



PTA General Membership Meeting

Date: Thursday, March 12, 2026

Christine Rose, PTA President

- The meeting was called to order at 9:57 am in the Birch Lane Front Gym.
- A quorum was present.
- Mrs. Rose led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ACTION AGENDA:

- The minutes of the January 15, 2026, General Membership were approved as presented. The minutes of the January 15, 2026, Executive Membership meeting were approved as presented.
- **2026 Nominating Committee: Sarah Frascella.** The Nominating Committee met on February 12, 2026 and submits the following candidates for 2026-27 school year: President – Lauren Carollo, 1st Vice President – Jenna Biacianello, Vice President, Ways & Means – Kelene Gange, Treasurer – Kristin Voutsinas, Secretary – Amanda Tasakovic. All candidates approved and elected for the 2026-27 school year.
- **President's Report: Christine Rose.** Thank you to our board members, committee chairs, and volunteers who dedicate countless hours to making our events and programs possible. The PTA also plays an important role in advocacy. One of the most important responsibilities of the PTA is to serve as a voice for our families and to ensure that parent perspectives are heard at the district and Board of Education level. As we move through the remainder of the school year, the PTA will continue working on exciting events you will hear about today. Thank you again to everyone who continues to support the Birch Lane PTA!
- **Treasurer's Report: Elizabeth Edlbach.** January 31, 2026 report: Opening balance of \$38,066.92, disbursements \$1,618.46, income \$595.00, closing balance \$37,043.46. The statement for January was reconciled by Kristin Voutsinas. February 28, 2026 report: Opening balance of \$37,043.46, disbursements \$25,869.57, income \$24,492.68, closing balance \$35,666.57. The statement for February was reconciled by Kristin Voutsinas.
- **Secretary's Report: Vicki Abbinanti.** Thank you notes were received from Mr. Aspetti and Mrs. Larkin for the Holiday Lunch and the LEAD event breakfast. A thank you note was received by Ms. Rifkin's class for the Dogman books.

OFFICER/CHAIR REPORTS

- **Tacos and Trivia: Christine Rose.** Tacos and Trivia will be held May 4 here at Birch with Moe's catering. We still need some volunteers to help get it off the ground.
- **BOE Updates: Christine Rose.** Parent University program had approximately 200 parents in attendance. The program included workshops and speakers focused on supporting students around topics like cell phone use and navigating social media. The district also discussed its focus on five core competencies, which emphasize helping students become innovative and creative thinkers from elementary school through high school. The district shared updates on the Naviance program, which helps students plan for college and career pathways. The Board has begun presentations for the 2026–2027 school budget. The district is also reviewing long-term capital and facilities needs. Overall, the meetings focused on long-term planning for students, responsible budgeting, and maintaining strong facilities and programs for our community.
- **Boosterthon: Amanda Tasakovic.** Our biggest PTA-fundraiser of the year begins April 15 with the fun run being held on April 23. This year's theme is "It's a Great Big World – Get Out There and Play!"
- **Little Ladies Dance: Lauren Carollo.** 2026 Little Ladies Dance is going to be held May 15th at Berner Middle School. This year's theme will be Pixie Dust and Magic Shoes.
- **DEI: Stephanie Iannuzzi read by Vicki Abbinanti.** April is Autism Awareness Month, a time to celebrate and support the many wonderful children and families in our community who are part of the autism spectrum. During this month we will be emphasizing that every child brings unique strengths, talents, and perspectives.

- **Boys Bash: Stephanie Iannuzzi read by Vicki Abbinanti.** Boys Bash 2026 is a Glowing for Gold Party held on Friday, March 20th, from 6pm -8pm. The 1st session is sold out, but we still have room in the 2nd session.
- **Spring Plant Sale: Stephanie Iannuzzi read by Vicki Abbinanti.** Our plant sale will be held on May 6th & 7th for all the kids to come and pick out plants. All pre-order forms will be available this coming week.
- **Staff Appreciation: Elizabeth Edlbach.** May 4-8 is set aside for setting up treats and a luncheon for staff. Class parents are to provide your teacher(s) with a gift from the class. Everyone is to be recognized and an e-mail is to be forthcoming.
- **School Supply Kits: Colleen Wildes.** Orders for the 2026-2027 school supply kits will begin March 23 and run through April 17, so be on the lookout for further information on how to order.

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

- **Teacher Reports: Ms. McCree and Ms. Downey read by Christine Rose.** Kindergarten: We had fun celebrating 100 days of school and bringing in our Special person to do a craft. First Grade: Looking forward to their class trip to the Bellmore Playhouse. In Science, students learned about sun and day patterns and will follow that by learning about the moon and night patterns. Second Grade: They went to Jones Beach Nature & Energy Center and are working on 3-digit numbers with & without regrouping. Third Grade: Currently working on how to write opinion pieces, fractions, and multiplication facts. They are learning about Japan. Fourth Grade: Our nonfiction books are being published, and we are learning about fractions & mixed numbers. Thank you PTA for the Submerged storytelling program! Fifth Grade: We are wrapping up math with multiplying/dividing fractions and properties of matter in Science. Our whole grade went to Commerce Plaza and had the best time. The Trevor's room experience was great.
- **Principal/Assistant Principal Reports: Mr. Aspetti & Mrs. Larkin read by Christine Rose.** Report cards will be available on March 20th. Fifth grade will head to LI Children's Museum on March 20 and 26. Life at Berner program for 5th graders will run during Library classes where kids can talk to current Berner students in MS 101. State test refusals must be in by April 1. Spring recess is 4/2 – 4/12 and Family Connect Night is April 22.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:49am.

S/
Secretary
Vicki Abbinanti

Approved: _____