

# Blue Ball Elementary School PTO Minutes

## **November 2, 2015**

Prior to the meeting, 5<sup>th</sup> grade parents/guardians entered in a raffle for front row seats at the 5<sup>th</sup> grade concert then the raffle was drawn at the end of the meeting. The winner was...Kendra Babb! Congrats, Kendra!

Principal: *Curt McCaskey*

### **PTO Board**

President: *Cherie Mindy*

Vice President: *Beth Davis*

Secretary: *Janina Pinkas*

Treasurer: *Kendra Babbs*

### **Committees**

*Fundraising:* NEED Coordinator  
*Cherie Mindy, Janina Pinkas, Beth Davis, Kendra Babbs*

*Hospitality:* NEED Coordinator

*Box Tops for Education & Labels for Education:* *Janina Pinkas, Dorothy T., Jessica Wilson*

*Family Events:* *Kendra Babbs*

*Volunteer & Workroom:* *Beth Davis & Janina Pinkas*

The meeting was called to order and introductions were made ...again, WELCOME TEACHERS and NEW FACES!!

**Attendance** (15): Janina Pinkas, Curt McCaskey, Beth Davis, Don Davis, Cherie Mindy, Julie Ybeva, Vicky Humay, Karen Sauder, Bethanie S., Kimberly Sheehan, Tracy Finegan, Amber McCabe, Kendra Babb

**Open Forum:** Attendants brought forth the following discussion...Mrs. Landis profusely thanked the PTO and said the PTO are doing a "wonderful job" and working hard.

**MDS Update:** Mr. McCaskey is waiting for the MDS group with field trip suggestions.

NOTE: If you have any questions in reference to what was discussed tonight or during previous meetings or if you have other questions/suggestions/concerns of your own, 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. Please give us some information on what is going to be discussed so the board can be prepared for time needed delegated for the topic or we can possibly assist in getting answers by the next meeting.

**Blue Ball's school district site:** Under the PTO tab, Mrs. Pinkas brought up the PTO officers need to be updated and to add the Blue Ball Elementary PTO's Facebook page.

**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 Oct2015"}: Everything that is labeled RFE is the amount raised for the current fundraiser, Learn2Earn Fundraiser. The school has currently raised \$885.00 from personal checks & cash through the Learn2Earn

fundraiser; the total of what was raised will be available within the next two meetings. The \$963 earned for Spirit Wear was from the Safety colored Blue Ball Elementary logo t-shirts sold earlier in the year. There is still over \$6,000 needed raised for the upcoming field trips.

### **Activities:**

**Book Fair** (volunteer clearances needed) ~ 11/5-11/13, coordinated by Ms. Tanenbaum, librarian. There is a sign up on Signup Genius; Ms. Tanenbaum needs assistance with helping students shop and/or the cashier.

**All Pro Dads** {No clearances needed = family event} – The last program was held on 10/23 which had new faces and about 30 or more families. The program will be 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} – A holiday themed event will be held in the cafeteria/gym on December 14 with three stations: bird seed ornament, card making, served with hot cocoa & cookies. [The holiday themed event was discussed at the Board Meeting the previous week] The next event will be Game Night and will take place in January. 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 is also being decided upon and will be chosen before the May event. Beth Davis is assisting, the activity is scheduled in May. Coordinator NEEDED 2015/2016 & 2016/2017

Donuts for Dads {No clearances needed = family event} - Coordinator will add, under the volunteer interest, asking when they will work and what time is best. The name is going to be changed as discussed earlier and will be chosen by the last PTO meeting in May.

## **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.

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} – Signup genius will be used for events and activities when volunteers are needed. *WORKROOM* a.k.a. Helping Hands: Due to needing clearances to volunteer, there currently isn’t any help other than the committee completing the tasks requested by the teachers. When there are volunteers interested, a schedule will be available in the workroom. The coordinators would like to schedule a couple of volunteers a week on

rotating Tuesdays and Thursdays.

i.e.:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Nov. 23	24 Bill Sue	25	26	27
30	Dec. 1	2	3 Lisa Drew	4
7	8 Kelly Beth	9	10	11
14	15	16	17 Lisa Drew	18

The committee will need the volunteers as scheduled but the volunteers will be contacted by the Friday prior to their scheduled day *if* they are **NOT** needed. The committee requests the teachers to give their tasks needed for the Helping Hands at least by Thursday evening or Friday morning to the administrative assistants so they will contact the committee of the work; the work will be completed by the following Friday. This will give the committee information on how time consuming or how big the work load is so they will be able to designate the amount of time or volunteers needed to complete it.

Hospitality – includes teacher appreciation and 6<sup>th</sup> grade celebrations. The next hospitality event will be Thursday, November 12 during the conferences. During the 11/12 conferences, the PTO board has arranged food for lunch and/or dinner for the teachers but will possibly make changes as Mr. McCaskey informed the PTO the Release Time teachers would like to provide lunches for the elementary teachers. Mrs. Mindy will contact the teacher to coordinate meals. Coordinator NEEDED 2015/2016 and 2016/2017

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

**New Business:** STEM {Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics} ~ Mrs. McCabe informed us the students do 2 units per year. STEM is a hands-on exploration class that provides students to experiment with less teacher interaction. Every grade touches on different topics; some students are enthusiastic about this new program. The classroom repurposed from Title 1 class to a Multiple Disability Room to a Learning Support Center to now the STEM classroom. Mrs. McCabe's blog will be available soon on the Blue Ball Elementary School's webpage under Specialty Areas at <http://blog.elanco.org/blue-ball-elem>

Technology Room ~ Mr. Ehly has technology room to assist students with their computers; he gives Loaners to the students when needed until theirs is fixed.

**Principal's Report:** Parent/Teacher Conferences: the week of 11/9, there will be computers available for parents/guardians to update their children's information on the student information portal.

#### **Calendar:**

11/2 - 7pm-8pm ~ PTO Meeting, FREE childcare the duration of the meeting

11/9-13 – Scholastic Book Fair, Media Center (library)

11/12-13 – NO School ~ Parent/Teacher Conferences

11/12 – Teachers' meals provided

11/13 – Learn2Earn *Readingraiser* ENDS

11/25-11/30 – NO School

12/1 – 9am-11am ~ Picture Retake

12/7 – 7pm-8pm ~ PTO Meeting, FREE childcare the duration of the meeting

12/8 – 7pm-8pm ~ 5<sup>th</sup> gr. Holiday Concert  
12/14 – 6:30pm-8pm ~ Family Event “Holiday Workshop”  
12/23-1/1/2016 – Winter Vacation, NO School

**Recognitions:** THANK YOU TEACHERS AND THE NEW 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.

If you are interested in helping the school in any way, you may go onto Signup Genius. You may view the attached item: **Signup genius flyer**

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)