



Bates Elementary School

Home of the Bates Beacons

PTO MEETING AGENDA

September 14, 2026 6:30pm

Attendees: Sue Smith (principal), Angel Nelson (president), Nicole Lima (vice president), Shawn Nelson (fundraising), Stacy McDonald (treasurer), Rachel Gonzalez (events), Lindsay Wood (secretary), Jamie Aubin (enrichment coordinator), Tatiana Buchanan, Elizabeth Holden, Matthew Cahill-Ronley, Emily Peczelc

- ☐ Welcome to PTO- flyer intro provided
- ☐ Board introductions
- ☐ Description of open positions and nominations/voting
 - ☐ Pre-k and K liaison avail to be the point person for those grades with families and teachers.
 - ☐ Enrichment coordinator- work with principal to make sure assemblies are booked and grants are applied for- Jamie appointed, all in favor
- ☐ Principal report
 - ☐ Wednesday night open house potluck
 - ☐ 40 new kids to bates this year (highest enrollment in the past few years at 440 kids) with possibility of it continuing to grow
 - ☐ Halloween theme is released- old school. Trick or treat bag on the back of the truck tipped on the side. Kids are the candy falling out. Make and take event- families can decorate their candy template and take with them
 - ☐ 1st site counsel meeting Wednesday. Anyone is welcome to join (comment only during “public comment”)
 - ☐ 1st early release next Wednesday with town hall- big kids and little kids pair up for social emotional with some sort of art project
 - ☐ Social emotional section of the newsletter gives ideas about what to talk to your kid about school at home
 - ☐ Pride crosswalk painting coming up
 - ☐ spirit days posted in newsletter
 - ☐ Beacon brief is a mini version on newsletter
- ☐ Open House
 - ☐ Wednesday 5:30-7
 - ☐ 4:45-5:15 in theater for meeting with superintendent
 - ☐ setup in caf at 4:45

- ☐ Bates Ts avail for sale
- ☐ 5th grade 50/50
- ☐ need more people to sign up for more food

- ☐ Name the Lane
 - ☐ fliers will be going home this week
 - ☐ raffle tickets to name the mini lane in front of the school and ride a limo to school (student who sells gets this and the person who's name is pulled gets a \$100 gift card).
 - ☐ Due Fri Oct 2
 - ☐ typically brings in around \$4k
 - ☐ Oct 16 limo ride

- ☐ Monster Mash
 - ☐ Oct 16 6-8
 - ☐ first hour trunk or treat in large playground
 - ☐ cafeteria food and face painting
 - ☐ gym has games and music
 - ☐ lobby has raffles
 - ☐ donations for pizzas and Hobbs popcorn
 - ☐ sensory friendly area possibly Theater since haunted hallway room is now storage and can't be used.

- ☐ Fundraising
 - ☐ PTO event page for year sent out. Other events TBD.
 - ☐ Longboards, Amigos, Land and Sea, Village Tavern

- ☐ Enrichment update
 - ☐ pending contract for 10/30- No Brain is the Same. Antibullying month so focus on building empathy and realize that everyone's brain works differently and should be accepted
 - ☐ book helping k-8
 - ☐ February Rob Surette- works for Disney and paints 4/8 sheets with a famous "change maker" and brings in equipment for the show and paints while telling a story about why these people are so important
 - ☐ Mass Cultural grant to paint the hallway- huge lighthouse with waves/ocean theme

- ☐ Finance review
 - ☐ budget report spreadsheet provided- need to adjust due to increased number of students in the school

- ☐ Other business
 - ☐ Therapy dog for school still on wait list
 - ☐ Carlton did a clothing swap- have a table at an event where you bring in lightly worn clothes and shoes to donate
 - ☐ free clothing event for Salem families Oct 3 at Aspacios
 - ☐ we do have a closet for clothes for students in case of need.

OCT 19 next meeting