

# Blue Ball Elementary School PTO Minutes

## January 4, 2016

### Blue Ball Elementary PTO

Principal  
Curt McCaskey

#### PTO BOARD

President  
Cherie Mindy

Vice President  
Beth Davis

Secretary  
Janina Pinkas

Treasurer  
Kendra Babb

#### COMMITTEES

Fundraising {2016-2017 NEED  
COORDINATORS}  
L2L: the PTO Board  
Wolfgang: Beth Davis

Hospitality {NEED COORDINATOR}

Box Tops & Labels for Education {2016-  
2017 NEED COORDINATOR}  
Dorothy T., Janina Pinkas &  
Jessica Wilson

Volunteer & Workroom  
Beth Davis

Special Events  
~ Family Events: Kendra Babb  
~ Donuts: Jeff Hochhaus  
~ Muffins: NEED COORDINATOR  
~ All Pro Dads: Beth Davis &  
Cherie Mindy  
~ STEM Fair: Jeff Hochhaus &  
Jessica Wilson

Again, WELCOME TEACHERS and NEW & RETURNING  
FACES!!

The meeting was called to order and introductions were made.

**Attendance** (10): Janina Pinkas, Curt McCaskey, Beth Davis,  
Don Davis, Cherie Mindy, Tracy Finegan, Kendra Babb, Jessica  
Wilson, Brittney Herr, Carol Williams, Sue Dissinger

**Open Forum:** {If you would like to share a concern or suggestion  
prior to meetings, please email the PTO at [blueballpto@gmail.com](mailto:blueballpto@gmail.com)}  
Attendants brought forth the following discussion...

PTO Calendar: Mrs. Pinkas informed Mr.  
McCaskey on the Blue Ball Elementary's webpage, the PTO tab  
does not show any upcoming events nor anything documented  
on the PTO calendar. It was discussed and to avoid confusion,  
the PTO calendar will be deleted and the PTO events will be  
accessible through the Blue Ball Elementary's calendar. Mrs.  
Pinkas also asked if the PTO can access the PTO page of the  
Blue Ball Elementary's site but Mr. McCaskey said non-  
employees cannot update the Blue Ball PTO page. Mrs. Pinkas  
can discuss with the administrative assistants the details of the  
page.

Eddies Award Winners (blog winners): 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher  
Mr. Geiman's class blog was voted second best class blog in the  
annual Edublogs Awards; you may view his blog at  
[blog.elanco.org/ageimanla](http://blog.elanco.org/ageimanla). Also, 2 students were in the top 5  
best student blog: Rayne Covert's blog was voted 4<sup>th</sup> best  
student blog ([blog.elanco.org/covertcjb](http://blog.elanco.org/covertcjb)) and Abbey Forrester's  
blog was voted 5<sup>th</sup> best student blog ([blog.elanco.org/forre5yz](http://blog.elanco.org/forre5yz)).

PTO's Hard Work: Miss Herr profusely thanked the PTO  
volunteers' hard work, time and support for the school and staff  
they provide.

**President's Report:** Nothing to report. President position  
available 2016/2017 to any PTO Board member serving at least  
1 year

**Treasurer's Report** {you may see attached "*Monthly Report  
Jan2016*"}: In the past month we earned \$1,226.51 through  
Learn 2 Earn fundraiser. Further down on the Profit & Loss  
Budget labeled Race for Education is actually the Learn 2 Earn  
fundraiser which stated we earned \$677.46 from the checks and  
credit payments. There was 1 teacher allotment given of \$100  
this past month. The \$34 under field trips admissions was  
distributed to the Franklin Institute.

## Activities:

Fundraiser ~ Wolfgang is going to be out winter fundraiser from 1/25-2/16. It will kick off with an assembly in the morning. The prizes are distributed by the Wolfgang Company for the amount of products sold not the total profited. The products will be available for pick up on Monday, 3/21 from 3:45-6:30pm; if parents cannot pick up their orders at that time or day, they may contact the school office or email the PTO to schedule a pick up. Online ordering will be available; there will be an additional shipping cost for those who want it delivered to their home.

Box Tops & Labels for Education – 1/11-1/29 “Think Spring” contest consists of each class has a flower with a worm that measures their progress except the MDS classes will be combined; the worm moves up the stem every 100 points collected. For every 1,000 points, the class will receive a bee. The point value on every Labels for Education will counted toward that class’s total box tops collected. The classes will receive a bag for collection from the committee every Friday. The totals will be posted in the hall where children enter the school and in the hall toward the cafeteria. The winning class will receive a pizza party or a new game for their classroom. Jessica Wilson will create a Signup Genius for help with counting the tops and labels.

Spirit Wear – We profited a total of \$165.00 from the November sales.

All Pro Dads {No clearances needed = family event} – The last program was held on 12/16 which had less than 20 families. The next program is held every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month in the Cafeteria at 8am. Breakfast is provided along with tips, resources, and a film to help “dads” to be the best DAD you can be. The name cannot be changed because it is a licensed program. Any volunteer is welcome but Coordinator NEEDED 2016/2017

Family Fun Night Events {No clearances needed = family event} – Family Game Night is scheduled on January 22 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Further Family Night events will be discussed at a later time.

Muffins with Moms {No clearances needed = family event} - Will be later discussed in March and April meetings. The name needs to be decided upon and will be chosen before the May event. Beth Davis is assisting, the activity is scheduled in May. Ideas: “Muffins with the Miss”, “Breakfast with a Buddy”. Coordinator NEEDED 2015/2016 & 2016/2017

Donuts for Dads {No clearances needed = family event} – The name needs to be changed and will be chosen by the last PTO meeting in May. Ideas: “Donuts with Dudes”

## Committees:

Fundraising – Learn 2 Earn reading-raiser started 10/5-11/13. The school is not meeting their goal and is not currently meeting its fundraising money expectancy. There will be prizes given to both the students and the teachers for participation. There are 32 “participating ticket” prizes for the students and 3 “golden ticket” prizes earned for students that raise \$50 or more – the student gets only one ticket for raising \$50 or more to which that student chooses which prize of the 3 golden ticket prizes. Those golden ticket prizes are an American Girl doll, a Kindle, and a LEGO set. The students’ prizes are on display in the library; the prizes are numbered with their numbered containers so the student can their ticket(s) into their desired prize’s container. The teachers also receive weekly prizes of gift certificates and a prize of the 31 bags that were donated by Diane Hurst.

Box Tops & Labels for Education {Clearances only needed IF picking up tops/labels from the classrooms & decorating for the contest played that year}: This year the theme is “Think Spring” since the contest is during the winter. There will be flowers for each class with an inch worm as the maker on the stem measuring every 100 points collected. Once the class reaches 1000 points, their flowers gains a bumble bee above their flower then will continue marking every 100 points and gaining bees for every 1000 points collected. For every Labels for Education a class collects, the amount labeled will increase their points by that much; i.e. Kindergarten, Mrs. Kreider’s AM class is at 602 points but collect 5 five point labels and 1 twenty-five points label, their class will total 652 points. A change in totaling the class’ collection every week was brought to our attention: some homerooms have 12-17 students whereas others may have 21-28 students giving them a more likely advantage in winning. As a result, Mr. McCaskey and the Tops & Labels Committee agreed to

divide the homeroom's collection total by the number of students on that homeroom; i.e. Mrs. Kreider's AM class totaled to 652 points one week and has 21 students her total would average to 31 (from 31.047...).

\*Anyone can logon and participate; both sites provide ways to collect tops and labels, sweepstakes, coupons and more! Box tops for education: [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) and labels for education:

<https://www.labelsforeducation.com> Anyone who wants to assist are welcome.\*

Spirit Wear - The spirit wear will be sold by ordering and samples will be available to view in the library from November 5-13 during the scholastic book sale. The order sheets were sent home and **must** be turned in NO later than Monday, November 16 with a check payable to Blue Ball PTO; the order delivery will be the week of December 14. Coordinator NEEDED 2016/2017

Volunteer Coordinator {No clearances needed to coordinate but are needed to volunteer at any in-school events} – Signup genius will be used for events and activities when volunteers are needed.

WORKROOM a.k.a. Helping Hands: There is a Signup Genius for the workroom; you may call the office prior to your scheduled day to verify work is available.

Hospitality – includes teacher appreciation and 6<sup>th</sup> grade celebrations. Coordinator NEEDED 2015/2016 and 2016/2017

Assemblies 2015/2016 – Not discussed, no upcoming assemblies.

**New Business:** STEM Fair ~ April's date is under discussion. The Committee consists of Jessica Wilson, Jeff Hochhaus and Mrs. Dissinger.

6<sup>th</sup> grade Shirts ~ Mrs. Snader will be working with the students for designing their 6<sup>th</sup> grade Tshirts.

Emergency Preparedness Drills follow-up – Mr. McCaskey will share the Blue Ball Elementary's Emergency Preparedness plans & drills at the Feb. 1 PTO Meeting as requested through a concerned parent. The parent stated they will have more parents coming to show their support and concern.

**Principal's Report:** ~ Spartan Band toured on 12/18 ~ Holiday Sing-A-Long was postponed from 12/18 to 12/21 due to technical difficulties ~ Safe Civil Survey results were received in Dec. Mr. McCaskey will send the results to the teachers divided into grades. Here are five most favorable and five least favorable results:

Question	Y	N	Y, N	Favorable
I have been taught the rules and expectations of the cafeteria.	329	1	1	99.7%
I have been taught the rules for the appropriate conduct in the classroom.	328	2	1	99.4%
I have been taught the rules and expectations for the hallways.	327	3	1	99.1%
If I knew another student was involved in something illegal or dangerous (to that student or someone else), I would tell an adult (a teacher, the counselor, or the principal) at school.	326	5	0	98.5%
I have been taught the rules for appropriate conduct in the restrooms.	324	6	1	98.2%

I was picked on or teased in a mean way by a student (or students).	127	201	3	61.3%
I had some of my things taken or damaged be a student (or students).	135	194	2	59%
Students treat each other respectfully on the playground.	185	130	16	58.7%
I felt left out by other students.	147	176	8	54.5%
I heard a student (or students) use language that bothered me OR that I think would bother an adult (staff member, parent, visitor).	232	97	2	29.5%

**Calendar:**

HAPPY 2016!!

1/4/2016, 7-8pm – PTO Meeting with free childcare provided the duration of the meeting

1/11 – “Think Spring” Box Tops & Labels for Education contest starts through 2/5

1/15 – 12:30pm Early Dismissal, AM Kindergarten attends school, PM Kindergarten is off

1/18 – NO School

1/20, 8-8:45am – All Pro Dads

1/22, 6:30-8pm – Family Game Night ~ CANCELLED due to inclement weather

1/25 – School CANCELLED due to inclement weather, Wolfgang Fundraiser postponed to 1/28

1/26 & 1/27 – 2hr delay due to inclement weather, modified Kindergarten

1/26, 3:45-4:45pm – Elementary Orchestra & 6<sup>th</sup> grade Honors Chorus, pick up Garden Spot High School

2/1, 7-8pm – PTO Meeting with free childcare provided the duration of the meeting; during the meeting, Mr.

McCaskey will share the Emergency Preparedness plans & drills

2/5 – Box Tops & Labels for Education Contest Ends

2/13 – NO School

2/15 – NO School

2/16 – Wolfgang fundraiser ends - orders & money due.

**Recognitions:** THANK YOU TEACHERS AND THE PARENTS that attended the night's meeting. We hope to see more Parents and Teachers 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](mailto:blueballpto@gmail.com) or you can write a note to send into the office, ATT: PTO.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!**

Volunteer Clearances visit:

[http://www.elanco.org/pages/Eastern\\_Lancaster\\_County\\_SD/Operations/Employment/Volunteers](http://www.elanco.org/pages/Eastern_Lancaster_County_SD/Operations/Employment/Volunteers)

Once the forms are completed and copies of the clearances are readily available, please hand into the Blue Ball Elementary office to Marion or Heidi.

Our PTO information is available on the ELANCO school district's website:

[http://bb.elanco.org/pages/Blue\\_Ball\\_Elementary\\_School/PTO](http://bb.elanco.org/pages/Blue_Ball_Elementary_School/PTO)