

Bates PTA January 2021 Minutes

17 people in attendance. Attendance list can be found at the end.

Agenda overview

Some mention of Gov. Hogan's words today (Jan 21, 2021)

December minutes reviewed and approved

Treasurer's Report

- Current balance \$7249
- Fundraisers
 - Believe Kids \$545
 - WAA \$625
 - Spirit Wear – only 14 orders, so minimal funds raised
- No new requests for funds made since last month

Principal's Report

- Doesn't know anything about start times yet, other than what we have all heard.
- Asked for volunteers for Superintendents advisory board.
- Not sure of schedule for early dismissal that is coming up.
- New schedule starts Feb 2. Flex time has been broken into small group time tied to classes. Students will learn about it next week. Wednesday Flex Day has 3 flex periods. Every student will have Flex A, B, C. Math, Language Arts, Foreign Languages, and Interventions will offer extra help time. There will be an activity.
 - Intent is for reteaching, not new content.
 - Groups of 8-14 students for these flex periods
 - There might be a very few groups that are larger, but there are purposeful reasons
 - Lunch break will decrease to 1 hour
 - Ungraded, but mandatory time. Attendance will be taken
- Hybrid plans
 - The gov announced he wants students back in school
 - Still working on vaccinations for those in the school system who want them. They know shots will be given at fire stations, but no dates mentioned
 - PVA students who stay virtual will be scheduled to be with their PVA teachers
 - Trying to keep families together on similar schedules
 - Ray asked: if the hybrid/virtual selection is permanent for the rest of the year. Hicks notes that it is supposed to be a permanent decision.

- Jaye asked: What about transportation? People will probably need to change their decisions if they are denied bus transport. Hicks says they don't know anything about the buses, since the transportation department is beyond their control.
- Chromebooks
 - Ray: Do students have to get a Chromebook? This question has been floating around the PTA FB page. Hicks: students are supposed to keep these machines until they graduate from AACPS. Every student will need a county Chromebook by the time they go back to school.
 - Parents can go to the school between 0830 – 1530 to pick one up.
 - Computers will turn over every 5 years
- Second semester supplies will be distributed
 - Feb 8 is the plan
 - Bates is working on logistics
- Polar Bear Plunge
 - \$2100 raised so far!
 - Some teachers will be plunging in the Magothy and will post video.
 - We hope to build participation next year and get everyone involved
 - Ray notes that organizers are worried that the virtual format will result in reduced funds, so thanks to everyone who does participate

PBIS update from Lisa Heath and Mrs. Carter

- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports
- Schoolwide interventions (tier 1), as well as targeted small groups (tier 2) and intensive intervention (tier 3) for individuals
- Great introduction to the PBIS program at Bates
- Looking for donations from parents for incentives. They can't take gift cards for students, but coupons or offers from popular vendors are welcome. They can use gift cards for teachers. Small items that can enhance teaching or the classroom are very welcome
- Incentive items can be delivered to Bates between 8am and 4pm
- Kids should check their email through classlink to look for PBIS messages
- Ray offered PTA support for PBIS.

PTA fundraising ideas

- Traditional fun run seems unlikely. Perhaps a virtual fun run might work – everyone can do their own 5k and share video or pictures, etc.
- Teacher appreciation week – we still plan to do this in May. Volunteers needed to help.
- Restaurant nights – we need volunteers for this too. Carryout/delivery options seem like the best idea. A volunteer can contact Ray and discuss.

Topics for future PTA meetings?

- Ray requested suggestions from attendees

Other Business

- Yearbook is struggling, and needs help (submissions)
 - May have a photobooth at school and invite kids to get a picture when picking up supplies
 - Will be invited to next PTA meeting to make a pitch for submissions and detail what is needed
 - Rena B: Themed requests might help. What are students doing to reduce stress? What are they doing for fun?
- Rena B thanked the staff for making this year ok for the students

Adjourned at 8:14pm

Brandon Wright

Scott Parker

Rena Burkowsky

Jen Hetherington

Martin Egna

Teya Turnbull

Lisa Lyman

K. Hicks

Lisa Heath

JC Johns

Marion Brenner

Victoria Shellem

Mrs. Carter

Brenna

The Gorzkowskis

Ray Feldmann

Jaye Falls

