

Berlin Elementary PTO Virtual Meeting – January 12th, at 6:30

Present: Tracy Kent, Elaine Smith, Amy Ovitt, Carrie Minkler, Shannon Gardell, Melanie Arena, Rachel Turetsky, Matt Turetsky

Principal's Report

- January 20th is the Breakout of a Book Night organized by Ms. Mitchell. RSVP by Friday the 15th. More information is posted on the district website.
- January 23rd will be the All Aboard to Light Up the New Year event which is being organized by Mrs. Kneer and Mrs. Ruebel. See website for list of participating organizations and a key of what they offer; lights, drive through treats, walk-in treats.
- Questionnaires have been sent to remote schooling families asking for commitments for the next 10 weeks. Currently 78 students are remote.
- A reminder that Rachel Teplitsky, School Psychologist, and Ryan Steller, School Counselor, have weekly Zoom office hours for parents on Wednesdays from 10:30-12:00. Please email them with questions and for the link.

Treasurer's Report

-Paid final cost for 2020-21 yearbook, paid first installment for next year's yearbook, received \$129.00 from Hannaford Helps Schools, made \$833.30 profits from the Charleston Wrap fundraiser, thank you to everyone who supported the PTO.

-Earmarks:

Helping Hands: \$2,980.66

Band: \$68

Enrichment/Character Ed \$557.95

Drama: \$453.83

Science: 0

Library: \$4.25

Playground: \$297.86

5th Grade: \$0.06

Ambassadors: 0

Checkbook Balance: \$3,836.79

\$1,254.29 has been paid in teacher reimbursements (classroom support in lieu of field trips).

Fundraising

-We are looking into the NYC Popcorn truck, Dan's Chocolates, and Kid's Korner of Albany as upcoming fundraisers. Dan's Chocolates would not be here in time for Valentine's Day, as previously hoped. We need to get more information, and will plan something to arrive in time for Easter.

General

-Full minutes from PTO meetings will now be posted on the school website's PTO page.

- The next virtual PTO meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 9th at 6:30. Closer to the date, please email Mrs. Kent for the meeting link.
- Thank you to Mrs. Kent for continuing the monthly Character Education assemblies which have been a wonderful way to connect the remote and in-person learners as a school wide community.
- New Superintendent, Mr. Dhara, will start on February 1st, and he is already meeting with administrators and getting acclimated to the district. He will meet with the BES staff in the end of January. We will brainstorm ways to introduce him to families at BES, possibly through PTO Meeting Attendance.