

# BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTO

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

6:00 – 6:30 pm - Virtual

**Executive Board Members Present:** Amanda Blute, Dawn Hayes, Alycia Knight, Nancy McDonald, Cori Stott

**Other School Staff Present:** Monica Poitras, Annette Romano

6:32 **Call to Order**

Ms. Stott called the meeting to order.

6:33 **Secretary's Report**

Ms. Hayes shared an overview of the minutes from the 11/14/23 PTO meeting.

**Motion to accept the Minutes of 11/14/2023** made by Tiffany Gschwind Parola

Motion seconded by Annette Romano

*Minutes of 11/14/2023 accepted by unanimous consent.*

6:35 **Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Blute provided an update on the fundraising and expenditures and answered participants' questions:

- So far, the 3rd grade teachers have used their field trip allocations. Mrs. Romano will remind the classes to plan their field trips to make full use of these monies.
- The PTO savings account provides a cushion for low fundraising years, to ensure continuity of support.

**Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report of 1/9/2024** made by Tiffany Gschwind Parola

Motion seconded by Annette Romano

*Minutes of 11/14/2023 accepted by unanimous consent.*

6:40 **PTO Business**

Ms. Stott & Mrs. Knight recapped recent events and previewed upcoming events:

- The Chunky's Family Movie Nights, held 12/12/23 and 12/19/23, were great successes. The second night was required due to oversubscription on the first, though attendance was low on the second evening. Chunky's provided a much larger theater than had been promised, which would have enabled a single night.
- Annual Night at the Rink at Roller Kingdom is coming up on Sunday, 1/14/24, the night before the MLK Day holiday. The only cost for families is \$3 for skate rentals, if needed.
- Riverhawks Family Night at the UMass Lowell Men's Hockey vs. Vermont will be Friday, 2/9/24. Tickets are \$15 each, of which \$5 will go back to BES. The BES attendees will have our own section!
- The PTO will be sponsoring the Principal for a Day raffle again this spring. Dates are TBD.
- The 5th Grade Subcommittee needs volunteers to support the yearbook planning and design, celebratory events, and design of tee shirts and lawn signs.

7:20 **Principal's Report**

Mrs. Poitras provided updates on Brookside Elementary School happenings:

- The Kindergarten Open House will be held 2/28 at 6:30 pm for all schools in the District
  - There will be a day and night registration opportunity in March
  - Mrs. Poitras is planning to purchase a book for all incoming Kindergarten students
- Testing updates:
  - The iReady winter benchmarks are ready
  - MCAS dates are set and will be provided in the February newsletter
- The Community of Caring event collected 125 coats for donation
- Field Trip updates:
  - The 3rd Grade will be going to the Museum of Science

Mrs. Romano updated on the 5th grade:

- The Student Council continues to meet monthly, focusing on the food drive, Camera Club, Bears Den planning, hanging the MLK Day Peace Tree in the hallway, and the fish tanks support
- Mrs. Troche is helping 5th grade students to prepare resumes and to learn how to log in to their own Aspen accounts to read and review their schedule

7:27 **Adjournment**

Ms. Stott adjourned the meeting.