

Blue Ball Elementary School PTO

Minutes

Blue Ball Elementary PTO

Jan. 2, 2017

Principal
Curt McCaskey

PTO BOARD

President
Beth Davis

Vice President
Janina Pinkas

Secretary
Tracy Finegan

Treasurer
Kendra Babb

COMMITTEES

Fundraising {2016-2017 NEED COORDINATORS}
Believe for Kids: Beth Davis

Box Tops & Labels for Education {2016-2017 NEED MEMBERS}
Janina Pinkas

Spirit Wear
Beth Davis

Hospitality {NEED COORDINATOR}

Volunteer & Workroom
LeeAnn McDonald

Special Events
~ Family Events: Beth Davis & Janina Pinkas
~ All Pro Dads: Michael Lewis & PTO Volunteers
~ STEM Fair: Jessica Wilson & McCabe
~ Assemblies: PTO Board

WELCOME TEACHERS and RETURNING FACES!!

The meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

Attendance (9): Janina Pinkas, Beth Davis, Curt McCaskey, Kendra Babb, Heather Schrantz, Connie Good, Don Davis, Carol Severance, Kirsten Ebersol

Open Forum: {If you would like to share a concern or suggestion prior to meetings, please email the PTO at blueballpto@gmail.com or send in a note to the office ATT: Blue Ball PTO} Attendants brought forth the following discussion...

Labels for Education: Former Box Tops and Labels for Education coordinator, Jessica Wilson

Treasurer's Report (see attached "[Budget Report December 2016](#)" and "[Monthly Report 201612](#)"): "[Budget Report December 2016](#)": Believe Kids Fundraiser check was sent for \$365.28. All Pro-Dads \$6 was spent on the December program. \$92.33 was spent under Family Nights for the Holidays Around the World event. The "-" amounts means it is good; it means that was money added our account or what we have not spent yet. [The Reconciliation Summary and Detail Treasurer's Reports will be available in the Blue Ball Elementary Office located outside Mr. McCaskey's office for anyone who is interested in reviewing them.] **{Position needs filled for 2017/2018 schoolyear}**

Activities:

Fundraiser ~ The PTO profited \$11,089.55 from the Believe Kids fundraiser. Which means we still need \$13,310.45 to meet our budget.

In place of a spring fundraiser, the PTO has agreed to ask for payment of \$25.00 per student or a monetary donation of greater or what can be afforded per family. The letters will be sent home addressed to the Parents/Guardians of each student with the budget we need met (\$13,310.45) and a need for \$25.00 per student; the letters will also be sent to the staff of the school. Curt McCaskey will send an option to the teachers to donate \$25 or more of their teacher allotment.

Kendra Babb suggested the PTO to look into programs that are provided by companies; some companies offer to send a percentage of their profit to an organization of the customer's choice. Some of the companies that were mentioned to participate are smile.amazon – through Amazon – Yoder's, Giant, and Redners. New Holland PTO became an organization added to Yoder's this year. [Committee Volunteers [NEEDED 2016/2017 schoolyear](#)]

Box Tops & Labels for Education {No clearances for counting but Clearances **NEEDED** for in-school contest posting and box tops pick-up} – This year's contest is "Ski to Win". The reminder and details about the contest will be ready this week. "Ski to Win" will be a contest using skiers for each class – MDS will be combined – and they will move as every 100 collected from the labels' point value (some Labels for Education has a point value with the barcode) and box tops; each skier that collects every 100 total of labels & tops will move every 100 "finish line". What's new? There will be snowflakes with a number on them to purchase with the students' High Five coupons at the High Five Store. The snowflake's number is a total of box tops and labels for education that are extras collected or donated outside the students' class; the student can add the snowflake's number to their class' weekly total. The posters displayed with the "Ski to Win" game will show the total of tops and labels' faces value collected. The winner will be chosen once the weekly collection for the homeroom is divided by the total of students in that class. The weekly totals will be displayed with the poster and along with the posters and in a couple of hallways for the students, staff & teachers. (You may refer to the attached flyer that was sent home Jan. 6 "[Ski to Win.docx](#)")

Don Davis noticed another way to collect money for the school or PTO that is through the pencil supplies. The Ticonderoga Pencils has a barcode coupon that can be collected to earn free school supplies through prangpower.com. Janina Pinkas will look into this. **NOTE: It has been reported Labels for Education national program will end in the near future.** [Committee Volunteers & members [NEEDED 2017/2018 schoolyear](#)] Volunteer/Workroom {Clearances **NEEDED**} – The usage of the Helping Hands (workroom) has increased this year. More volunteers showed for the family event, Holidays Around the World making it a success. [Coordinator [NEEDED 2016/2017 schoolyear](#)]

Spirit Wear – The fall/winter spirit wear was a success and requests for more resulted in a Spring Spirit Wear Sale. The company was M & H in New Holland. Beth Davis and Janina Pinkas will go to M & H soon to select products for the Spring Spirit Wear Sale. [Committee Volunteers [NEEDED 2016/2017 schoolyear](#)]

All Pro Dads {No clearances needed = family event} – This year the program is in the evenings prior to the PTO meeting' it is from 6:30pm-7:30pm with hopes of an increased attendance to both the All Pro Dads program then the PTO meeting. The program had mostly a low attendance except this recent January 2 event. Mr. Lewis is looking for more ideas on how to increase the attendance. Snacks are provided along with tips, resources, and a film to help "dads" to be the best DAD you can be. [Volunteer [NEEDED 2016/2017](#)]

Family Fun Night Events {No clearances needed = family event} – December Family Night event was Holidays Around the World. Holidays Around the World was a success with a selfie booth, coloring pages to make your own coloring book, door prizes, make your own reindeer food, crafts, hot chocolate bar, cookies, crafts and Santa visited the duration of the event. A paper link chain in red and green was made with every attendees name on a link then hung in the library. Beth Davis and Janina Pinkas are discussing next year's Holidays Around the World and working to expand the event's activities.

Assemblies – PTO is providing an author, Daryl Cobb to visit on May 15. He will be providing assemblies for the Kindergarten & MDS, 1-3 and 4-6 graders. Daryl will perform "Music and Storytime" for MDS, Kindergarten & 1st – 3rd classes. He will perform "A Writer's Journey" with 4th – 6th graders. Daryl will be with the school from 9am until 3:30pm. He will have lunch with the children and visit some classrooms between assemblies for Q & A. He will be providing a few copies of a book he will write about our school with the staff & teacher's names. There will also be a chance for students, staff and teachers to purchase this book.

Don Davis asked if the Big Read Committee would consider purchasing one of his chapter books for the Big Read. Mr. McCaskey said he will inform them of the suggestion.

STEM Fair –The STEM Fair will be held March. Jessica Wilson and the STEM teacher, Mrs. McCabe discussed STEM Fair preparation sessions that will be held January 19, February 9 and February 23. Jessica Wilson raised her concern about the Stem Fair Tshirt budget since this may be a greater turn-out for the fair; Mr. McCaskey said the assembly this year went under budget this year; STEM Fair budget may use the difference. {please see attached “2017 Stem flyer”}

New Business:

Nothing to report for new business

Principal's Report ~

5th Grade Concert: The concert was a success.

Spartan Band Tour: They toured to all of the district

Holiday Sing-Along: The teachers performed the 12 Days of Christmas. The program was loud but *lots* of fun!

Jan. 16 & 23: NO school

Jan. 20: Early dismissal @ 12:30pm

ELANCO School Calendar – 2016/2017 school calendar is now available on

http://www.elanco.org/pages/Eastern_Lancaster_County_SD, select Calendars tab then scroll to 2016/2017 School Calendar.

THANK YOU TEACHERS AND THE PARENTS that attended the night's meeting. We hope to see more Parents and Teachers and maybe some staff attending. We understand other life commitments may be keeping you from attending; we hope to at least hear from you. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email the PTO at blueballpto@gmail.com or you can write a note to send into the office, ATT: PTO. **WE WILL NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR 2016/2017**, Volunteer Clearances visit:

http://www.elanco.org/pages/Eastern_Lancaster_County_SD/Operations/Employment/Volunteers