

Buckalew Elementary PTO Meeting March 1, 2024

Call to Order: 11:33

I. Welcome and Approval of Minutes – Elizabeth Kutka

Motion to Approve: Brooke Roberts

Second: Myranda Wright

Passed unanimously

II. Principal's Report – Jill Price

- * Today is the last day for early voting
- * Voting at Buckalew will be in portables Tuesday March 5th
- * CISD University – new program. Information has been sent out by Mrs. Price. Event is March 2nd from 10AM-2PM at Jet Center by Woodforest Stadium.
- * 3rd and 4th grade has had interim testing recently resulting in change of schedules
- * Thank you to PTO for field trips
 - 3rd grade: next week at the Interactive Aquarium in Humble
 - 1st grade: in March at Once Upon a Cowboy in Tomball
 - Kinder: April 18th at the Oil Ranch
 - 2nd grade: April 11th at Houston Museum of Natural Science
- * Request from parents at PTO meeting for notifications ahead of time when there is testing to avoid scheduling appointments, etc. on those days. Mrs. Price confirms communication is to be sent out by individual grade levels but she will include future dates in the Buzz when it impacts the entire campus.
- * TBEC award results – rating on state based on STAAR assessment. TBEC Awards have not been issued since 2020, but NICHE is an award we can celebrate, Buckalew as #7 elementary school in Montgomery County as a whole. This award also reiterates how closely aligned much of our schools in our area truly are.
- * Forbes nationally – CISD is ranked #37 out of 600 large companies nationally. CISD is the only independent school district on the list. Therefore, CISD is the #1 public school district in the nation, according to Forbes!
- * The last investment from the state in public schools came prior to the pandemic in 2019. With a national teacher shortage, and CISD's huge growth, CISD will expect to face challenges to meet needs if the state doesn't invest in public schools. CISD is the lowest property tax bracket of its size. It's important to research and vote how you feel appropriate. Multiple school board positions up for election.

III. Officer's Reports – PTO Officers

a. Treasurer – Carrie Foster

i. Monthly Financial Report

Revenue:

-We ended the month of February with a YTD revenue of almost \$135k in Gross Revenue - or about 91.6% of our overall budget!

- We raised over \$3k in "Fundraising" via Community Partnership donations from Showtime Orthodontics (\$1k), Hughes and Cozad (\$1k) Hunter Family Orthodontics (\$500 for Carnival Booth), Master Seong's (\$500 for Carnival Booth).
 - We also received the last check for Spirit Wear from Elite Swag - bringing Spirit Wear to just under \$11.8k.
- We raised almost \$500 in "Other Revenue" via Matching Contributions and the Kona Ice Spirit Night check from the September event.

Expenses:

- We ended the month of February with almost \$2.7k in Expenses for the month and \$103k for YTD - reaching 70.5% of our budget.
- PTO Expenses during February were minimal, consisting of:
 - Storage, Book Vending Machine, Hospitality, and Carnival expenses
- Buckalew Requests in February totaled a little over \$2k
 - The bulk of this expense was the tickets for the upcoming 3rd Grade Field Trip at \$1.4k
 - Other Buckalew expenses included:
 - A little over \$150 for items for Mrs. Points' counseling program
 - A \$260 awards plaque for the Front Office ("Best Elementary School 2024" designation)
 - Various grade level requests of almost \$400

Net Income:

- Overall, our Net income YTD stands at \$31.5k as of the end of February
 - Please note that the current amount of Buckalew Expenses unspent vs. budget YTD is almost \$47k or 68.2% of plan
 - Given that we anticipate Carnival raising an additional \$30k (net) in April we are still looking good as far our end of the year target

*Parent question: Their teacher asking for expo markers. Mrs. Price will reiterate to teachers that there is a PTO funded stockpile in the office to pull from.

b. VP Fundraising – Catherine Boeger

i. Carnival

*Carnival is April 6th 2:00-5:00

*Online silent auction starts Easter Sunday March 31st 6AM. Ends April 4th 8PM

*VIP experiences same as before with the exception that it is now librarian of the day instead of maker space lunch

-some things apply to this year and some for next year. – read dates carefully

*New this year: Buy now option on 3 items: first in car line, second in car line, reserved parking

*Wrist bands \$10 in advance \$12 at door (needed for age 3+)

*Tickets \$10/10 can be used for kid raffle, concessions, and karaoke

*18 Class Booths plus community partner booths

*Adult volunteers needed – sign up genius will be sent out March 11th

c. VP Parent Involvement – Sarah Bartnick

i. Mitchell PTO Open Positions

*open positions left at Mitchell for next year – please see Sarah if you're interested

ii. Spirit Nights - Myranda Wright

*\$283.06 from Gringo's this week

*Chipotle on 1488 April 9th 4-8PM mention Buckalew in person, special code online

*Kendra Scott April 20th 4-6PM

d. Parliamentarian – Brooke Roberts

i. PTO Open Positions 2024-2025 – Brooke Roberts

*Review of open positions – biggest needs are VP Fundraising (oversee Boosterthon), landscaping, some carnival positions open, 4th grade choir chair, photographers

ii. Book Fair Update – Katie Bonilla

*we raised \$16K at Book Fair – we will get \$4K to buy new books for library

iii. Field Day – Jill Rider

*Spaces left for adult volunteers – biggest need is morning setup

*classes will stay together and go to each area together

IV. Upcoming Dates – Elizabeth Kutka

a. March 5: No School

b. March 7: 3rd Grade Field Trip

c. March 8: Field Day

d. March 11-15: Spring Break

e. March 29-April 1: No School

f. April 5: PTO Meeting

g. April 6: Carnival

h. April 19: No School

i. April 19: PTO Social 11:30 AM

Questions/Comments:

Myranda: any ideas for Spirit Night please get with me – looking for different ideas

-roller skating

-parents night out gymnastics in the past

-paint and bubble studio

Question from parent: Status of eclipse glasses?

Answer: Glasses have been ordered and are set to be delivered in the coming weeks.

Adjourn: 12:20

Attendees:

Vasiliki Christaki

Amanda Lee

Manisha Wolan

Kristen Stocker

Christine Schaible

Bridgette Blevins

Katie Bonilla

Kristen Dvorsky

Vanessa Gamiz

Riffanie Lung

Taylor Erickson

Rachel Simpson

Myranda Wright

Catherine Boeger

Sarah Bartnick

Carrie Foster

Elizabeth Kutka

Brooke Roberts

Felisha Hennessey

Jainelle Kemp

Jill Price