



PTA Meeting Minutes

Called Meeting to Order via Zoom: 7:05 p.m.

In Attendance:

Anissa Willis (President), Carolyn Shuster (Vice President), Linda Gopal (Treasurer), Melissa McGee (Secretary), Devik, Rich Cebrick, Glenn Hunt, Katrece Nolen, Angela Fielding, Savitha, Colleen Scout, Chris Powell, Anne Coleman, Erin Sullivan, Fathima, Stacy, Brooke Nakia, Sivana White, Cindy, Deepti, Sheetal bhosekar, Caleb Pavlus, Ashley Crookston, Alissa, Indrani Roy

Approved the June Meeting Minutes. Melissa made a motion to approve the June minutes, Anissa seconded the motion. All approved.

President -

- **Welcome Back Breakfast-** It was a great start to the school year and thank you to all those that donated food, products or money to our BTS Breakfast! We also had our Welcome Back sign to greet staff and students on the first day of school.
 - A great success, thank you to all volunteers
- **Back-to-School-** We have received several volunteer names for the year and will continue to seek out volunteers for future events.
 - Picture Day
 - Hearing and Vision Test Screening
 - Volunteer opportunities are pushed out through FB page as well as Amy Tobias's newsletter
- **By-Laws-** VA By-Laws changed over the summer as did their process for submitting by law changes. They are now a "uniform" bylaws document and we complete an Organization Structure form. This will be submitted through MemberHub.

- Anissa reached out because she had not heard back from them over summer. We no longer need to submit our bylaws. We upload a 1 page document to MemberHub. We are currently up to date on our bylaws.
- **PTA Membership-** Thank you to all who have signed up. We held a contest for parents with the winner being Meg Hoyecki. We also have 2 winners from those Staff members that signed up Congrats to Anthony Dodson & Manju Gomathinayagam!
 - We are very close to 200 members
 - Meg Hoyecki won a \$50 Blue Ridge Grill, \$25 Crumbl gift card and a \$25 Farmwell spirit wear gift card.
 - Over 30 staff members signed up
- **Broad Run Class of 2025 Shirts-** Thank you from BRHS
 - Holly Hightower sent a thank you note from Broad Run High School. The shirts were a hit. The students are wearing them and are appreciative.

Treasurer's Report

- PTA has **\$21,493.15** in cash in the accounts as of today, September 14th, 2021.
- Nothing else to report

Principal's Report - Mrs. Sherryl Loya

- The beginning of the school year has been a success.
 - FWS has created several programs to give extra support for students in math and reading to eliminate learning gaps.
 - There have been some management challenges.
 - The car line is longer this year due to more students being dropped off by parents. Please be patient as you pick your child up.
 - LCPS is short on bus drivers, which makes it difficult for the bus arrival and dismissal times to be consistent. We are having frequent late buses, second drops, sub drivers and sub buses.
 - Encourage your child to ask for help in finding their bus, if needed. There are at least 3 people available to assist them.
 - We have had 7 Covid positive cases this year and 38 students who must quarantine as a result. The majority are 6th graders.

- The school is working hard to provide those students with quality instructional opportunities.
- Interims will be available on Friday, October 1st. Check ParentVue. You will be contacted directly through email or phone by your child's teacher if they are struggling.
- Please check the Friday newsletter for information about the clubs starting up.
 - Activity buses are available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays
- We will be participating in a fundraiser in early October to raise money to run student recognition programs. Parents are strongly encouraged to help support this effort.

Committee Chairs updates:

- Falcon's Nest- Nichole Keller
- Mondays and Fridays still need volunteers
- Fundraisers- Anissa Willis: *Fuddruckers on Sep 21st from 4-8pm*
 - The money we earn goes directly back to the school, like the PTA breakfast and the big Welcome sign.
 - Mention FWSM to Joe at Fuddruckers. They are a big supporter of Farmwell.
- Giving Tree- Nichole Keller
- Hospitality- Suzanne Pavlus
 - Look for sign ups on FB or weekly newsletters.
 - Our Welcome Back Breakfast on August 25th was a success. We got a lot of donations and store bought items.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week-
 - We will do a luncheon. It is not planned yet. It will be financially supported by PTA. We may ask parents to donate a few items
 - Last year we did a sweet shop for the teachers for each house. It was a success and the teachers loved it. It lasted 3 days and was well received.
- Membership- Savitha Seshadri: *Total 176; Parent- 142 & Staff- 34 with 21 Donations*
 - \$2300 raised by Members and donations totalling \$275
 - Please support membership by asking people to join.
 - We did not get many 6th grade memberships, so we will send out another round of emails.
 - Our target is 200 Members; we are almost there.

- The Membership position will need to be filled for next year, 2022. If you know of anyone, it is a good opportunity to volunteer and you can shadow Savitha.
- Odyssey of the Mind- Ashley Brody: *Coordinator's Meeting on 9/29; Interest meetings first of Oct; Need a teacher to help volunteer as a coach (after school club?) Ask for PTA sponsorship for OOTM registration*

- SEAC- Todd Fielding
 - LCPS is moving away from Phoenix for IEP's and using a new program called Virginia IEP. This was introduced during the SEAC meeting.
 - LCPS recently hired 110 professionals that specialize in mental health services.

- School Supply Kits- Suzanne Pavlus
 - School supplies were lower than normal, but they were up 183 this year from last year's 150. We are about 100 off from a typical year.
 - School supplies is a fundraiser. We make a small increment of money off the kits. The kits DO save the families money. When we buy in bulk and reassemble them, families save %15.
 - Two benefits for families: 1. You are saving money 2. You are helping your school. ○ We shipped the kits directly to your house this year. The shipping was \$7. We are going to reevaluate this and talk to the Board to see if we should do this next year. We overbought kits and had some left over.
 - Next year, Suzanne would like families to donate supplies to families in need. ○ 2 Parents commented that the shipping feature was wonderful, a time saver. ○ Savitha commented that we need to evaluate all aspects for next year, especially in terms of having lockers next year and how that might change the supply lists for the kits.
- Spirit Wear- Nichole Keller
 - We introduced 2 new sweatshirts and a new gray t-shirt. We sold out of the t-shirts at the orientation. Thank you to everyone who is continuing to support us with our spirit wear. ●
- Volunteers- Savitha Seshadri; *Picture Day coming up on the 20th & 21st- all spots are filled :)* ○ Sign up genius links for volunteering are posted on PTA website, FB and in the weekly Friday newsletter
- *Vision & Hearing Screening on 27th & 29th: 3 spots open*

- **New Business** – open additional topics for consideration/discussion
 - The staff volleyball game, the PTA President of Trailside reached out to Anissa today. Game would be in Jan/Feb. Anissa wanted to get comments or thoughts on the game.
 - Katrece Nolen and Savitha commented that the volleyball game is something that kids and staff really enjoy.
 - The volleyball game is a fundraiser.
 - Carolyn commented that historically, we had 2 volunteers run the Volleyball committee, especially if we are hosting the event. It is a big endeavor.
 - Spirit nights coming up at Chiptole, Famous Toastery, McAlister's, The Yard ○ A question regarding hospitality, "We did a fun thing at Halloween for teachers and a second event with thank you's at Christmas. Are we doing anything like this for the year"?
 - Let's chat about some ideas. We definitely need to plan some things.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Next Meeting is Tuesday, October 12th, 2021