Baker PTA Meeting Minutes

November 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 9:32am

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Agenda

Approval of September 2022 Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report - Alyson Stockton

- Approval of Audit
- Tax Submittal
- Alyson is going to work on a procedure to get money deposited into the bank in a more timely manner.
- Preliminary results for money brought in for the boo bash is $10,000. We did not have many expenses.
- We have spent around $2,700 for different things (field trips, teacher appreciation, Baker gardens).
- We brought in $1,300 in PTA dues. We have paid out $1,365 to the PTC and Pennsylvania PTA.

Secretary's Report - Anne Scher

- Nothing to report.

President's Report - Kristen McIntyre

- The PTC sent an email a few weeks ago asking families to update their directory information. To have access to the online directory, families will have to have a paid membership or activity fee in the school district. November 7th was the deadline for updates. You may still pay a membership in order to have access to the directory. If anyone is unable to purchase a membership, please reach out to Dr. McClintock-Comeaux.
- If you were receiving the weekly bulletins, and now are not, please reach out to any member of the exec board and we will assist you.
- We did a membership drive a while back, and did a drawing for spiritwear gear. We had five winners; we will be reaching out to the winners soon.

Vice President's Report - Kelly Meyers

- Thank you to everyone who volunteered to help with the classroom Harvest Parties. Each classroom is eligible for up to $25 reimbursement for party supplies. You can find a reimbursement form on the Baker PTA webpage here: PTA Reimbursement Form - Baker Oct11 (uscsd.k12.pa.us). Send the form along with your receipts to PTATreasurer.Baker@gmail.com .
- Classroom Winter Parties are scheduled for Wednesday, 12/21. (Note: This was changed from 12/22 when the district decided to make 12/22 an early dismissal day.)
    - AM Kindergarten Parties will begin at 9:30am. Parent volunteers can arrive around 9:00am to get signed in and set up.

    - All other parties will begin at 1:30pm and parent volunteers may arrive around 1pm in order to get signed in and set up.
    - Kelly will send another email to HRCs with reminders about the party parameters and information.
- *Optional* Teacher/Staff Gifts: Families who are interested in graciously giving gifts to the teachers/other staff may either do so on an individual basis or collectively with the rest of your classroom. Group gifts per classroom shall be organized by the respective HRCs, who have been given guidance on proper ways of collecting and organizing such group gifts.

Teacher Representative - Mrs. Berrott

- Mrs. Berrott teaches 4th grade, and has a daughter who also attended Baker (now in 6th grade).
- The teachers are extremely grateful for everything. They loved the Book Fair as it really does help to get the kids excited about reading.
- Mrs. Berrott is always happy to give feedback as a teacher or as a mom, please reach out.
- Teachers are feeling very appreciated and supported. Thank you.

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

- Field Trips have been going great. The social aspect of a field trip is very important too.
- The wall tiles are up (for the current 4th graders, they did these in 3rd grade). This is an optional thing that families can choose to purchase; it is a very nice tradition.
- Conferences on November 7th and 8th went very well.
- Friday, November 11th report cards will go out. They will be longer because specials teachers are able to give a statement/feedback.
- For Veteran's Day, Ms. Trollman organized an opportunity for students to be able to write letters to veterans. Stars were sent home for families to acknowledge any veterans. These stars are displayed on the wall down by the gym.
- A second grade parent is in the coast guard, and will be bringing a coast guard boat to school for the students to view.
- Thank you so much for the wonderful communication this year through the weekly Bulletin email. It has been well received.
- A safety drill (ALICE) will be done in December. This stands for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate. All schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are required to conduct this safety drill within the first 90 days of school. Families will receive an email ahead of time, so it will not be a surprise. The main focus for this will be for the students to feel safe at school, and for them to follow/listen to their teachers. An educational aspect will be presented followed by a drill at a later date. Students will not be taught to counter, but to listen to their teacher.
- Our photographer this year was Wayne's World of Photography. For next year we will be sure to make it a requirement that you will be able to view the pictures before you purchase them. We are going to be moving away from Spring photos.
- Dr. McClintock-Comeaux would like feedback on three different things:
    - If you think it is important for report cards to be printed out.
    - If you have comments about school photographs for next year.
    - If you have a preference for the timing of school events in the evening (6-8 pm versus 7-9pm)

Committee Reports

- **Boo Bash - Betsy Wilson**
  - Thank you to everyone who volunteered and attended the Boo Bash. We brought in $10K (gross) with very little expenses. This is right on target to what we had planned in this year's budget.
  - Our costs were kept at a minimum due in part to us being able to purchase prizes from Scholastic using our Scholastic Dollars banked from book fairs over the years.
  - Betsy is seeking a Co-Chair for the 2023 Boo Bash next Fall. This person will work side-by-side with Betsy for the 2023 Boo Bash and then eventually take over as the Chair for the following year. If you are interested in becoming Co-Chair for the 2023 Boo Bash, please contact ptapresident.baker@gmail.com .
- **Fall Spirit Wear – Katy Cain**
  - This year, we had 163 orders (up from 147 in 2021 and 124 in 2020).
  - Katy expects to receive the orders at her house around 11/16 and then will begin sorting. Orders will come home from school with students, hopefully sometime before Thanksgiving holiday.
- **Fall Book Fair - Diana Slanders**
  - This year's book fair was held on Nov 7th and 8th, and brought in over $8K in sales. We are still waiting to hear what share will come to Baker PTA. Online sales are still going on through 11/16.
- **Spirit Days – Kristen McIntyre for Kristen Turner**
  - The recent Spirit Day at Over The Bar (OTB) restaurant was well attended and we will be receiving a check for $1000 from OTB.
  - Next Spirit Day is November 22nd at Primo Hoagies in McMurray. We will get a percentage of sales all day when you mention Baker PTA.
  - We are working on a January event at El Paso Mexican Grill and then will also work on ones for March and May.
- **Enchanted Shop – Jackie Barefoot**
  - We are happy to bring back the Enchanted Shop this December. This is a fun event where students will have the chance to shop for gift items during the school day (Grandma always needs a new mug!)
  - Jackie had hoped to try out a new vendor, but the one she was interested in was already booked up for the season.
  - We are using Penguin Patch again, which we have used in the past. They are easy to work with. The only downside perhaps is that some families may see some of the same items as in the past.
  - This event is not a big fundraiser for us; therefore, Jackie selected the lowest profit option with Penguin Patch (10% profit) to keep costs down and just have a fun event for students.
  - Jackie will work with Ms. Rooney to get teachers to sign up for days/times for their classrooms to shop. This schedule will be shared with parents via email so that you can make sure your students are prepared to shop on the right day.
  - **Special envelopes will come home with your students in late November/early December. PLEASE ONLY SEND CASH** with your students for this shopping experience.
  - We will need a lot of volunteers to make this work!
  - **Set-Up Day will be Wednesday, 12/7**. Volunteers on this day will NOT need clearances.
  - **Sale Days will be Thursday 12/8 and Friday 12/9.** Volunteers on these days WILL need clearances as you will be helping students shop the store.
- **Staff Appreciation – Kristen McIntyre for Bethany Salmen**

    - Big thanks to all who graciously contributed to the Stock the Pantry event. There are still some sign-up slots for some items if you still would like to contribute. https://m.signupgenius.com/?fbclid=IwAR1olhSe8GNLnsj66XLX9m9BKoxb9BKtpas6newljxCPKx82zLc_4bbz41A#!/showSignUp/508044bafab23a5f85-baker4
    - Staff Breakfast coming up in 2 weeks.
    - Staff Cookie Exchange will be in December.
- **Celebration Books - Kristen McIntyre for Sarah Cranganu**
    - Huge thank you to all who have already contributed books to the Baker Library!
    - Mrs. Conner has received 40 books so far this year.
    - If you are interested in contributing a book to the Baker Library (in honor of your student, relative or other special reason), there is an Amazon list https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/IS69VF758PVZ/ref=hz_ls_biz_ex or you can also email BakerCelebrationBooks@gmail.com.
- **3rd Grade Tile Wall — Kristen McIntyre for Sarah Cranganu**
    - The tiles for the now-4th graders were installed last month.
- **Read-a-Thon – Kristen McIntyre for Sarah Cranganu**
    - Scheduled for February 25th thru March 5th, 2023.
    - Sarah is seeking a Co-Chair. If interested, please email ptaadvisor.baker@gmail.com.
- **Baker Gives Back/Outreach - Kara Krebs and Kristen McIntyre**
    - This new club for 3rd and 4th graders has an aim to do outreach in the community.
    - Held SHIM Food Drive in early November, which went very well.
    - Made banners for Friendship Village (local USC retirement community).
    - Arranged for Morning Helpers for Mr. Mark (head custodian).
    - Next event will be: Notes for Neighbors in December
        - This is a great event where all Baker students are invited to create cards, notes, etc. for the residents of Friendship Village.
        - Collection boxes outside each classroom Dec 5th ~ 20th.
        - Goal is to have 500 pieces again!
    - Baker Gives Back Club members meet on Thursday mornings before school. The next meeting is Thursday, 11/17.
    - Sign-ups for 2nd Semester Baker Gives Back Club will be coming out soon.
        - Preference will be given to those students who were not members in 1st semester. If your student was a 1st semester member and wants to join again for the 2nd semester, have them sign up! If there is room, they will be allowed in.
- **4th Grade Spelling Bee – Alyson Stockton**
    - An informational email will be coming out to parents during the week of 11/14.
    - Spelling Bee is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4th immediately after school in the Library. Parents are encouraged to attend.
        - Back-up date is January 5th.
- **Baker's Got Talent – Pam Scureman**
    - This is a fun, annual event where all students are invited to showcase their talents, by singing, dancing, acting, playing instruments or whatever other talents!
    - Mandatory Dress Rehearsal at USC High School – January 11th
        - If your student ends up being in Act I, they will rehearse 4-6pm.
        - Act II will rehearse 6-8pm.

        - Rehearsal is mandatory because stage crew and managers need to check the flow of acts, make special notes for cues, and everyone needs to practice how to enter/exit the stage.
    - Talent Show at USC High School – January 14th, 6:30pm
    - Flyer will be coming out soon with more details.

New Business

Next meeting will be January 19, 2023 at 9:30 am. WIll advise whether it's virtual only.

Adjournment

Appendix A - Attendees

1. Dr. McClintock-Comeaux
2. Kristen McIntyre
3. Kelly Meyers
4. Alyson Stockton
5. Anne Scher
6. Kristy Berrott
7. Amanda Walton
8. Betsy Wilson
9. Christian Pelusi
10. Diana Slanders
11. Gina Pelusi
12. Jackie Barefoot
13. Kara Krebs
14. Katy Cain
15. Natalie Jaskowski
16. Pamela Scureman