

BERKELEY LAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

General PTA Meeting
March 16, 2018

DISCUSSION OUTLINE

- PTA to PTO Interest
- Open Committee and Board Positions

PTA VS. PTO

- Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a national organization
 - All local PTAs must pay national and state dues
 - In return, there is a voice in national organization / issues
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is an independent organization
 - All money remains local
 - Primary focus is on school or town/county
- Question: Do we want to be locally focused?

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- For every \$7 in membership dues:
 - \$3.75 goes to the National PTA
 - \$1.00 goes to the Georgia PTA
 - Only \$2.25 remains with BLES PTA
- In the last 5 years, BLES PTA has spent over \$7,750 to National and GA State PTA with minimal benefit to our students
- Example of PTA Funded Enhancements for BLES include:
 - \$6,000 for new music risers (2015-2017)
 - \$7,600 for books in the classrooms (2017-2018)

ADVANTAGES OF BEING A PTO

- ⦿ All money remains local to our school
- ⦿ We establish our own management, financial, and accountability which would be based on our current bylaws, financial management, and accountability processes as a guidelines
- ⦿ We would be answerable only to our members (parents/teachers/community), our principal, and the Gwinnett County Superintendent

NEXT STEPS

- The current BLES Executive Board needs your feedback by March 30, 2018
- Please talk with Executive Board members
 - Margo Williams, Co-President
 - Tara Givins, Co-President
 - Emily Shih, Vice President
 - Graciela Oviedo, Vice President
 - Ellissa Friedman, Vice President
 - Tammie Wagner, Secretary
 - Jennifer Maise, Treasurer
 - or send email to info@BLESPTA.org
- A plan for next steps will be reviewed in April to be implemented prior to end of 2018.

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OPEN POSITIONS

- Committee Chairs for:
 - Membership Committee
 - Spirit Wear Committee
 - Yearbook Committee

- Two Board Vice-Presidents