

Feb 12, 2025 | PTO Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Amanda Munson, Stephanie Diehm, Abby Fiorentino, Julia Losito, Nicole Siegel, Becca Althouse, Redi Berhe, Amy Mast

Notes

- Approval of last month's minutes: Althouse, Siegel
- Seeking recommendations for a new spiritwear company
- Seeking recommendations of a program to replace the violin program for the 2025-2026 school year
- Yearbook: Volunteers still needed.
 - Form a committee for future yearbooks to lessen the load
 - New company for yearbooks to keep them affordable
 - Will offer online ordering and distribute from the school
- Planning ongoing for Bingo Night, Talent Show, Spring Fest; contact the PTO if interested in assisting with planning or volunteering
- Update from Mrs. Munson:
 - North Star is starting Brecht Connect. Five families and two teachers to mentor with a focus on families new to the school district
 - Math Differentiation-I Ready rolled out
 - At the 2/20 school board meeting, Mrs. Rickert will be recognized as employee of the month
 - Brecht will spotlight our new Homeroom buddies program at the meeting
 - Anyone is welcome to attend
 - Project Fair is scheduled for 5/7. Mrs. Stolfus will coordinate. PTO will assist as needed
 - Plan to offer kindergarten registration at all school events for the remainder of the year
 - Trying to boost registration so that we have appropriate staffing for the 2025-2026 school year
- Update from Mrs. Diehm: Thank you to the PTO for all the care shown to the staff; they appreciate the snack closet for the students. The kids have been enjoying their reading chain and homeroom buddies
- Nicole Siegel:(garden/hospitality)
 - Hospitality: Giving cards to all the bus drivers and to Mrs. Rickert
 - Thanks for the contributions to the appreciation gifts and snack cupboard
 - Garden: Planning meeting will take place late Feb. or early March for garden improvements (new garden beds, spring cleanup etc). Looking for volunteers!
 - MTEF Golf event will be 3/22 10-2 at Landis Run
 - Free to the public to participate & Brecht garden will have an info table there
 - Garden club (after school program) will be in April this year; more to come
 - Summer garden camp will be this summer. Planning ongoing; dates TBD

- Abby Fiorentino: Julia Kamanda will be doing her artist in residence program with the students on March 8, March 25, April 1, April 8 and April 15
- A former Brecht parent/graphic designer made 3 logo designs for new Brecht spiritwear
 - Students will be presented with the options on Feb. final friday, and vote on the new logo for the spring spiritwear sale
 - Fourth graders will be designing their own Tshirt this year. It will be part of their 4th grade gift from the PTO
 - We will be seeking 3rd grade parents in the spring to form a committee for their children's 4th grade year. The committee would consist of parents/teachers/Munson and would plan 4th grade spiritwear, celebration etc.

Action items

- ☐ Reach out to Kendra for recommendations on a spiritwear company
- ☐ Keep an eye out for communications from Nicole Siegel re garden volunteer opportunities, clubs and camps .
- ☐ Beginning spring fest planning
- ☐ Seeking 3rd grade families interested in joining 4th grade committee for 2025-2026 school year
- ☐ Bingo night sign up genius is posted on the PTO site. Flier will be released to students soon
- ☐ Spring flower sale fundraiser upcoming; flowers to be distributed around Talent Show