Baker PTA Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Approval of May 2022 Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report - Alyson Stockton

- The audit is currently being done by Cathy Cowles. It should be completed in a few weeks.
- We have been speaking with teachers who are looking to fund field trips. The 4th grade hayride, and Meadowcroft are currently in the works.

Correspondence - Anne Scher

- Nothing to report.

President's Report - Kristen McIntyre

- The calendar and upcoming PTA meetings are posted on the PTA website. We will see how the in-person meetings go, and continue to offer a virtual option.
- We plan to continue with the weekly bulletin as our main stream of getting information out. Please let Kristen know if you are not receiving it. The PTA Facebook page and PTA Website are also available.
- We have many in-person activities coming this year, including a possible membership drive. Please encourage your friends/family to join. It does not obligate you to do anything. Your membership dollars and other fundraisers help to pay for field trips, grade level activities, classroom harvest and winter parties, field day, staff/teacher appreciation, and so much more. Please reach out if you have any questions or would like to help!

Vice President's Report - Kelly Meyers

- Thank you to everyone who volunteered to be a homeroom coordinator (HRC) this year! You should have received an email already with initial information to get started and then she will send out another email later this month for Harvest Party info.

- Kelly is also working with the grade-level social volunteers. Additional information will be sent out shortly including the parameters and budget information. In the meantime, please let her know if you have any questions.
- Kelly is taking over Facebook and website management. Not everyone is on social media, so please watch your email for complete/latest information (e.g. weekly bulletin and other emails) since the emails go out to all Baker families.

2nd Vice President's Report - Dr. McClintock-Comeaux

- This Thursday, September 15th, is the open house. As a reminder, this is an adult only event. A reminder phone call will go out on September 14th. If you are in Kindergarten it is okay if you need to flip-flop which session you attend, but all other teachers will be having only one session. Please remember that students will be dismissed two hours early on Thursday.
- Staff updates
  - Ms. O'Leary is now teaching 1st grade.
  - Ms. DelGreco is teaching for Ms. Moskovitz, while Ms. Moskovitz is on leave.
  - Ms. McDonough will be working with 3rd and 4th graders both in math and reading.
  - Ms. Verdi will be filling in for Ms. Stringe, while Ms. Stringe is on leave.
  - Mr. Cremonese (Mr. Crem) is our new gym teacher. He is coming from North Allegheny, and will be here once his old position is filled.
  - Ms. Bryant-Brock is a new nurse who will be working with Ms. Fisher in the health office.
  - Ms. Lagnemma and Ms. Deboer are both building substitutes.
- Conferences will be coming up at the end of the first quarter. Sign-ups will happen either at open house, or through sign-up genius (depending upon the teacher).
- There is an updated attendance policy this year due to state regulations. If a student has missed more than 10 days (regardless if the absences have been excused or not), the student will be required to provide a doctor's note. If you have questions or concerns about this, please contact Ms. Rose or Dr. McClintock-Comeaux.
- Transportation is asking that the school only authorize bus passes for emergencies or for child care purposes. This is all related to there being enough space on our buses.
- Dr. McClintock-Comeaux has an open door policy, however, if you need to speak with him for an extended period of time, or for something that may require a bit of background information, please set up an appointment to meet with him.
- The lost and found is already getting full, and is located in the lockers labeled "lost and found" right next to the health office. Please remember to label your child's belongings.
- If you are wanting to meet with one of your child's teachers/resource teachers, please contact that teacher directly. They will be happy to set up a time to speak with you.
- Ms. Connor will be looking for library volunteers.

Committee Reports

- Spirit night - Kristen McIntyre for Kristen Turner

If you know of any family owned businesses in the area who would be willing to host any spirit nights, please let Kristen Turner know!

- Boo Bash - Betsy Wilson
  Boo Bash is set to be held on October 21st (date change). This is a fun, carnival style evening including games and prizes. There are still some committee spots open, including a volunteer coordinator. There will also be a lot of opportunities for both adults and middle school students to volunteer. A sign-up genius will go out in the coming weeks. Wristbands for students will be sold ($15 each) through memberhub. We are going to try to do mostly pre-sales, but will also sell bands the night of the event. We are hoping to have the majority of this event outdoors (weather permitting). Please mark your calendars for October 21st! It will be a great evening. Watch your email for your complete guide to the Boo Bash! (No hard copy information will be distributed; everything will be communicated / handled online, so it's important to watch email, website and Facebook.)

- 4th Grade Fall Event - Sarah Cranganu
  4th grade Simmons trip will be Tuesday, October 11th 6-8pm. This will include a hayride to and from field activities, pick-a-pumpkin and a bonfire with marshmallows and apples. Each student needs to have a designated adult present. Student admission is paid by the PTA, but adult admission will be $10. Please RSVP on google form and pay adult admission by October 7th.

- 3rd Grade Tile Wall - Sarah Cranganu
  Still working on dates with the installer. Approximately 40 current 4th graders participated with their original art. Once installed, we will take photos and will send them out to the parents of the participating students.

- Celebration Books - Sarah Cranganu
  This is an optional program to celebrate an event or milestone in your child's life by dedicating and donating a book to the Baker Library Collection. Once Mrs. Connor has put the book into circulation, the child has the opportunity to be the first Baker student to check it out. An email will be going out to all Baker parents with a link to the book wishlist and details about the program. This is not a PTA fundraiser, but PTA is sponsoring the program by providing support and personalized bookplate labels. Please email questions to bakercelebrationbooks@gmail.com or Mrs. Connor lconnor@uscsd.k12.pa.us

- Baker Gives Back/Outreach - Amy Baldasare
  This new club for 3rd and 4th graders has an aim to do outreach in the community. They had their first meeting last Thursday, with 25 students signing up! Their current outreach is with Friendship Village and a food drive.

- Baker Gardens - Pamela Scureman

They are hoping to have one more event before the cold sets in. No clearances are required, and this is a great way for everyone to come out and help make Baker beautiful! Please be on the lookout for one more volunteer event this fall.

- Fall Book Fair - Diana Slanders
  November 3-8th are the dates for the book fair. We have over $10,000 scholastic dollars to use.

- School Supply Kits - Kristen McIntyre for Jackie Barefoot
  We used a new company this year, EPI. Overall, we were pleased with their customer service. The company fixed several issues for us, free of charge, such as supplying scissors for the kinder kits at no cost since the teachers requested to add them after we placed the order. Families expressed their appreciation for the fundraiser, as it helped to save time and hassle. There were a few families who were frustrated that the kits were not delivered to the classroom. To deliver the kits to the classroom would be very time consuming, and could potentially make work for the teachers. Shipping to home will be explored again next year, however, to do so this year would have increased each order by $12 for the first kit and an additional $6 for each kit after that. These are the reasons why we opted to have a pick up day with a bulk shipment to the school. We had just over 100 families place an order - 138 total supply kits. In total we raised around $1000 and a check will be sent to the PTA in October.

- Staff Appreciation - Kristen McIntyre for Bethany Salmen and Amanda Nasman
  We will plan to hold one event each month. Panera breakfast including a balloon arch was provided on the first day of school. Milkshake Day is coming up on Friday, September 16th.

- Fall Spirit Wear - Kristen McIntyre for Katy Cain
  Please be on the lookout for the fall spirit wear sale. This will include the optional Baker class shirts that families are able to purchase for field trip days and field day.

New Business

Next meeting will be Thursday, November 10th, 2022 at 9:30 am.

Adjournment

Appendix A - Attendees

1. Dr. McClintock-Comeaux
2. Kristen McIntyre
3. Kelly Meyers
4. Alyson Stockton
5. Sarah Cranganu
6. Anne Scher
7. Katie Marsh
8. Betsy Wilson
9. Pamela Hassinger
10. Jennifer Oliva
11. Amy Baldasare
12. Pam Scureman
13. Maryna Lohinova
14. Amanda Walton
15. Annette Irvine
16. Bethany Bartchy
17. Diana Slanders
18. Divjot Singh
19. Halley Casey
20. Huilin Hu
21. Jay Glunt
22. Kara Krebs
23. Lucy Curran
24. Natalie Jaskowski
25. Raksha Vijaywargiya
26. Tere Zerfa