

PTA Meeting Summary – December 1, 2025

Attendees: Sara, Allison, Casey K., JoLee, Amanda, Erin, and Casey W.

Meeting began: 5:36 PM - motion by Casey K., second by Amanda

Previous minutes: October & November notes approved - motion by Casey K. Seconds by Casey W.

Treasurer Report

- Current bank balance: \$2,433.84 plus deposits from “rocks” fundraiser
- \$920 deposited today
- \$460 in cash/checks from root beer fundraiser
- Discussion about making the donations an annual event (possibly 5th & 6th graders helping each year)
- Coordination challenges noted; better communication needed for next year
- Woodstock didn't make us enough root beer due to the fact that some fundraisers didn't raise enough in the past, creating shortfalls. This was not the case for BES. That being said, refunds are needed for root beer sales; the \$1,100 total does not include \$280 that must be refunded. Some members have decided to donate that money anyway. Next month's report will reflect these changes
- Some baked goods will be kept for next week; cream cheese brownies can come out of the box to avoid spoilage and any other items that do not keep well.
- Tree cocoa sales at the rocks are going well and are bringing in quite a bit in donations.
- Apparel sales update: only \$50.11 so far; will keep the shop open and promote for Christmas

Principal's Report

Building & Grounds

- COVID-era air ventilators are being removed to restore the original ventilation system. Units will be stored until a long-term plan is made.
- Kitchen steam table installation is being corrected due to mismatched specs.
- A new server is installed and working.
- Old paint/oil room has been cleaned to meet fire regulations.

Looking Ahead

- Dec 6: Chorus performs at the Christmas in Bethlehem event.
- Dec 17 & 18: School Christmas concerts.
- Planning for Beauty and the Beast Jr. spring production is underway.

Communication

- Weekly ClassDojo updates remain consistent and continue to improve home–school communication.

Parent Survey (33 responses)

- Strong support for BES, especially safety, relationships, and community culture.
- Families prefer ClassDojo and text for communication.
- Parents appreciate staff, the welcoming environment, and how students are treated as individuals.
- Suggestions: more volunteer opportunities, clearer sign-ups, evening PTA meetings, themed events, childcare for events.
- Some concerns: meal taste/menu variety and account balances.
- Families feel safe and welcome overall.

Benchmarking & MTSS-B

- Grades 4–6 benchmark data has been reviewed; teachers adjusting Tier 2 and Tier 3
- Tier 1 students need additional in-class support
- Ongoing training in science and reading to strengthen early foundations
- SST meetings focusing on reading/literacy; teachers receiving more support and planning time
- Wellness Room moved out of Molly Culver’s old space; new location undecided
- Special Ed moved to the 3rd floor
- “Enrichment Fridays” running smoothly with good classroom goals
- Question raised about cross-grade mixing; limited time for expanded collaborations and is not an easy thing to do at the moment.p/
- Winter program planning underway; activities finalized this month
- Bretton Woods approved the groups
- Student Government launched; classroom reps creating bills and learning the process
- Weekly Class Dojos continue helping parent communication

PTA Spending Between Meetings

- Erin suggests allowing spending up to \$500 via email vote when time-sensitive
- Sara motions to change bylaws to allow the president to approve up to \$500 for fundraising needs; Jolee seconds
- Motion passed

Volunteers & Upcoming Events

- More volunteers needed, especially for the second cocoa weekend
- Motion by Casey K. to spend up to \$100 on cocoa supplies for the 3rd weekend pending we run out.

- Wreath-making event on Saturday, located on the 3rd floor
 - Library planning for 200 attendees
 - Wreath team planning for 80
 - Amanda motions to plan for 100; Allison seconds
- Casey K. & Sara will bake more goods for the Rocks bake sale this coming weekend

DonorsChoose

- Art teacher wants to use \$500 from root beer funds to unlock \$1000 in supplies (through match)
- Amanda motions to allow Mrs. Turner to use the \$500
- Everyone Seconds
- Vote passes

Teacher Snacks & Supplies

- Discussed providing classroom snack boxes
- Plan to contact Marsha (school snack support connection) for options
- Consider a snack drive in the new year
- Teachers also need cleaning supplies
- Plan to discuss giving each grade funding and possibly matching funds up to \$500 or a set amount.

Underwater Literacy / Renee Rows the Atlantic

We were asked to possibly do a fundraiser for Renee Rows the Atlantic. They are asking the PTA to host a school dance on March 27th. PTA concessions and give door costs to Renee and overall fundraiser for Renee. PTA supports hosting the dance but not using it as a fundraiser

- Allison will follow up but all PTA members are not in favor of this being a PTA fundraiser event

Holiday Food Drive

- Casey K. spoke with Co-op about canned goods
- Supporting 13 families
- Mrs. Ingerson runs the Swan Program; provides weekly food bags and can help fund holiday baskets
- Discussion about changing backpack food distribution to increase privacy
- Canned goods list totaling \$135.70 (corn, green beans, pumpkin, gravy, stuffing)
- Goal: full holiday meal baskets
- Motion by Allison to seek donations and spend up to \$150 to cover shortages; Amanda seconds
- Sara will contact Shaw's for support
- Jolee will also reach out to Marsha for support for the baskets for families in need.

End-of-Year Appeal Letter

- Everyone loves the letter written up to support the PTA and promote what we do. Only notes were to Remove “dance” and add classroom snacks & necessities in replacement as we plan to make that a focus in the new year.
- We will plan to Post on Bethlehem town page, Facebook, send home with students

Winter Concert

- Amanda motions to spend \$34.99 for popcorn boxes; Casey seconds
- Sara will make that purchase.
- Sara will pick up water for the Concert
- Casey W. covers the second night if no one else is able; Amanda & Allison cover the first
- Amanda will get popcorn for both nights
- Jolee donating candy canes
- Candy list in previous years: Hershey’s & Swedish Fish

Next Meeting

Monday, December 12th at 5:30 PM

Adjourned: 7:15 PM - motion by Amanda, second by Sara