



Bancroft PTO General Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2022 - Virtual

PTO Board Attendees:

Katja Maravelias
Sandra Adourian
Christina Baker
Stephanie Barry
Rebecca Peterson
Amy Hamilton
Rodney Johnson
Sandis Wright
Katie Carbone

Other Attendees:

Michelle Costa, Principal
Frank McCall, Teacher representative

5 Bancroft Parents representing K-5

Upcoming Events

- ★ MLK - Andover Public Service Day. Kids (and families) can join a service project through the link of options sent out by the PTO. Service opportunities can take place on that Monday or anytime over MLK weekend.
- ★ Home Away From Home - January 25th. This session will focus on social emotional learning. It will give parents an overview of how the school supports students, the language used for social emotional learning, and strategies families can use to come together. Stephanie will send out a reminder and also post on social media. Amy will also include information in the next email to room parents.
- ★ Parent 2 Parent Speaker Series (Virtual)
 - January 26th at 7:30 - Enough As She Is: How to Help Girls Move Beyond Impossible Standards of Success to Live Happy, Healthy, Fulfilled Lives
 - February 1st at 7:30 - Cracking the Boy Code – How to Understand and Talk With Boys
- ★ Learning Labs - In the past, learning labs started the last week of February. This year, the learning labs will be starting in April (dates still TBD and dependent on covid numbers).

Thank You

Big THANK YOU to the school nurses. Even though we don't see them, the PTO is thinking of them and all the long hours they are working.

The PTO also wants to thank Alice Dorant who retired in December for all her hard work.

Communication Updates

A copy of the newsletter will now be sent to all teachers as an FYI. In addition, the office will have printed copies for families who cannot get the communications by email. The printed copies will be translated into several languages.

Extra PTO Funds

The PTO has leftover funds and would like to purchase a Gaga Pit for Bancroft. The PTO is working with Michelle and facilities to determine where a pit could be added. A Gaga Pit is a circular enclosure where kids try to get each other out by hitting others below the knee with a ball. It is a high intense, low risk game that the kids love.

In addition, the PTO will be replacing some of the playground equipment since a lot of the equipment has been well loved or lost to the swampy area. New balls, chalk, and potentially jump ropes will be ordered and delivered in March.

Spirit Wear

The PTO is looking to collect old spiritwear that children have outgrown and reuse it. Email the PTO if you have any spirit wear to donate and the PTO will distribute. Stay tuned to social media for more information.

Additional Updates

- ★ Cultural Arts - All are going smoothly. A few are moving virtual due to presenter preferences, but will continue to have in person when possible.
- ★ The December sing-a-long was cancelled, but the 5th graders went around the school caroling to other students instead.
- ★ Teachers and administrators are continuing to work hard to make children feel safe in regard to covid and the changes that have occurred around quarantine rules.
- ★ Substitutes are in high demand. Even if parents can only substitute 1-2 days a week, it would be so helpful. You can apply on the APS website
- ★ Heritage Night - Date still TBD, but the week of June 6th was suggested. Potentially, it can be an inside + outside event to help spread out crowds.