

Blue Sage Elementary PTO Meeting: September 3, 2024

Mission Statement:

We are parents and teachers working together to supplement and enrich the educational experience for our students.

PTO Board:

Principal: Amy Christ
President: Shannon Hofer
Vice President: Ashley Ladd
Secretary: Taylor Newman
Treasurer: Kristi Karas

Agenda

- Call to Open
 - Welcome to our first Blue Sage PTO meeting of the 24-25 school year. Meeting was called to open by Jen G. and Jordan K.
- Introductions
 - PTO Board: President- Shannon Hofer, Vice President- Ashley Ladd, Secretary- Taylor Newman, Treasurer- Kristi Karas
 - Committee Chairs: Jen G.- yearbook committee, Jordan K.- trunk or treat committee, McKaela B.- sunshine committee, Sarah K- Celebration of giving committee
- Secretary Minutes: Approve from May 7, 2024
 - Secretary minutes were approved by Sarah and Sarah.
- Principal's Report presented by Amy Christ
 - Amy Christ, principal, introductions
 - Alex Bousma, assistant principal, introductions
 - Both are excited to be here tonight and we cannot do all the extra things without the PTO.
 - 600 K-5 students, increased by 71 students this year.
 - 650 total students including preschool this year.
 - BSE is committed to hiring great teachers, over 90 staff members this year.
 - We are currently looking for subs if interested. Will also be hiring a few more TAs.
 - Safety day is Wednesday September 4th- 5 actions: always announce this is a drill, but we will run through all protocols so students and staff know what to do in emergency situations.
 - 5th grade is going to Camp Kitaki for outdoor education this week.
 - September 10th is picture day.
 - On Monday September 9th conference schedule opens, it is first come first serve.
 - Traffic: currently working with Douglas County on no parking, and turning into one way street in front of school during certain times. This can take a little longer but it is in progress.
 - Thank you to PTO for back to school breakfast, marquee sign, new bookshelves, new paint in library and classrooms, back to school supplies, directory, sunshine committee, and website updates.
 - Still waiting for more marquee letters to do both sides of the sign. They are currently backordered.
- Third Grade Teacher's Report
 - Thank you to the PTO for all the support you provide to third grade.
 - Six sections of third grade this year.
 - Get to know you bulletin board.
 - Multiplication license- help with multiplication facts, will continue to work on these throughout the year.
 - Just took MAP testing and are now talking about goals and how to reach goals to improve math and reading.
 - Social studies- Nebraska maps, currently doing a virtual road trip through Nebraska, learn how to use a map, index, etc. Weather and climate is next and Rusty Lord will be visiting third grade classes.
 - Book challenge- this helps keep kids accountable with reading a book from cover to cover. This help get kids excited about books and improves reading skills.
- Treasurer's Report presented by Kristi Karas

- Cash flow statement for all the years that BSE has been open was presented to meeting.
- Current cash balance: \$82,399.91
- We were able to fund a lot of nonbudgeted request items from staff but profit was down 17%, expenses were up 123% this past year
- We are committed to spending \$41,200 for all PTO events for the 24-25 school year.
- Goal is to bring in enough money through fundraising to cover 1 year expenses.
- Reimbursement: updated reimbursement form on PTO website, now you can upload multiple receipts and you will get a copy of what was submitted for your records.
- Old Business presented by Kristi Karas
 - Highlights from the 2023-2024 school year:
 - Marquee sign, new paint, media center bookshelves, scoreboard for gym
 - Everything is approved by vote that is over \$1,000. Board can approve up to \$1000 without a vote.
 - Carnival: raised \$15,400
- New Business presented by Shannon Hofer
 - Fun Run:
 - Fundraiser: September 3rd-13th at mybooster.com
 - \$1,140 in pledges as of September 3rd.
 - 4% of students are registered, 2% have pledged.
 - This is the 4th year of Fun Run, we are doing our own prizes- pens, bracelets, sunglasses, BSE bag. Prizes will be delivered twice a week to teachers to hand out to students.
 - Goal is \$30,000.
 - Fun Run/T-shirts: September 12th for preschool, September 13th for K-5th
 - Blue Sage Bash: September 13th from 5:30-7:30pm @ BSE
 - No bounce houses and no sign-up genius for volunteers this year.
 - 3 dessert trucks and let the kids have fun and play with friends.
 - Family Dinner Night
 - Still TBD, have not heard back from Burger Detour yet.
 - Sunshine Committee
 - Cups for every teacher and staff members birthday, will also be celebrating special events throughout the year.
 - Conference Meals: Parent Teacher Conferences are September 24th- 25th
 - Spring Fundraiser: Ideas and volunteers needed- please bring any ideas to the board!
 - Bids for Kids: Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation fundraiser
 - Thursday October 10th
- Thank You presented by Ashley Ladd
 - Classroom Coordinators
 - Thank you for all your help planning parties, getting t-shirt sizes, and helping with communications from PTO to parents.
 - Sponsors:
 - Thank you to our Gold, Silver, Bronze sponsors this year.
 - Back to School Committee
 - Thank you to Bonnie and all her work getting school supplies organized for the kids of BSE
 - Directory
 - Thank you to Jadie for all the work on the directory.
 - Website
 - Thank you to Cam for making all the updates to the website.
- Important September Dates presented by Taylor Newman
 - September 4- Safety Day
 - September 5/6- Outdoor Education (5th grade)
 - September 10- School Pictures
 - September 12- Preschool Fun Run
 - September 13- K-5 Fun Run & Blue Sage Bash

- September 24/25- Early Dismissal, Parent Teacher Conferences, & Bookfair
- September 26/27- No School
- Reminders presented by Shannon Hofer
 - Submit receipts on PTO website: BlueSagePTO.com
 - Save small receipts but do not hesitate to reach out to Kristi if large amount was spent
 - Switched to Access Bank: we switched due to digital deposit
 - Next Meeting: October 1, 2024
 - 5th grade teachers will be presenting
 - November meeting has been moved to **MONDAY November 4, 2024**
 - Moved due to election night, BSE is a polling site
 - Volunteers needed for sorting 771 t-shirts Wednesday September 11, 2024 @ TBD
 - KW Elite near village pointe, most likely will be at 7:30pm
 - Kids will get them at school on September 13th from teachers to wear at the Fun Run
- Open Items: questions and comments
- Call to Close
 - Thank you so much for coming to our first meeting. Meeting is called to close by Sarah K. and Abby
- Winners of the raffle items: Jen Giorgis, Andrea Lee, Aeriana Valdez, Katie Larsen