

Benjamin Franklin Classical Charter Public School
PCO General Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2009 7:00pm

Next Meeting: Monday, November 16, 2009 7pm

Board Members in attendance: Karen Peterson, Michelle Jackson, Kelly Meredith, Kristie O'Rourke, Katie Lepsevich, Kerry Sweeney Harris, Karen Dexter, Anne Gilberti, Joanne Schaefer

Administration Update - Heather Zolnowski

- ❖ Summer classes: largest attendance thus far with 135 students participating and 15 children outside of BFCCPS.
- ❖ The week prior to the start of school, there were workshops offered to teachers, three of which were directly related to the funds from the PCO
 - By far the most attended workshop was for the Mimio Units, which turns any whiteboard into an interactive smart board.
 - PCO purchased 10 Mimio Units and Pens
 - 1 per grade level to be shared and 1 as a floater throughout the school
 - Additional training will take place in October during a Professional Development day
 - A social skills program for grades K-5
 - Reading Strategy program
- ❖ New ELA curriculum for grades K-8

Presidents' Report - Karen Peterson

- ❖ Annual Report - the report may be viewed on the school website
 - PCO Mission
 - Fundraisers
 - Allocation of dollars

Treasurer's Report - Kristie O'Rourke

- ❖ Reviewed the 2009-2010 budget - a copy of the budget may be viewed in PTO Manager. If you currently do not have access, please provide an email address and an access code will be assigned.
- ❖ Auction
 - It has been recommended to hold the event every other year due to the time commitment to pull off the event and the financial burden to families on a yearly basis.
 - Due to the overwhelming positive feedback that the event provided a wonderful opportunity for parents, faculty and caregivers to interact

socially; an alternative, smaller scale social event is under consideration.

Committee Updates:

- ❖ After School Activities
 - If you have a specialty please contact Jean Clark to coordinate a program (sports, games, crafts ...)
 - Programs can be once/week or month or just a one-time event
 - Determine age group
 - Encourage fees to be kept nominal
- ❖ Arts Enrichment
 - All families are welcome to attend
 - Check Pink Sheet or website for a schedule of events this school year
- ❖ Banking
 - Open to all students K-8
 - Volunteer opportunities on Tuesdays mornings for 1 - 1 ½ hrs
 - If interested, please contact Heidi Winiker
- ❖ Fall Book Fair
 - Will be held in November 20th at Barnes & Nobles
 - Be sure to share vouchers with families and friends
- ❖ Box Tops
 - School receives 10 cents for each box top
 - 2009-2010 GOAL: \$1500
 - Send to school in a baggie or envelope with the Homeroom teacher name written
 - Check out the website www.boxtops4education.com for a list of products
- ❖ Destination Imagination
 - National program BFCCPS participates in
 - Students pick a challenge and spend several months working on it
 - Tournament in March
 - Volunteer opportunities for challenges this year, please contact Anna dos Santos
- ❖ Fall Fundraiser
 - Kick off 9/14
 - Need volunteers to sort and distribute on the day of delivery
 - A donation to the PCO is welcomed as an alternative to participating
- ❖ Family Nights
 - 1st Night - Friday, September 25th ICE CREAM PARTY; community service project is a donation to the food pantry. Look out for a list of items needed
 - Volunteers needed to serve ice cream
 - Contact Karen Peterson with ideas

- ❖ Family 2 Family
 - Confidential program which provides resources to families within our school community in need
 - Contact Karen Dexter if you are looking for more information
- ❖ Family Social
 - Friday, October 23rd “Haunted Hop”
 - Need volunteers to assist in various ways in ½ hr commitments - contact Joanne Schaefer
- ❖ Lego League
 - Competition for ages 9 - 14
 - 10 members to a team with 2 alternates
 - Contact Michelle Pearl with any questions
- ❖ Mingle Jingle and Shop
 - A vendor fair with proceeds going to the PCO
 - Looking for a Co -chair, if interested please contact Karen Peterson
- ❖ Grant Writing
 - A group effort between the PCO, the Board of Trustees and the Foundation in search of grants to support the school
 - If you have interest/ experience in grant writing or if you are aware of any grants, please contact Michelle Jackson
- ❖ Picture Day
 - October 9th
 - Volunteers needed in 1-2 hour shifts, please contact Sue McDermott
- ❖ PTO Manager
 - If a family has lost their password please contact Michelle Jackson
 - New families need to provide an email address to have a password assigned
- ❖ Restaurants Nights
 - Looking for new ideas and a Co-chair, if you have any information please contact Jean Clark
 - Isabella’s program has been very beneficial for the school so the PCO has allocated \$100 to provide a Thank You gift. Please send ideas to Jean Clark
- ❖ Room Parent Coordinator
 - Coordinated by the PCO this year
 - Looking to assign 2 parents/ classroom - if more sign up parents names will be randomly drawn
 - Parents and teachers will be notified Monday, September 14th
- ❖ Shop for Charter
 - Sign up at www.onecause.com and NO credit card information is required.

- If you shop online already, this is a perfect way to support the school! There are no extra fees; the school simply receives credit for shopping through One Cause.
- COUPONS work with One Cause
- If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Frankina
- ❖ Spirit Wear
 - Offered fall and spring – always looking to families to provide input on new products and feedback on current products.
 - Volunteers needed to sort and distribute items upon delivery
 - Feedback from families: wondering why the PE uniforms and Spirit wear can not be promoted together?
- ❖ Teacher Grants
 - The PCO encourages teachers to explore new ideas and provides this opportunity each spring.
 - 10 grants received last year, greatest thus far
- ❖ Teacher Appreciation
 - Looking for Co-Chairs for this spring commitment and encourage all families to come up with ideas to honor and celebrate the faculty.
- ❖ Yearbook
 - Volunteers – needed to take pictures at class parties, trips, and activities and submit photos to Doris Reynolds.
 - Prints are preferred however email attachments are welcomed
 - 2008-2009 yearbook is delayed until October, production was delayed due to not enough candid pictures for some collage pages.