



PTO

September 16, 2014



# 2013-2015 PTO Board

- Tracey Gondelman – Co-President
- Krissy Fernandes – Co-President
- Chris Scully – Treasurer
- Debbie Forte - Secretary
- Jen Little – Vice President



# Major Objectives for 2013-2014

- ✓ • Keep What Works
  - If it ain't broke, don't fix it
- ✓ • Improve Communication
  - New Website ([www.benhempto.org](http://www.benhempto.org))
  - Monthly In-Print Newsletter
  - Consolidated Communication (fewer papers to send home with students)
- ✓ • Reduce Fundraising
  - New "Support Your Kids" campaign
- ✓ • Increase volunteering and involvement





# Major Objectives for 2014-2015

- **Reduce Fundraising**
  - Genevieve’s Gift Wrap has been eliminated this year
- **Increase Volunteering**
  - Committee/Events Fair at first PTO meeting
  - New Committee Chair structure
- **Succession Planning**
  - Document everything! (Volunteer Guides for all events/committees)
  - New PTO Board “overlap” structure



School Supplies



# School Supplies





# School Supplies

## Why the change?

- Reduce the number of times parents are asked to spend money at school.
- Ask for support once (Support Your Kids)
- Fully utilize school supply budget
- Reduce redundant spending
- Take advantage of volume discounts



# School Supplies

- Changes included:
  - New school policy on requesting supplies
  - PTO added \$2,000 to budget to purchase classroom “health” needs (tissues/wipes)
  - Supply closet was inventoried and reorganized
    - More supplies to be made available to teachers in Work Area throughout the year
  - New supply acquisition process
  - New centralized wish list process





# Meeting Structure

- Minimize PTO Business to 15-30 minutes
- Parent Speaker Series
  - Anna Nolan, Assistant Superintendent
  - Lice Prevention/Treatment



# PTO Grant

- **2014-2015 Fall Grant Details**
- **Application Deadline:** Friday, October 3, 2014
- **Applications Presented at PTO Meeting:** Tuesday, October 7, 2014
- **Application Decision:** Tuesday, October 21, 2014
- **Total Grant Funds Available:** \$800



# Cultural Arts Update

- Kathy Wick
- Cultural Arts Committee:
  - Kim Knowlton (Committee Chair)
  - Kim Bettigole
  - Kathy Wick
  - Michelle Lieberman
  - Julie Kelly
  - Francesca Tramboulakis



# Upcoming Events

- Family Picnic – Thursday, September 18
  - 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
  - Ben-Hem Playground
  - High School Jazz Band Performance
- PTO Grant – Deadline, Friday, October 3
- Spirit Shirt Contest – Deadline, Friday, October 3



# Volunteer!

- Technology Chair
- Communications/PR
- Ben-Hem Happenings
- School Spirit
- Seed to Harvest
- In-School Volunteering
- Student, Family & Community Events
- An Evening Out