

# PTA MEETING: Wednesday, January 10, 2024

**TIME: 7:30 PM EST LOCATION: Virtual**

**MEETING CALLED BY: BPES PTA Board**

**TYPE OF MEETING: BPES PTA Meeting**

**PTA PRESIDENT: Voula Augustin**

**PTA RECORDING SECRETARY: Cathy Tran-Zwanetz**

**covering for Denise Meyer**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Christina Yingling, Voula Augustin, Cathy Tran-Zwantez, Kristian Rutledge, Beth Franks, Thomas Dewees, Drew Wilson, Jenn Shafer, Candice Gerstner, Shari Roberts, Amie Brummett, Emmiline Auth, Michelle Sexton,

**Meeting Minutes:**

**Quorum Status & Start of Meeting:** Christina Yingling, seeing that a quorum was present, started the meeting at 7:34 PM.

* + Previous meeting minutes were not read.

**Welcome & Introductions:** Christina Yingling

**Winter Coat Drive Round 2**

* Our first Coat Drive for Human Services was a great success! Thank you to all who have generously donated.
* We have one more for the month of January for Running Brook Elementary School.
* New coats and sweat outfits in all sizes from small child up to adult small are being requested.
* Please reach out with any questions.

**Principal’s Report:** Mrs. Kristian Rutledge

**Report Cards**

The end of the second quarter is Friday, January 19. Report cards can be accessed through HCPSS Connect on Tuesday,

January 30th. Please contact the front office if you need assistance accessing your child’s report card.

**Conferences**

All elementary schools will close 3 hours early on Wednesday, February 7 and Thursday, February 8, for parent teacher conferences. Friday, February 9 is a workday for teachers students, schools are closed for students.

Starting on **Monday, January 22, at 8:00 a.m.,** [HCPSS Connect](https://www.hcpss.org/connect/) will open for parents and guardians to sign up for February conferences with math teachers.. To sign up for your conference through [HCPSS Connect](https://www.hcpss.org/connect/), please [review the directions here](https://www.hcpss.org/f/connect/synergy-parent-teacher-conference-registration.pdf). Note that you will need to be logged in through your parent credentials in order to access the conference availability schedule.

Parents and guardians will be able to schedule conferences in HCPSS Connect until **Friday, February 2, at 4:00 p.m.**

After that time, parents will need to communicate any changes to conference schedules by emailing their teacher directly.

Parent teacher conferences will be held after student dismissal on Wednesday, February 7th in person until 4:00 p.m. Conferences after 4:00 p.m will be in a virtual format. On Thursday, February 8, conferences will be held virtually following dismissal.

**Read-a Thon fundraiser in March/**

It will take place from March 8 through the 23rd - Part of Reading Month Celebration.

* There will be a reading challenge everyday for students for two weeks
* Students will get sponsors for completing their reading
* There will be prizes for students who reach certain goal
* The purpose of the fundraiser is to purchase instructional materials for teacher and staff wellness

**Middle School Information**

* 1/18 Glenwood Middle School Information Night 6:00-7:30

Snow date is 1/23 - same time

* 1/23 Folly Quarter Middle School Information Night 6:00

**Valentine Day Celebration:** February 14  
 Teachers will communicate times with families

**General comments:**

PTA Events - If you need an area earlier and it interferes with aftercare, please communicate with admin (Ms. Rutledge and Mr. DeWees) and we can assist.

**Student Assistants Needed**

We are looking to hire two student assistants in our Regional ALS program. If you know of anyone please have them contact Mr. Dewees.

The HCPSS emergency [notification sources](https://www.hcpss.org/schools/emergency-closings/#sources) are:

[HCPSS Status website](https://status.hcpss.org/)[HCPSS homepage](https://www.hcpss.org/)

[HCPSS community email/text alert](https://www.hcpss.org/hcpss-news/)[X / Twitter](https://twitter.com/HCPSS)HCPSS Information Hotline (410-313-6666)

**Testing**

Winter MAP testing is taking place starting this week until February 16th

We have had to make adjustments to the 5th grade schedule this week due to the changes in schedule and also the Countywide chromebook issues that took place today. The updated testing days for 5th grade are:

* Thursday-Jan 11th-MATH MAP  
  Friday-Jan 12th ELA MAP
* Tuesday-Jan 16th ELA MAP
* We also have Access testing that is taking place starting this week and will continue

**Committee reports:**

**BINGO**

* Friday January 12th, 2024
* Links have been out to register for the event as well as volunteer.
* There are two sessions.
* A lot of middle school volunteers have signed up.

**International Night**

* Event has been moved to February 28.
* Please keep a look out for more information and volunteer opportunities for our multicultural event.
* We are looking forward to many of our families participating! Please reach out if you are interested in hosting a table/volunteering for the event. We are also looking for dancers/entertainment if anyone is interested.

**Sweetheart Dance**

* Event is February 2, 2024.
* Please look out for more information and volunteer opportunities.

**STEM and Career Night**

* Wednesday, March 13th 6-8pm.
* Please reach out if you or a family member would like to participate.

**Restaurant Week**

* Tony Locos on January 16th. Please come out and support our local restaurant.

**Adult Bingo**

* Christna/Voula have a big committee working on this currently. Will be finalizing details soon and will let everyone know.

**Reflections**

* Our Reflections chair finished submitting all of our student entries to PTACHC. We had seven students participate this year, and all of them got to move on to the county level for judging.

**Science Fair**

* The Science Fair was a great success with about 50 entries this year. Winners: K- Preston Benedetti; 1st- Sebastian Robinson; 2nd- Quentin Benedetti; 3rd- Charlie Franks; 4th- Margaret Garcia; 5th- Ethan Nestor and Caden O’Connor. Congratulations to all!

**Book Fair**

* The Book Fair was a great event. We raised around $1091. We need to pick dates for the Spring Book Fair.

**Financial Report:** Jenn Shafer

* Budget Report
  + 1099 filled and sent to Lyter and Birsa.
  + Maryland Nonprofit registration filled and received.
  + Science fair completed under budget ($700) total spent $433.07. We used a new performer that was cheaper.
  + Submitted $1395 to Howard County Schools for an assembly, so hopefully that is coming in March/ April.
  + Sent out requests for sponsorships and receive a few back in. The most recent was a new sponsor $500 from Hillsman Automotive.
  + A few reminders:
    - Support the night outs, next one is 1/16th.
    - Reminder for teachers to submit teacher reimbursements.

**Open Items & Questions**

* **Please join the BPES PTA, you can do so by clicking here:**
  + [JOIN BPES PTA](https://bpes.memberhub.com/store?limit=21&live=true)
* Follow up items for Ms. Rutledge:
  + Is there a door decorating contest for Literacy month? Room parents usually decorate.
  + Please provide updates on plans for Carson Reading Room. Ms. Rutledge plans on meeting with Ms. Smith later in the month.
* Having no other items of business or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

**Next meeting, Wednesday, February 7, 2024, at 7:30 PM**