



PTA Meeting Minutes November 15th, 2022

Called Meeting to order Via Zoom at: 7:01 p.m.

In Attendance: President- Anissa Willis; Vice President- Carolyn Shuster; Treasurer- Tania Wadhawan; Secretary- Melissa McGee, Reshmi, Pb, Chris, Charlotte Ferrigno, Courtney Hunt, Murtaza Chitalwala, Suzanne Pavlus, Graham Edwards, Payvand

Approved the October Minutes. Melissa made a motion to approve the October Minutes and Carolyn seconded the motion.

- **President**
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- **Treasurer's Report**
 - PTA has **\$16, 417.26** in cash in the accounts as of today.
 - PTA has paid EPI **\$3,234.08**
 - PTA has paid school grant of **\$1000**
 - PTA has paid VA PTA fees of **\$488.50**
- **President's Report**
 - Schools to Watch update (The judges came to observe and evaluate the school on Monday, November 14th)
 - Anissa came to the breakfast to answer questions from a parent's perspective.
 - Principal Loya is positive about the evaluation day and the judges were extremely complimentary of Farmwell.
 - Holiday Band Concerts coming up.
 - Choir concert this Thursday, Nov. 17th, for 6-8th grades at 6:30 p.m.
 - Strings concert on December 12th
 - Band concert, 7-8th grade, December 13th
 - Guitar concert, 8th grade, December 14th
 - On this Friday, November 18th, to celebrate National Education Week, there will be a parent breakfast at 7:30 a.m. with a presentation at 8:30 a.m. about School Anxiety.
 - Principal Loya shared concerns about substance abuse at school.
 - She is seeing an alarming rate of vaping and marijuana use, due in part to the legalization of marijuana.
 - The school is working closely with students and parents to educate them.
 - There is a presentation for parents about Substance Abuse on the FWS website.
 - Rezoning Update
 - The School Board is still meeting about rezoning. The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 6th

Committee Chairs updates:

- Falcon's Nest- [Cindy Harrison](#)
- Fundraisers- Anissa Willis: *Manhattan* was on 11/9; *McAlister's* is 12/7 (All Day)
 - *The Yard*: \$119 (\$799 in sales at 15%); *Fuudrucker's*: \$535 (\$2677 in sales)
- Giving Tree- Charlotte Ferrigno Nov 11th- Dec 12th
 - There is a link, as well as a QR code, sent out in the FWS newsletter that ties in to Square for parents to donate money to The Giving Tree.
 - Principal Loya said that generally we pick the most needy families and provide assistance during the holiday season.
 - Our goal is \$3000.
 - Charlotte raised the idea of getting the students involved in The Giving Tree.
 - There will be a table set up for The Giving Tree at the December concerts.
- Hospitality- Suzanne Pavlus-
- LEAF- Hemant Biswal
- Membership- **OPEN**; 104 New Members; 30 Staff
 - Tania reported that there are **131** Members; **102** Family and **29** Staff.
- MSAAC- Hansilla Alaigh
- Odyssey of the Mind- Ashley Brody: Submitted reimbursement for \$190
 - Tania reported that we are still waiting to hear back from Ashley.
- SEAC- Todd Fielding
 - Reviewed a summary of Satisfaction Across the District.
 - 70% of parents are satisfied with special education services.
 - Satisfaction was greater during in person/hybrid instruction than during distance learning.
 - Dissatisfaction increased from 2019-2022 by 8 %, up from 2% to 10 %.
 - Biggest areas of concern were implementing inclusive practices and staffing.
 - Parents of children with multiple disabilities became notably less satisfied over the 2 year period, often now being the least satisfied group.
 - Parents of children with emotional disabilities increased their satisfaction for 2 items:
 - Home-school communication and instructional satisfaction during distance learning.
 - Middle and High School students reported less satisfaction for Math and Writing Instruction.
 - This same trend is reported by the disability category with multiple disabilities being the least satisfied.
 - As a result, speech/language impairment is evident based on scoring average.
 - Overall, parent responses asked for:
 - Increased training, resources and attention given to mental health for students.
 - A desire for LCPS to more strongly prioritize students with disabilities
 - Increase in opportunities for children with disabilities to participation in AP course, special programs like AOL, MATA, music, physical education and other extracurricular activities.
 - SEAC reviewed Policy 5350 Parental Notification for Screening and Assessments 2022-23.

- Members reported concerns such as:
 - Combining Self-Contained Programs
 - Teachers, TA's and Paraprofessionals Shortages
 - ASL not available at all High Schools
- School Supply Kits- Suzanne Pavlus-
- Spirit Wear- **OPEN**-
- Volunteers- Melissa Householder & Hanane Idrissi
- Volleyball Game- Lisa Moses- Beginning Planning stages
 - Anissa and Principal Loya found out this week that the date of Saturday, Feb 4th at Broadrun High School for the volleyball game will not work due to the school hosting a band event.
 - The only dates Broadrun HS has will be in April/May.
 - We do not know what kind of attendance we would get if we have the volleyball game in the Spring.
 - The plan is to reach out to Trailside to see what they think and to inquire about the possibility of Farmwell hosting the game at Stonebridge.
- **New Business** – open additional topics for consideration/discussion
 - Graham Edwards had a question about photographs he took at last year's Grease performance.
 - Mr. Edwards asked the PTA for permission to put the photos on the PTA page. He also has a link to high resolution photos as well as video.
 - He was given approval to post only pictures of the Grease cast members by the PTA.
 - The issue of privacy arose; Principal Loya instructed Mr. Edwards that he would need to remove any pictures of the audience and/or non cast members from the photos he posts to the PTA page.
 - PTA Board decided to cancel the December PTA meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, January 10th