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**Bradford School**

**PTA Meeting –**

**November 17, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.**

**Agenda**

**Meeting Minutes and Discussions**

November 17, 2021 7:00 PM

The meeting is called to order.

1. Call to Order, President’s Report

Olivia calls the meeting to order and thanks everyone for taking the time to join. She introduces herself and PTA VP Jen Soch for those that are new. She goes over what PTA has been up to.

The swap/pancake breakfast which was a replacement event for the typical pancake breakfast occurred outdoors on 10/23. It was a great community event parents shopped, swapped, and ate pancakes. Thank you to all the parents who volunteered. This was the second year for the swap portion and we plan to keep it on the calendar going forward.

The running club started and a big thank you to Liz Miller for leading the charge. The weather was dicey but the kids had a great time.

Spirit wear went really well and and we still have several orders waiting for pick up. If you missed the fall pop up you can do the spring one but in the meantime you can place orders through cheddar up.

This week we are partnering with Watchung Books for an in store and online shopping book fair fundraiser. It was a great kick off on Saturday organized by Jane Reiff and Adriana Podvesker. Big thanks to them for reinventing it and making it a great event in its new format. I love how everyone jumped in and made it happen. You can shop until tomorrow and don’t forget to get a gift card for your teacher.

There will be sign up for holiday gifts for community members that request them in our Friday pta blast. Marcy Goff is organizing this.

MLK day of service and Bingo Night are coming up.

For the Love of Music is a family friendly concert and dance party to support the music program. Will add link for those that want to join the call with Mr. Creekmore to help with the event.

Raise the roof is happening this year!

PTAC is doing reflections a nationwide competition. The theme is I will change the world by… students can submit their entries by 12/1. Details will be in the chat.

Our treasurer is stuck on an airplane so Olivia gives the update. We are currently on budget, pancake breakfast and movie night were successful. We are still short on back to school direct ask fund raiser.

2. Principal’s Aboushi’s Comments

Good evening. I Love hearing how amazing and robust the PTA is. There is a strong connection between teachers and pta. The holiday gift request was in the blast.

State of the school address is coming up. I want to let community know what’s been going on with building, curriculum, activities, etc and put everyone in the know as to what’s been done and what are we working toward. What are the challenges and how do we work through them. It’s on 11/30 @ 6:30.

Tent update. They are coming down next week since the funds have run out and the weather is getting colder. We will rotate kids for lunch in the lunch room so they aren’t in their classrooms all day.

We are trying to figure out the right temp for kids to eat outside since it feels really cold when you are just sitting still. Recess is 28 degrees but its much colder when you are sitting for lunch. We are balancing out parents that want the kids outside and what makes sense for the kids so they aren’t too cold. We have to juggle it all.

When people travel over thanksgiving there will be virtual learning required after. Notify your classroom teacher if you are travelling and your child will be sent home with their laptop and books.

4. SEPAC Report

Olivia welcome’s Ellen Luca

Ellen Introduces herself and says she has 4the grader and child in ABA class. SEPAC is a district wide group composed of parents and tries to provide support to parents of special ed students and provide info to those suspecting their child has a learning difficulty. It’s a great place to get advice for the path to take to best help your children.

We meet once a month and are focusing on improving communication and post on fb and website and pta news letters. The next week is 11/29 at 7. There will be a speaker about the impact of stress on your child’s performance.

Lastly one of the main SEPAC goals is to promote inclusion and equity for Special Education students throughout district. Ms. Aboushi, staff and pta have been great about listening and Bradford has identified inclusion as a goal for Bradford this year. Finding ways to make meaningful inclusion. The group is currently make up of Special Education parents but we would love to have any gen ed parents that want to join and add their perspectives.

If you have any questions about your child SEPAC can connect you with a parent in a similar situation that can help guide you.

5. Raise The Roof (RTR)

Olivia introduced Jane who is organizing RTR.

Jane explained that RTR is every other year, off year is the talent show. It always goes to a project that the principal approves. 2 years ago it was supposed to go towards playground equipment but that event was cancelled due to covid. We will continue with that project this year and will replace one piece of equipment on the playground and possibly add another.

The event will be on 5/14 at 18 label studios, we got a great non profit rate. We need help from volunteers. One goal is to promote equity, financially but also look feel style, etc. One way to help is donating and soliciting items, décor music, marketing, dj, hosting a community builder etc. Examples of auction items are event tickets, luxury item, sports memorobelia, experiences, riding on a fire truck, principal for a day, vacation home for a week, prof services like interior design, and fitness classes. Would love any and all ideas. Some ideas to make it more equityable, one is to provide complimentary tickets, providing child care like the YMCA does would be a nice to have. Everyone leaving with something. Maybe the kids all make artwork or a favor is donated. Next steps, will set up a sign up genius for things we know they need. Let people know about it. Will send more info out in the future.

Olivia asks if anyone has any questions.

Mentions The Love of Music meeting is listed in the chat 11/23 6PM. This event will be for the whole family, not just adults. Still looking for a venue and trying to stay on that side of town to show that we can travel. Not everything has to be in UM.

Olivia ends the meeting and says good night

Attendees

Frances Aboushi

Olivia Brinton

Jen Soch

Jan Reife

Matthew Dresnick

Ellen Cahill

Ellen Luca

Erin Haley

Yeni Fresen

Christine Calderon

Michelle Glasser

Keisha Haley

Rachel Hect

Fatou

Ebony David

Kelly Whiteside

George Simpson

Kate Cambor

Soli Huey

Melissa

Chio Vasquesz

Laurent cancelosi

Amy Veech

Juliet Jones

Abena Amoa

Peter Creekmore

Steve