Baker PTA General Meeting Minutes

Date: Sept. 18, 2025
Time: Meeting called to order at 9:31 AM
Location: Virtual

TIME: 9:31 am – 10:23 am

Opening

● Call to Order

● Pledge of Allegiance

● Approval of Agenda

● Approval of May 2025 Meeting Minutes

● Teacher Representative- Mrs. Berrott

-school looks beautiful, new year has been moving along well, staff feels appreciated

● Special Guest- Ron Good, Volunteer Clearances:

- Get word out about getting clearances- get clearances in as soon as possible- takes 6-8 days at least. All clearances specifications on the website (fingerprints needed too).
- It's a state mandate, not just school
- For more info. Visit: https://www.uscsd.k12.pa.us/information/volunteer-clearances

● Treasurer's Report- Beth Dunn (not available)

● Secretary's Report- Maya Brook

● President's Report- Halley Casey

- Back to school welcome, replenish recess equipment, we have a full calendar:
  - Boo Bash
  - Book Fair
  - Priorities this year: supporting our school, making volunteering accessible and easy for all, keeping our communications clear

● Vice President's Report- Samantha Adler

- All HRCs paperwork in
- Be sure to thank Ms. Rooney for all she does.

- Added new shared Google Drive for HRCs

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

- Great turnout for first meeting of the year
- Some changes: New names and new families
- Mr. Campbell joined staff as additional
- Ms. Hill teaches the afternoon section of kinder.
- Ms. Lopez and ? in 1st grade until Ms. Tipton returns
- Mrs. Oshetsky teaching 3rd grade (first day was open house
- Mrs. Sichko joined 4th
- Student teacher joining Mrs. Chahine classroom
- Parent conferences coming up: Nov. long weekend- can be virtual (if travelling) or in-person.
- 2nd Author Visit coming up: a second author fell into our lap
- 1st Author was John Patrick Green author of Investigators and kids loved it - kept 400 kids captivated
- 2nd and 3rd Grade Classes are very large- Lucy Curran asked about space- Baker's population is larger than it has been in 20 years. We have 2 "extra" rooms right now- K Plus Program and Mrs. Rose (both full sized rooms that are used and needed). We are pushing max capacity now, but we are not planning on expanding or adding new buildings yet. We have had 29 students in classrooms before. We also use resource teachers for grades- especially in 2nd and 3rd grade to help out during math and reading time- to help with the larger numbers.
- This week staff is reminding kids not to climb trees/ other playground rules
- We don't make determination on Kinder until spring (even though registration starts sooner) but we do have a general sense earlier based on preschools.
- We have had 5 kindergarten classes the last two schools
- Carolyn Kaldon: Bicycles at PE or playground? No, not at the time, but can look more into it and ask Ms. Stash.

● Committee Reports/Upcoming & Past Events -

○ 3rd Grade Tile Wall (Class of 2033) – Natalie Jaskowski, Meghan Mechlem

○ School Supply Kit – Gina Pelusi

○ Staff Appreciation – Kelly Meyers, Amanda Palermo

- Staff breakfast was well-received, working on cadence of events, hoping to have a cookie table in Dec. hot cocoa and cookies for staff to take home, also a Treat Trolley in the Fall- a cart with drinks and snacks.

- Committee meeting at the end of Sept. to nail down details.

○ Membership – Jamie Del

- 153 members now, up 18% from last year, and streamlined it from last year, family only. People can still join.

○ Baker Gives Back – Kate Kleinbaum, Kara Krebs

- Great group of 3rd and 4th Graders
- First drive next week, school supplies- posters and announcements being made
- Students have placed boxes outside of classrooms
- How are kids selected? It's a very popular club- always more students that want to join than we have room for (20 students) but we have a spring session too so more students will be able to join. Give priority to 4th graders and will also make sure to add more kids that couldn't participate in fall in the spring session.
- Students not selected can still donate supplies
- Be sure to still register for spring even if you didn't get selected in Fall

○ Book Fair & Celebration Books – Diana Slanders, Christina Tullai

- Baker hosts two Book Fairs each year: the fall and around the Read-A-Thon
- No shopping in school
- Shopping is Wed. and Thurs. Night in Baker library
- Still spots open for volunteers- set up on Tuesday- please consider signing up

- Celebration Books- Parents are encouraged to purchase a book of wish list, your child can check out the book first and get a dedication page on the book. Not actively pushing this now, but it is active and available.

○ Spirit Nights – Jenna Mayo

- A couple of Oct. events, keep a lookout for those

○ Spirit Wear – Jade Underwood

- Fall sale in Oct. being planned now

○ After School Specials – Meg Holt, Open

- Meg Holt is looking for partner to help with this committee
- Will be releasing After School Specials tomorrow

○ Boo Bash – Amanda Walton

- 90 tickets bought so far online
- And Raffle tickets being purchased

- Sponsors and silent auction/ concession donations happening
- Halley is helping with prizes and games
- At a good place right now
- Sign up: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4CA5A822A4FFC70-58239512-boobash
- Can use Givebacks link to pay
- Can also purchase day-of if needed (but advanced is preferred.)
- Look into QR code at event too
- Food trucks take electronic payments

○ 4th Grade Social – Lucy Curran, Amanda Palermo, Open

- Save the date going out tomorrow
- Movie night
- Friday Nov. 14th

Committees Below This Are In Planning Mode:

○ Assemblies – Megan Hinch, Open

○ Arts in USC – Alex Zanic

○ Baker BINGO – Lucy Curran, Open

○ Cultural Heritage Fair – Lucy Curran, Jen Frisco

○ Enchanted Shop – Maya Brook, Lindsay Minerd

○ Field Day – Emily Hand, Kara Krebs;

○ Read-a-Thon – Natalie Jaskowski, Jocelyn Munro, Jenna Schuknecht

○ Spelling Bee – Daisy Miksch

○ Variety Show – Charissa Lauren Moses, Lindsay Minerd, Hilary Regan

- Instead of Nov. dates, we have secured April 8th for rehearsal but April 10th for show. Having it in the spring worked well last year as well.

○ 4th Grade Memory Book – Lindsey O'Donnell, Christine Diamant

○ Grade Level Socials

● New Business

○ Open committee roles - highlighted in the agenda and 2026-27

- After School Specials

- 4th Grade Social
- Baker Bingo

○ New committee in the works: Welcome Committee - Samantha Adler,

Maya Brook

Next PTA General Meeting: Nov. 20th, 9:30 a.m.

Attendees

Maya Brook

Amanda Palermo

Halley Casey

Samantha Adler

Dr. Patrick McClintock-Comeaux

Ron Good

Lucy Curran

Mrs. Berrott

Diana Slanders

Kate Kleinbaum

Jen Widich

Gina Pelusi

Jamie Del

Stephanie White

Beth Dunn

Charissa Lauren

Kate Kleinbaum

Kara Krebs

Amanda Walton

Bethany Salmen

Minutes by Maya Brook, PTA Secretary