

Piney Branch Elementary

PTO Meeting

May 6, 2026



*Motion to
Open*



Agenda

- March Meeting Minutes
- Upcoming Events
- Committee Updates
- PTO Year in Review
- Behind the Scenes
- Election Update - Member at Large Position
- Financial Review
- Open Questions & Discussion
- Motion to Close





***March 2026
Meeting Minutes***

IN ATTENDANCE

Board: Chris G., Stephanie D., Sara A., Maria C., Jamie W.

Members: Mandeep M., Jessica B., Anthony M., Emily F., Jennifer R., Ivette O., Amber M., Noemi G., Jessica P., Kristina S., Candyse C., Gigi K., Nancy K., Michelle B.

Virtually: Anna T., Tia B.

Motion to Open

- Chris motioned to open; Stephanie seconded.

January Meeting Minutes

- Chris motioned to adopt; Sara seconded.

Upcoming Events

- Chris reviewed upcoming events
- Encouraged membership to share the event with other PBES families and encourage them to sign up
- Spirit Day on 4/24 will be last for the year
- Movie night starts 30 min. later than usual to accommodate later sunset

Teacher Appreciation (Kristina S.)

- Christina reviewed the weekly schedule of events
 - Monday- Breakfast
 - Tuesday- Snack Cart
 - Wednesday- Dirty Soda Bar
 - Thursday- Coffee Truck (will request community funding)
 - Friday- Lunch
- List will go out to PBES community with suggestions on how to show your teacher appreciation
- April Monthly Appreciation- nachos!

Yearbook Committee (Chris on behalf of Celina)

- Importing photos
- Teacher lists to proof their classrooms will be sent in next few weeks
- Encourage community to submit photos from events
- Encourage yearbook sales; close on April 12 for fundraising purposes; after April 12, purchases must be made directly through Candid

5th Grade Promotion (Sara A.)

- Currently generating energy!
- Class party donation/chaperone request has been made
- Yard signs available for purchase- April 19 deadline for first delivery; May 20th latest deadline
- Yearbook ads launch this week- Sarah to provide Ivette with a link for scholarship students
- Slideshow runs before ceremony and at party; parents have been asked to submit student photos

Watch D.O.G.S. Updates (Amber on behalf of Brandon)

- A few signups, including one for tomorrow

Spirit Days (Noemi G.)

- Few ideas floating around, i.e. cardinal glass animals, golden ticket, DJ at lunch or recess
 - 10:45am-1:35pm would be time block needed for DJ during recess
 - Mr. Thorne to get back to PTO about DJ recess possibility for 4/24
- Community ideas are welcome
- Chris to facilitate an intro between Noemi and Ms. McAfee and Ms. Nice to work with SCA on spirit day activities

Fundraising Goals

- 2H focus on teacher lounge refresh; basic things like vending machines, coffee/drink amenities
 - Survey will be sent to teachers to understand what is wanted/needed

Board Elections

- Member at Large position is open for next school year
- Interest forms must be submitted by 4/6
- Malia Hayes will run election for us (must be third party)
- Only PTO members in current year can vote

Financial Review

- Stephanie reviewed current account summary
- More coming in than out since last meeting; Silent Auction biggest fundraiser for spring
- Have been receiving teacher stipends- positive feedback about these being open all year

Open Questions / Discussion

- Question about \$40K reserves- Chris explained it's a "rainy day" fund for the school
- Suggestion to invest some of that money to earn interest while it sits
- Battle of the Snacks benefiting Crossroads; ask for PTO to donate prizes to classes that donate the most snacks- PTO said yes!

Motion to Close

- Chris motioned to close; Stephanie seconded.

Next Meeting

- May 6, 7-8pm

2025 - 2026 Events

SEP - NOV

- ✓ • Baroody Camp Registration
- ✓ • Spirit Night (Urban Air)
- ✓ • Fall Bingo + 50/50 Raffle - **10/24**
- ✓ • Color Craze Run - **10/31**
- ✓ • Square 1 Art Fundraiser

DEC - FEB

- ✓ • Spirit Night (*Chipotle*) - **12/3**
- ✓ • Winter Dance - **2/6**
- ✓ • Spirit Night (*Sazon Latina*) - **2/19**

MAR - JUNE

- ✓ • Finding Nemo Musical - **3/5-7**
- ✓ • Spring Bingo + Silent Auction - **3/13**
- ✓ • Heritage Night + PTO Passport Program - **4/10**
- ✓ • Spirit Day - **4/24**
- Teacher Appreciation Week - **5/4-8**
- One Last Wave - **6/5**
- 5th Grade Promotion - **6/11**



Committee Updates

- ❑ **Teacher Appreciation Committee** - Kristina Stark
- ❑ **Yearbook Committee** - Celina Gallegos
 - All purchases going forward must be purchased directly through Candid at non-bulk rate plus shipping
- ❑ **5th Grade Promotion** - Lauren Main & Sara Agne
- ❑ **Watch D.O.G.S** - Adam Bacus & Brandon Merriman
- ❑ **Spirit Days** - Noemi Giragosian





PTO Year in Review



PBES CARNIVAL



MAGIC NIGHT



SPIRIT DAYS

SPROUT BOXES, TEACHER LUNCHEON & MORE



COLOR CRAZE



BEACH BASH BOOGIE





PTO Year in Review

PBES MUSICAL



SPRING BINGO



TEACHER APPRECIATION



HERITAGE NIGHT



FINAL SPIRIT DAY



ONE LAST WAVE/ 5TH GRADE PROMOTION

Did You Know? Behind The Scenes!

STUDENT & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Membership Drives
- Scholarship Student Support
- Club Support: Baroody, Running Club shirts & Green Team stickers
- Supported school-led events
- Created spirit days
- Spirit wear
- PBES yard signs to celebrate events
- Childcare at PTO meetings

STAFF, COMMUNICATIONS & OPERATIONS

- Year-round Teacher Stipends
- Monthly Staff Appreciation
- Celebrated Transportation, Admin & Support Staff
- Coordinated with NJHS & NHS
- Teacher Portal
- Website Management
- Weekly Newsletters & FB Page
- Vending Machine & Concessions



2025 - 2026 Committees!

Teacher Appreciation

Kristina Stark

Bingo Night

Amber Merriman & Susie Bacus

Beach Bash Boogie

Stacie Reynolds, Noemi Giragosian,
Mary Allen, Courtney Elizabeth & Jess
Passafaro

Spirit Days

Noemi Giragosian, Mary Allen &
Latoya Biggers

Fifth Grade Promotion

Lauren Main & Sara Agne

Yearbook

Celina Gallegos, Emily Freeborn,
Rachel Ritter & Candice Wade

***Thank you to our volunteers, school staff, and
families for making all of this possible!***



PTO Board Update: Member at Large (26-27)

- Our current Member at Large will be stepping down at the end of the 2025–2026 school year.
- We received one submission and are pleased to share that **Emily Freeborn** will serve as our next Member at Large.
- Emily's term will begin **July 1, 2026** for the 2026–2027 school year.

Please join us in welcoming Emily to the PTO Board!





***We are so grateful for everything you've done, Jamie!
You will be truly missed!***



Financial Review

PINEY BRANCH PTO ACCOUNT SUMMARY

MARCH 19, 2026 - MAY 5, 2026

| DESCRIPTION/REFERENCE | AS OF MAY 5, 2026 |
|--|-------------------|
| Account Balances as of March 18, 2026 | \$65,458.70 |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Credits:</p> Spring Bingo & Silent Auction, Coffee Donations, Volunteer Support Donation | \$7,963.19 |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Debits:</p> Teacher Appreciation, Concessions, Heritage Night Support, Running Club Shirts, Green Team, Yearbooks, 5th Grade Promotion, Teacher Stipends | -\$7,070.25 |
| Balance as of 5/5/26 | \$66,351.64 |

| RESERVES/PENDING TRANSACTIONS | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| PTO Reserves for Piney Branch | -\$40,000.00 |
| Fifth Grade Promotion | -\$1,000.00 |
| Start Up Costs for 26-27 Year | -\$8,000.00 |
| Balance as of 5/5/26 | -\$49,000.00 |
| NET BALANCE | \$17,351.64 |





***Open Questions &
Discussion***

2026-2027 PTO Membership Now Open



PTO membership for 2026–2027 is open—join now and roll into next fall ready for every event, initiative, and celebration coming your way.

Scan the QRC to sign up today!

or visit pineybranchpto.com/membership

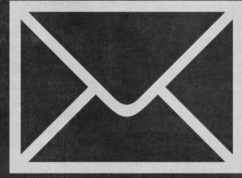
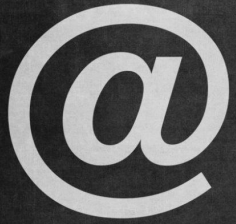
>> Visit pineybranchpto.com/join to discover more ways to get involved next year.



***Motion to
Close***



CONTACT US



Thank you!

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WEBSITE

<https://pineybranchpto.com>

