for grades 3-5, because if the parents aren't at the bus stop, they cannot leave kids at the stop, and afterwards there may be nobody at the school to drop the child off at. This causes a big safety risk for younger kids
- Mr Mac mentioned that this month is Suicide Prevention month- There is a city-wide event monthly that provides resources. For more information, please reach out to Mr Mac

Name the Lane

- Went out in today's folders for most students.
- This is a raffle that typically brings in around \$4k per year.
- Winner gets \$100 gift card, and the child who sells the winning ticket gets to "name the lane" in front of the school (the fork in the road by the 1st/2nd grade exit) and they get to ride in a limo with their friends to school (BIG SHOUTOUT TO MICHAELS LIMOUSINE WHO DONATES THE LIMO EVERY YEAR)
- Raffle- due Sept 26, pull winner Sept 30, limo/sign unraveling Oct 10

Monster Mash Friday Oct 17

- Annual Halloween bash with lots of games, crafts, dancing
- Food, drinks, pizza for purchase, raffles
- Scare room coordinator up for grabs

- There will be a Monster Mash meeting on Sept 22 at 6:45pm for those interested in helping out
- Looking for pizza donations
- Trunk or treat from 6-7 in the big playground
- More info to come after planning meeting

Enrichment update

- Oct 22 half day having an assembly that incorporates anti-bullying. The Magic Within. 2 separate shows (grades prek-2, 3-5). \$1500 total.

Finance review

- Field trip budgets constantly changing due to enrollment
- Budget based on last year's results

Spirit rock explained-

- \$20 to rent the rock for the week. We paint it white and they have it Sun-Sat. sells out quickly. Code to sign up

Other business-

- Cori for volunteering. Finger printing required from district for any chance you are alone with kids (chaperone)- good until you leave the district
- Erin and Brianna working on starting up Honeycomb, which is a free app for parent directory. They are implementing a piloting opt-in and hopefully eventually in collaboration with the school. Parents can communicate with one another, and it is grade specific, so there can be communications about things going on in class as well. This would be in addition to the Facebook groups and Parent Square notifications.

Next meeting Oct 14 6:30pm

Meeting called to End 7:41pm