

## BENNIE ELEMENTARY PTA MINUTES

November 14th, 2024 6:30



The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance and board introductions.

**Present:** Shannon Gilliam, Guy Taylor, Ashlee Heithue, Chelsea Honstain

The quorum was established with over 5 paid members present.

**Agenda:** The motion to accept the agenda was made by Mrs. Housely and seconded by Autumn Mulka

**Minutes from October 3rd, 2024:** Motion to approve minutes was made by Scott Goulette and seconded by Autumn Mulka

**Teacher's Report:** Mrs. Riker, Mrs. Housley, Mrs. Manor were present. Mrs. Housely loved the firefighter pizza reward. She was also very grateful for the Top Earning Class movie Party as well. Mrs. Riker spoke on behalf of Mrs. Davis. She asked the PTA to consider adding a yearly budget from the Run Club. The Run Club is the schools most popular club which runs twice yearly and is supported by Mrs. Davis. Both sessions fill and we have to turn away students. Providing funding helps support the patches, end of the season popsicles, tshirts, materials and supplies. Mr. Goulette proposed a motion to add \$600 to the budget yearly. Shannon Gilliam seconded the motion. All yahs no nays.

**Principal's Report:** Mr. Short discussed how happy he was with the Fun Run turn out. He reviewed how he utilizes the \$7000 provided to bennie from the PTA yearly; reading bags, the skill level books, goal setting rewards, TPT. He reports that our PTA continues to robustly support our school assemblies and after school activities; on average we have 25-30 events per year.

He reports that this week, our monkey bar climbing dome was removed. He says we had ~20-30 injuries per week and it provided a safety risk. He reports the plan for that space includes new equipment in 2026. In the meantime, a GaGa Ball Pit was built in its place on behalf of the eagle scouts. It was gifted to us by the Middle School who had to remove it due to the new stem lab.

He was pleased with parent teacher conferences. He talked about how the Allen Park library had a nice table. First trimester ends 12/6 with grades on the parent portal the following week.

The kids are receiving proficiency patches this week for math or reading if they are at or exceeding their grade level expectation.

Picture retake day is 11/26. Otis Spunkmeyer fundraiser is ongoing through next week.

The book fair is coming up 12/9-12/13. Family Game Night is 12/5.

**Treasurer's Report:** Guy (on behalf of Michael). Our bank balance is 28,640. The Fun Run Check has yet to be added.

**Secretary's Report:** Chelsea received correspondence from Mrs. Astalos, Ms. Murphy, Mrs. McCall, Mrs. Agrusa, Mrs. Klein, Mrs. Siegwald.

**Old Business:**

1. Fun Run (Shannon) crushed it this year. We earned the most we have in a long while. We raised \$32,309.50 this year after the fees we removed.
2. Texas Roadhouse (Chelsea). We raised \$375.07. They will also will generously donate a meal to teacher appreciation week.
3. Holiday Fever (Guy). Thank you to the volunteers who helped support it. We raised \$693 for the 50/50 raffle. The winning recipient donated \$200 back to the PTA. Over \$9000 were raised for the scholarship fund.
4. Jets Fundraiser earned \$731.58. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.
5. Playground Equipment (Guy). The woodshop group at the high school generously donated our new cornhole boards this year. The PTA purchased the bags sets to play.

**New Business:**

1. **Founders Day**
  - a. This year will be 2/12 at Prestige. We offer multiple awards. We will vote on candidates at the next meeting.
2. **Reflections**
  - a. Discussed the concept of Reflections. It is a national PTA event. The theme this year is "Accepting Imperfection". Hoping to engage more students' submissions. The judges are a panel of multidisciplinary adults. Went live 10/1-12/6. Its broken down by K-2, 3-5.
3. **Scholastic Dollars**
  - a. Scholastic dollars were exhausted to fund "1 book, 1 school" with 600 books purchased for March is Reading Month. We also provided funds to the library, media tech, and music classrooms. Due to the limitations of the scholastic catalog, we were unable to help Gym & Art. The PTA proposed that we offer a 1 time \$1000 stipend to each of these classrooms. Scott made a motion for \$1000 to each Art & Gym with approval from Mr. Short on the items they wish for. Cheryl seconded it. All yays, no nays.
4. **Rev'd Up (Chelsea Honstain)**
  - a. Next event is 11/27; please consider purchasing arcade cards
5. **Donuts with Grown Ups (Chelsea Honstain)**
  - a. Chelsea announced the tentative dates of February 4th & 5th. Liz motioned for the \$500 budget line to be added to make this a yearly event.. Julie Bartoloni seconded it. We took a vote; all yays no nays.
6. **Music Trivia (Chelsea Honstain)**

- a. Chelsea announced the date of Music Trivia as a fundraiser/gathering for adults. It will be held on 1/10 at Trina O'Malley's from 5-8. 8Trax, a local company, agreed to donate their services. Tickets will be \$10.
- 7. Bennie Gives Back**
- a. This year's event is scheduled for 12/11. Lots of crafts and fun planned. Sign up genius will go out next week. This year, we are using "Reaching All in Need of Assistance". This is an organization that supports the community in a variety of ways.
- 8. Committee Updates**
- a. All committees are full for planning members except for Bingo for Books. Scott Goulette offered to fill that spot.

**Adjourned at 7:25 pm.**