

Lebanon Borough School

PTA Meeting

2/5/24

Attendance: Katheleen Seelig, Heather Berg, Bruce Arcurio, Brandon Borzelli, Kristen Abeles, Lauren Baldoni, Mike Pepe

Paperwork: Agenda, Flyer for Bakeoff Bash

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by President Kathleen Seelig in the LBS Library.

CSA Report

- Ms. Barkel will be running a scrapbooking club starting later this month for students in grades 2-6. The email went out to those families on Friday.
- We have our Winter Walking School Bus on Wednesday the 14th at 8am.
- Board Meeting is next Thursday, Feb 15th.
- We have an early dismissal on Friday, Feb 16th and we are off on Monday Feb 19th for Presidents Day
- Our 6th Graders will be going to CTMS for an anti-bullying and school violence prevention assembly on the 22nd. Rachel's Challenge - <https://rachelschallenge.org/>
- The county team will be at LBS on the 26th for our Quality Single Accountability Continuum (QSAC) review. This is the compliance review that schools in NJ are required to undertake periodically.

Old Business

- Kids Night out was well-done. Thank you to Vice President Heather.
 - Heather suggested targeting a younger audience next time by beginning and ending earlier.
 - The 6th graders helpers enjoyed it.
- The Hot Chocolate Social collaboration with the Rec Committee was successful.
- 24 students are currently signed up for the basketball program after school. Mr. Torres doesn't seem to need help with this number.
- The dance was successful, with a slightly smaller turnout than usual.
 - Dr. D was excellent as a DJ, and it's proven worthwhile to work around his schedule. He also complimented our students on their manners and behavior.

- CPS students were invited, but few came. We uncertain the extent to which they received the invitation.

Upcoming Events

Bakeoff Bash

- This will take place on 3/1 at 6:00-8:00pm.
- It will be co-hosted with the PTO at CPS.
- It will be a reptile theme, with a reptiles table from the Parks Department.
- Dr. Arcurio can judge this event, possibly with a panel.
- Friends and family can collaborate on projects.
- We will ask parents to donate prizes for this event.
- The bill from the Parks Department was \$70, which will be split with the CPS PTO.

Book Fair

- We still need a volunteer to lead this.
 - So far no one has volunteered. If we can't find someone by the end of February, we will cancel the event. Class representatives will make this clear in their email update.
 - If we find someone to lead it, Natalie Tawil left very detailed handoff instructions, and there is a chance Nayra Almanzar or Jackie Carruthers could assist during the first event, as they have experience in many aspects of the fair.
 - It may not be necessary to do two events per year. We could opt for one per year and coordinate it with Read Across America or another event. Lauren Baldoni said that in some schools they coordinate this with teachers' conferences, although this may make it difficult to find volunteers. President Kathleen mentioned the possibility of making one of the events online-only.

Talent Show

- If the book Fair is canceled, there has been some interest in resurrecting the talent show, mainly from the 6th grade and their parents. Angela Carlucci has volunteered to run this if it happens.
- Mike Pepe mentioned the idea of a Student Council sponsored talent show as well, which he and Mayan Barkel volunteered to help coordinate.

Basket Bingo

- This will take place on 5/10.
- There will be 8 games, and this year adults and children can participate in all of them.
- Heather Berg and Kristen Abeles mentioned the idea of including a childcare component to this event as well.
 - It would be optional, with an additional charge to participate.

- Heather Berg could run it, and we could recruit high school students in need of volunteer hours. In particular, Layla Francisco may be a good resource for helping and finding additional high school students interested in participating.
- We could host a mini-bingo game in the library.
- Heather Berg will consider the feasibility of including younger siblings who are not yet in LBS, as long as they are toilet-trained.
- President Kathleen mentioned that someone should shadow her this year, so they have a better idea how to run it once she leaves the PTA.
- The gambling license acquired by President Kathleen is good for two years, so we are covered for the May event. We will need to re-apply next year.
- We need prizes for this event, and will solicit donations through Sign-up Genius.

May Teacher Appreciation Week

- We will need more parent volunteers to help this year, as Vice President Heather will be delegating more responsibility. (Congratulations to Heather on her new job!)
 - PTA Class representatives will include the call for volunteers in their email updates.
- Lauren Baldoni mentioned that the teachers liked the yogurt bar last year. Additionally, Benzi in Whitehouse Station and Alfonso's in Somerville offer many gluten-free options.

Treasurer's Report

- We currently have \$5,141.68 in the account.
- We collected \$440 for intramural basketball, but we may need some additional PTA funds to pay Mr. Torres, since we did not receive money from every family.
- We spent \$100 for hot lunches, \$71 for the dance (at present), and \$421 for the DJ for the dance (this amount hasn't been recorded by Treasurer Brandon)
- We received \$1168 in donations, more than the \$800 projected amount at the beginning of the year.
- We have collected \$78 in Box Tops
 - Treasurer Brandon mentioned that only he and President Kathleen are currently participating in this, and the Box Tops app makes it very easy for others to participate, just by scanning their receipts. Costco is an especially high contributor to box tops.

Miscellaneous Items

- CPS has extended an invitation to our 6th grade to attend a Somerset Patriot's game on 5/29.
- Dr. Arcurio is currently deciding on a date for Field Day. He is considering 5/31, the day after the Spring Concert, but he needs to verify that this works for the teachers.
- Mike Pepe mentioned that the Student Council would like to be more involved this year, possibly helping with the Bakeoff, and the Talent Show.

- Vice President Heather suggested coming up with ideas for PTA-sponsored field trips. Mike Pepe said that the theater production worked last year, and he would look into this again.

Dr. Arcurio motioned to dismiss the meeting at 7:11:pm.

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