

Bay Trail PTA Meeting - Minutes

September 28, 2023

Called to order - 7:01pm

Principal's Report – Dr. Rob Snyder

- New playground officially cleared for use today! 8th graders were the first to enjoy during their lunch.
- This year's Open House followed a new format and was favorably received by feedback from staff. Parent feedback still to be obtained, but overall, it seemed to be a positive change.
- Superintendent's Conference Day for district staff is next Friday, October 6th. (No School for students K-12). One focus for this year will be continued DASA (Dignity for all Students Act) training. There have already been a few incidents reported at Bay Trail, and that is believed to be linked mainly to the general age and maturity level of students in Middle School.
- School Picture Day went well, with many thanks to the parent volunteers who assisted! Make-up day is scheduled for 10/20.
- The first DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) meeting was held. Great representation from district staff, parents and some students. The committee would love to have more students join, so please reach out if your student is interested. The next meeting is scheduled for 10/28.
 - One major take-away was the current language limitation of ParentSquare. Messages can be translated into Russian, but not Ukrainian. With the recent influx of Ukrainian families to our community, we want to ensure we are representing all families in our communication methods.
- The school's first Lockdown drill will be occurring soon. Staff and parents will be notified ahead so they can discuss and prepare students to alleviate any fears surrounding the drill. The drill occurs simultaneously for both Bay Trail and Scribner, so the language used is mindful of all age levels, from Kindergarten – 8th grade.
- Make a Difference Day is on 10/28. Bay Trail will be holding a food drive in the week leading up this date (10/23-10/27), with donations going to the Penfield Ecumenical Food Shelf. Mr. Burke is the administrator who will be coordinating. As in the past, there will be house/grade level competitions to encourage participation. Reward for the winning house/grade yet to be determined. Last year, Dr Snyder was taped to the wall during student lunches!!!
- The Winter Concerts are scheduled for December:
 - December 5th – 8th grade concerts
 - December 6th – 7th grade concerts
 - December 7th – 6th grade concerts

Teacher's Report – Danielle Santoro

- There was one request from the Roost Coordinator for PTA funding @ \$885. The funds would be used to continue support of previously successful activities such as Marvelous Month reward baskets, the celebration day before December break, and staff contribution trophies, with the hope to expand into new activities to promote targeted behaviors and values. The funding comprises both student and staff-based components. The PTA Board will review and determine if funding is available in budget.
- Danielle plans to start her staff membership drive soon. Last year, teacher memberships for our PTA were very low, and she is hoping to boost that for the coming year!

BOE Report – Krista Khan

- The Board has elected to assign a dedicated liaison for PTA meetings this year, and Krista is ours! She will be our main point of contact for any Board-related updates and/or concerns. Her email is: kkhan@penfield.edu
- She toured many schools this summer, seeing work in completion under the Capital projects. She gave kudos to George English, Director of Facilities, for all of this hard work and oversight in the projects.

- The Board rolled out a new Code of Conduct, available online at the link below. Hard copies can be requested through the Board.
https://www.penfield.edu/files/filesystem/pcsd_codeofconduct_final_web.pdf
- All Board meeting agendas and minutes are accessible online by visiting the Penfield CSD website and clicking on the School Board tab. Links in the left navigation bar will direct you to individual resources.
https://www.penfield.edu/board_education.cfm

PACE (Parents Advocating for Challenge in Education) – Cyndi Moolekamp

- Cyndi wanted to stress that PACE is an enrichment resource for all students, and not just those in acceleration. The support runs from Elementary through High School levels.
- There are no membership fees to join, and everyone is welcome to attend their meetings.
- For more information, or to subscribe to PACE newsletters, please visit their website:
<https://sites.google.com/view/penfield-pace/home>

Treasurer’s Report – Michaela Wall

- As of 9/28, we have 64 memberships purchased for the 2023-24 school year. If you haven’t yet purchased your membership, you can visit our online store at: <https://baytrail.memberhub.com/store>
- The locker shelf sales were quite successful. 35 shelves were purchased through our pre-order option, and 58 were purchased at the event. Overall, we brought in \$1,942.91 in sales. *(Some on-site purchases were made using SquareReader, which does deduct a small fee from each sale)*
- An updated Certificate of Insurance was completed with AIM (Association Insurance Management, ICO), with a copy sent to Bay Trail for their files.
- 990 form filed with IRS, with same-day confirmation of acceptance
- Reviewed opening and current account balances

President’s Report – Kate Torok & Jessica Trong

- Bay Trail had an amazing presence at Homecoming in the Family Fun Zone, with the only PTA staffed booth. Kate mocked up the Patriot Logo, for a Pin the Beak on the Bird game. The booth ran through 8:30pm, with hundreds of kids stopping by to play. Vinyl water bottle stickers were given to players as a prize, with the Taylor Swift stickers going quickly!
- The school continues to support the “Catch All Closet” with a dedicated location. This closet is a place for students to discreetly choose items in need, from school supplies, clothing, health and hygiene products and snacks. We’d like to rotate donation requests based on monthly themes, coats and hats in winter, school supplies in fall, etc. Monetary donations can always be made through the store link on the BT PTA website: <https://www.baytrailpta.org/>
 - Usage of the closet is referral based; School counselors may notice a student in need (no coat in the winter, no lunch several days in a row), and alert them to the available items. Parents can always reach out to their house counselor and alert them to any specific needs their student/family may be experiencing.
 - Krista Khan reiterated that this is also a great learning opportunity for our students regarding mutual aid. To recognize that there are differences in our community and have the opportunity to assist where you can.
- We will be offering 2 Spirit Wear sales this year: once later this fall (order deadlines in line with delivery ahead of holidays), and once again in the spring (TBD). Offerings will include both Bay Trail and general Penfield branded clothing. More information coming soon – be sure to check our web page and social media posts (<https://www.facebook.com/BayTrailPTA>) for updates.
- The first PAB (Parent Advisory Board) meeting of the school year was held on 9/25 and was hosted by the Cobbles PTA. Jess and Mindy attended from Bay Trail. Main topics of discussion included:

- Dedicated Board Liaison representation for each PTA, rather than rotate members
- New contract signed with Elevate, for strength and conditioning services for 2023-24
- New code of conduct rollout. First re-vamp in decades. Includes 3 tiers of corrections for violations.
- Equity long range plan. Making sure all students feel represented. Development of a district-wide calendar to list all religious holidays to avoid scheduling a school/PTA event in conflict.
- First opening day since COVID where all staff were back together.
- PACE and a review of their enrichment program
- PHS PTSA hosting 3rd installment of the Screenagers series; Screenagers Under the Influence, on 10/18/23 at PHS, 7pm.
- Constant Contact usage – Scribner and PHS only schools still utilizing. Scribner has an independent account. PHS uses Bay Trail log-in, but this will be ending as BT no longer pays for this service.

Open Discussion items (Fundraisers):

- Flower Sales at concerts - Do we want to try this again, with a different vendor? We purchased flowers from Wegmans last year, but assembling the bouquets fell to Tracey Van Tassel and proved to be quite involved. Are there any families with connections to a local florist?
- Kittleberger Florist – Monthly bouquet subscription. Is this an option of a fundraiser we can explore?
- Bottle/Can Drives – Donations from community, and PTA collects profits from returns. This could be successful so long as it doesn't compete with other student groups.

Meeting Adjourned – 7:57pm

Meeting Attendees: Kate Torok, Jessica Trong, Mindy Staba, Michaela Wall, Rob Snyder, Danielle Santoro, Krista Khan, Heather Natale, Sae Park, Cyndi Moolekamp, Patience Prinzi, Tonya Frank, Rocio Gonzalez, Tiffani Leyden, and Laura Wilks