

PTA Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, January 12

Attendees: Amanda, Allison, Sara, Erin, Casey K.

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 5:39 PM
- Motion: Amanda
- Second: Sara
- Motion approved

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Motion: Casey
- Second: Sara
- Minutes approved

Treasurer's Report

- Current balance: \$4,340
- Winter concessions profit: \$445
- Venmo from cupcake sales so far: \$924
- Reimbursements:
 - \$32.25 cash to Sara for popcorn boxes
 - \$117 for wreath ring supplies (borrowed items)
- Looking into possible discounts for wreath-making supplies for next year may travel a bit to check out some discount options. Michaels and Hobby Lobby have good deals this time of year.

Tracfone Update

- Service includes 90 days of minutes
- Line expires after 90 days
- Cost: \$8.99/month, auto-renewal
- Question is do we want to continue to pay for this phone to keep venmo for BES PTA
- Motion to continue service: Sara
- Second: Erin
- All Approved, None opposed.

- The option to pause service at a future date was discussed but we were not sure we would save much when the cost is so minimal but can be discussed in the future if needed.

Additional Financial Updates

- PTA now has a debit card, reducing the need for reimbursements and is more convenient for purchases online, cocoa sales etc.

Principal's Report

- **Winter Programming:** Friday Explorations winter activities are underway, including skiing, snowboarding, sledding, rock climbing, swimming, gymnastics, dance, and art.
- **Student Government:** Students approved an early-morning sports program (starting the week of January 12) and an afterschool math club focused on homework help, enrichment, and a student-vs-parent math game night.
- **Community Engagement:** Strong community participation continues, with high attendance at the chorus performance and Christmas in Bethlehem concerts.
- **Building Updates:** Kitchen steam table installation is being reworked due to specification issues; adjustments are in progress.
- **District Alignment:** Staff adopted the proposed SAU 2026–2027 calendar, moving a floating professional development day to the start of the school year to support planning and alignment.
- **Vision & Mission:** BES focuses on data-driven instruction, academic growth, and providing a safe, supportive learning environment that prepares students to be active, independent learners and citizens.
- **Staffing & Professional Development:** Continued focus on the Science of Reading, with Orton-Gillingham training for grades K–4 as a priority and plans to expand implementation.
- **Curriculum & Data:** Essential competencies have been defined for all grades to support consistent, competency-based report cards.
- **Assessment & MTSS:** Winter benchmarking will begin using SAS modular assessments and the Aimsweb platform to support instructional planning.

Fundraisers & Events

Cupcake Fundraiser

- 46 packs sold so far
- Sales flyers distributed
- Prize for the class with the most sales:
 - Students are requesting Special lunch with Mrs. K or Mr. Smith

- PTA will cover the cost of lunch and or some sort of field trip depending on grade and what makes the most sense.

After-School Support for Distribution of Cupcakes

- Sara and Angie available to help at 2:30pm
- Allison will take the last shift when she returns to the school at 4:15 PM
- Rec dance begins at 6:00 PM Cupcakes will be available to pick up from 2:30pm (after school day ends up until the dance starts).

School Play - April 10th and 11th:

PTA will plan to do Popcorn and Concessions again

- Popcorn sold out — discussion about making more treats so it doesn't all fall on donations from 99 (cookies, brownies, etc.)

Snacks & Testing Support

- PTA was asked to purchase snacks, gum, life savers, mints for the students to help focus for SAS testing in March testing
- Amanda will research Lifesavers pricing but group is in agreement to purchase items for each classroom testing
- PTA has 3 cases of water remaining from the winter concert, all agree to donate for it to be used for winter activities (skiing specifically).
- Discussion on donating snacks for winter activities specifically Ski Club
 - PTA decided as a group to hold off donating to one specific group
- Motion: Allison – snacks for the entire group during March testing
- Second: Sara
- Motion approved

Teacher & Student Support Discussions

- Mrs. Turner asked what funding support is available
 - PTA will ask what she needs and connect her with Judy Weisenberg for art supplies
 - Happy to figure out how to use the money collected from the rootbeer sales however we would like more specific plans from her on what she would like for us to purchase. Allison will touch base with her.
- Discussion on improving communication between teachers, PTA, and administration
- Concerns raised:
 - For example: Lunch periods are too short (no immediate solution available)
 - Need clearer ways to learn what teachers need PTA support for and how we can better support the staff, parents and kids.

- Ideas discussed:
 - Principal to bring teacher needs during reports
 - PTA representation at staff meetings to let everyone know we are here to support them and see what their ongoing needs are (Allison volunteered).
 - Possible future idea: teachers pay PTA dues and become members and that teacher automatically receives \$100 for classroom needs. This is how other PTAs run to get more members and help stay involved with the staff. This is a brainstormed idea for next year or future years.

Additional Items

- Chris Wilkins and Sara discussed a movie screening during school break
 - Sara is going to reach out about possibly hosting the play at the Colonial and making more local connections and see if this is something they would be open to. We also were thinking of possibly doing a screening there over breaks as a community event, this is something we also are considering asking Jax jr since colonial is in their off season. Sara is going to take the lead on reaching out to the colonial first and we will go from there but we love the idea.
- Reklis is interested in building a bigger relationship and possibly doing root beer sales for us next year. They would like to be more involved with community events that are similar to what we did with Woodstock Station. We will keep that in mind for the future.

New Business

It was discussed how we as a PTA would like to be a play sponsor this year and be included on the brochure.

- Sara makes a Motion: PTA to be a business sponsor of the play with a \$250 donation
- Second: Casey
- Motion approved

Next PTA meeting will be on Monday Feb 2, 2026 at 5:30PM

Sara makes a motion to end the meeting

Everyone seconds the motion

Meeting adjourned 6:44pm