

Edward J Bosti
May 9th, 2022, PTA meeting minutes

1. **Welcome**

- Diana Armandi (President) welcomed the members and called the meeting to order at 7:01pm with 11 members logged on. In attendance were Diana Armandi (President), Danielle Psarreas (1st Vice President), Christina Yazbek (2nd Vice President), Ashley Robinson (Secretary) as well as Mrs. Kimball (Principal). Special guest Christina Poppe will be joining later on.

1. **Secretary's Report (Ashley Robinson)**

- Ashley took attendance. There are 12 members currently logged on, achieving our quorum of 10 or more members. ***(Please put microphones on mute and utilize the chat feature to vote)***
- The minutes from the last meeting were emailed along with the budget and tonight's agenda by Mrs. Kimball. Diana asked if there were any corrections to the minutes. There were none. Diana then asked for a motion and a second motion to approve the minutes. Tara Wagner motioned 1st, and Danielle Psarreas motioned 2nd as did Mrs. Kimball. Minutes approved as distributed (4 ayes, 0 no's).
- Reminded membership of the means of communication:

Facebook- Bosti Pta

Email- Bostipta@gmail.com

Website- Bostipta.org

Remind app- Text @Bostipta to number 81010

Venmo- @Bostipta ***(Please include your child's first and last name, Grade, teachers name, and a note of what you're paying for in the memo section. also, please choose the 1-to-3-day option as there are no fees)***

1. **President's Report (Diana Armandi)**

- There is still an open treasure position. If anyone is interested, please reach out to us.

1. **Treasurer's Report (Presented by Diana Armandi)**

- We currently have \$7270.09 in our account.
- In terms of revenue, we received the check from Chipotle totaling \$213.38 and a little over \$100 from the Mother's Day raffle.
- As far as expenses, we spent \$1000 on Teacher Appreciation Week, and we wrote the four checks for the high school scholarships. We do have some expenses coming up such as field day and our insurance through AIM but we are in a good spot.
- Diana asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's report. There were none.
- Diana has been working on the committee interest sheet. It is to help the meeting find people interested in chairing, co-chairing, and volunteering for events and fundraisers that the PTA has planned for the next school year. If

interested, please place a checkmark next to the event you are interested in, and we will reach out to you over the summer to confirm.

- Teacher & Staff Appreciation week: The ten-person committee chaired by Janice Abel did lovely little somethings for the teachers and staff every day such as pens, post-its, candy bars, muffins, succulents, and a catered lunch. Otis Spunkmeyer donated the muffins, and Lowes donated the succulents, so thank you for their generous donation. Lunch was catered by Pizzaiolo, which is opening a second location right here in Oakdale. The students and families joined us for chalk the walk the day before. They left beautiful pictures and messages for the teachers that were unfortunately washed away by the rain but not before Diana took pictures and shared them on our Facebook page and with Mrs. Kimball who forwarded them to the entire staff. The students also filled out “shout-out cards” displayed in the main lobby for all to see. We hope that everyone felt appreciated.
- Class picture day: The photographer came back last week to take class photos. It went smoothly, and we thank all the volunteers who helped out that day.
- Colleen Malia spoke about the Spring Plant Sale that is taking place throughout May. Please take the plant sale flyer or show a picture of the flyer next time you shop at Joseph’s nursery, and the PTA earns 25% of sales. You can re-use the flyer however many times you’d like.
- Tara Wagner spoke about the school supply sale taking place soon. We are currently waiting on the school supply list from the teachers, which we should be getting soon. Once we receive them, we will be able to send them over to the company rep and get some prices.
- We currently have 154 Pta members registered, and it is never too late to join. Please note that you need to be a registered member for your vote to count tonight when we vote on the new board.
- Our final school assembly took place on 5/4, which was Laugh-A-Lot Poetry. It was a fun take on poetry using songs and kid-friendly subjects such as recess. This was for the whole school to enjoy as a virtual-live assembly. Mrs. Kimball reported that the kids liked it.

1. **1st Vice President’s Report (Danielle Psarreas)**

- We have Field Day coming up on June 2nd, with the rain date being June 3rd. Mrs. Kimball sent out a reminder with a list of items you may want to send your child into school with for that day. The teachers will be running field day this year, so there is no need for parent volunteers. Parents can come to watch their children participate. A schedule was sent home by Mrs. Kimball. The DJ was booked, and the t-shirts have been ordered. We are just waiting on snack confirmation.
- We have a Friendly’s ice cream fundraiser set for 6/7 at the East Islip location between 5-9 pm. To participate, please bring the flyers going home shortly to the restaurant, and the PTA will receive 20% of total sales. This will

only apply to dine-in or take-out; it will not count towards food delivery such as Door Dash and Uber Eats.

1. **2nd Vice President's Report (Christina Yazbek)**

- We had the Mother's Day Raffle drawing on Saturday, May 7th. We collected \$320. Tara Wagner was the winner of the 50/50, and she received beautiful flowers and \$160. A big congratulations to her!
- We have four CHS scholarships that we are awarding \$350 to each. The winners will be awarded on June 6th. Thank you to the scholarship committee: Lisa Sturiale, Kelly Bernius and Shannon Meyers for reading the applicant essays and for choosing the winners.
- Our last raffle for the school year will be our Father's Day raffle. The "chill and grill" raffle consisting of a large Yeti cooler filled with different types of beer, snacks, a \$100 gift certificate to Chubs Meats, and other assorted BBQ essentials will take place from June 6th -to June 14th, with the drawing on June 15th. Good luck to those who enter.

1. **Special Guest Speaker (Christina Poppe)**

- Christina Poppe (interim assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction) spoke to the membership about some of the highlights of the upcoming capital projects and why they were chosen.
- We are paired up and set to go with the budget vote and school board election on Tuesday, May 17th. I encourage everyone in the meeting to go out and vote.
- The actual budget will appear to have four different propositions. The first would be the overall Budget, the second is the Capital project, and the third is the creation of a Capital Reserve. The fourth is technically not a proposition, but it is the trustee election.
- In terms of our overall budget for 2022-2023, what it means to the taxpayer is a 1.99% increase to the taxpayer. In the lower right-hand corner of the pamphlet, Mr. Robert Houser provided some reference numbers to visualize what a 1.99 increase would look like for the taxpayer. So, for example, for a house assessed at \$10,000, you are looking at a \$38 dollar increase. A house assessed at \$30,000 is looking at a \$114 increase, and a home assessed at \$50,000 is looking at \$191.
- People may have read in Newsday about the record-setting aid that the schools will be receiving. However, Connetquot is only getting a \$253,000 increase.
- The proposed 2022-2023 budget does include support for new courses and curricular initiatives. The new coursework right now is releasing in Connetquot High School. This includes American Sign Language and a broadcast journalism course with the eventual goal to broadcast the morning announcements and special events district-wide.
- The district is looking at opportunities to provide these young adults with some practical work and life experiences while attending school. We are looking forward to offering the second step in the CompTIA program. If they

are successful with the program, these students will be able to leave high school with IT experience and credentials that would allow them to go right into entry-level IT positions after graduation.

- We will also be able to have emergency medicine as a science elective for the 11th and 12th graders. Upon successful completion of the course, those students will leave with basic red cross-certification in CPR and lifesaving techniques.
- We will be offering 2 social studies courses next year, which will hold college credits. These courses are interpersonal psychology and positive psychology applications. These 2 courses will carry college credits through Post.
- Finally, we will offer a new PE elective to all high school students called social and emotional wellness through physical education.
- We will also have district-wide curricular initiatives for children in elementary, middle school, and high school supported by this budget, such as the extension to our foreign language in the elementary school program that will now be offered to the 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders.
- We will reinitiate our C-QUEST program for grades 4 and 5. Recently, a committee meeting was held to reimagine this program, and we are working with that feedback. Some decisions about this program have yet to be made, it is still a work in progress, but it will be back for the 2022-2023 school year.

Question: *Will it still be housed in Bosti?*

Answer: *No decision on that yet.*

- We have been pushing into our mathematics program for the 8th graders to include computer science instruction. Currently, we have a mathematics teacher specializing in computer science. This will allow the students to learn to code on the cadilo platform. Next year, we want to expand that for our 7th graders and eventually down to the 6th graders. This is in preparation for some State assigned computer science requirements. This program allows your children to grow with the program, and their work stays with them throughout their schooling.
- A cooperative career and technical education program are also supported by the budget, which is a great program. We are currently looking to pull in more paid internships for our school-to-work students, which our school-to-work coordinator manages.
- We will be offering a career development course. The eventuality of this course is some different graduation pathways for students that may need them. Next year, we are piloting this program with a dip into career development for a handpicked group of students.
- We will be in our 2nd year of lifeguarding, and we will be offering unified bowling and cheer as well as intramural athletics for all students.
- The second proposition on your ballot is the capital project. That gives the district approximately 60 million dollars in borrowing power.

- A large portion of that debt service is coming off the responsibilities of the taxpayers. Approximately 4.4 million dollars of debt service is no longer allocated to any projects. This allows the district to be in the unique opportunity to engage in some planning. It enables the district to plan for different projects and areas for repair or development that are financially responsible.
- There have been changes to the ventilation codes in the last 20 years; by upgrading the ventilation, we will then be able to increase the filtration.
- The roofs of all of our secondary buildings are in desperate need of repair.
- The high school pool also needs to be refurbished.
- Those will be the big-ticket items on the budget; however, it is worth noting that there will be no added cost to our taxpayers, and it enables the district to receive 67 cents on every dollar spent through BOCES so there is a good return on our investments.
- There has been a proposal to create a capital reserve that will allow us to deposit extra money into the account as these projects are completed.
- The last proposition is the election of trustees for the Board of Education. We have one seat up for election, which Mrs. Napolitano occupies, and she does have an opponent, Ms. Sarah Smith. That will be the only nomination portion on your ballots. I will encourage you to vote next Tuesday. The polls will be open until 9 pm.

Question: *Is there an oversight from the school administration for the board of trustee position? Is there oversight on how you can run and who receives nominations?*

Answer: *The board has built-in policies; however, I am not fluent in those policies. If you have specific questions, the district clerk might be the better person to reach out to. Her name is Jesse Kamp, and her email is jkamp@ccsdli.org.*

1. **Principal's Report (Mrs. Kimball)**

- I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the Bosti Pta for a wonderful teacher appreciation week. It was a lovely week, and we all felt very appreciated. It hasn't been an easy year or two due to the pandemic; however, all the little gifts and the student shout outs were very well received.
- On May 3rd, we had our Advanced Concert at the High School where the 4th and 5th graders performed band, orchestra, chorus, and recorder ensemble. Unfortunately, Mrs. McKillop was sick and unable to attend. We did have the high school chorus teacher join us, and the children played beautifully. They were so well prepared. I am so incredibly proud of them. Thank you to the families for all their work with getting their children to early morning rehearsals and supporting the music program.
- Class picture day was also May 3rd. It went smoothly with no issues, and I am looking forward to seeing all those class pictures.

- Mrs. McKillop is sick and will be out until Thursday, so all her early morning rehearsals will be canceled until then. I did send out another email reminder.
- There will be an elementary honors art show on May 17th. Mrs. Ritter has chosen some student artists to highlight at the art show. Families and students will be informed and it will begin at 5 pm.
- Kindergarten orientation and the bus ride is scheduled for May 19th. I am very excited to meet the new students and their families. I will be presenting orientation to the families. At the same time, the children will have the opportunity to listen to a story from the kindergarten teachers and have a bus ride around the neighborhood.
- On the same day, the 5th graders will have their trip to the Country Fair, weather permitting. The rain date is scheduled for May 20th.
- Kindergarten screening is on May 23rd and 24th by appointment only. Almost everyone has an appointment, and I am looking forward to that.
- The 3rd-grade concert is scheduled for May 31st at Bosti. It will begin at 6:30 pm in the cafeteria.
- 5th grade coming together day is also May 31st. This is where all the 5th graders district-wide will go to the high school and have their own little field day to meet students from the other elementary schools. The rain date is scheduled for June 1st.
- We have Field Day scheduled for June 2nd with a rain date of June 3rd. I did send out that email with the time slots for each grade, so if parents would like to come to watch their child participate that are more than welcome to. If for whatever reason, you need to go into the school during field day, you must go around to the front of the building and be let in through the main entrance. We are very excited about field day, and let's all hope for good weather.
- For next school year, SBMT meeting will be held in person at the school. I am asking the PTA to put it out there that if anyone is interested, it will be at 8:35 am on Wednesday morning once a month.

1. **Report of informative committees**

- Board of education: Christina Poppe covered everything; there is no additional information.
- The Co-Council met on 4/26. Christina Yazbek attended. They spoke of the Thunder Run that is taking place at RMS on 6/12. Mrs. Kimball emailed everyone with the information, and we will post the news on our Facebook page.
- The next SBMT will be held virtually on 5/25 at 8:30am.

1. **Old business**

Vote for New Executive Board 2022-2023:

President: Diana Armandi

1st Vice President: Colleen Malia Basile
2nd Vice President: Christina Yazbek
Secretary: Amanda Courtney
Treasurer: Theresa Smith

Diana asked if we could go ahead and vote as a block instead of individually. There was no objection. She called for a motion and a second to vote on the new Executive Board. Tara Wagner motioned 1st and Mrs. Kimball motioned second. All in favor, please type aye in the chat. (8 ayes) the new Board members were officially voted in. Congratulations to the new board! Diana thanked the current board for all their help this year.

1. **New Business**
 - There was none
1. **Announcements**
 - Please refer to the emailed agenda and calendar of events

The following virtual meeting is on June 6th at 7:00pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm with 15 members logged on.