

PTA – Meeting March 7, 2017

13 parents were in attendance including Assistant Principal, Danielle Shanks, and Mr. Whiteford.

Minutes from February were approved.

Treasurers Report – We earned \$450 from Restaurant night, \$482 from Skate Night, and \$328 from Movie Night. We supplemented field trips for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

By-laws – A group met last month to make some revisions. We are keeping the officers' 2 year terms the same and continuing the Nominating Committee of 3 members. The chairs of the committees will be appointed by the board and will only have to serve for one year. We changed the official notice time to 5 days prior to any meeting change. General Membership meetings will be held at least 4 times a year. (Our monthly meetings are considered to be this meeting as well, because all are welcome.) We also changed the quorum to be 9 members instead of 13.

By-Laws were approved by the members present.

Principal's Report -

Dr. Varlack will return on the 13th. She is texting and emailing daily.

Dr. Smith is a substitute administrator.

Goal Setting - Our students are creating goals with their teachers in math and reading. We are looking at MAP scores (1st through 5th grades.) We've noticed some students not thinking that the MAP test is important. Each child picked one standard and how they plan to meet that goal. Starting next week, children will be sharing their goals on the announcements.

March 27 Primary Reading Workshops - Our RST will meet with primary parents for a half hour to show them out to work with their children in reading. The parents will then go into the classrooms to work with the children. Different grades will have different start times.

March 28 –Intermediate Math Workshops – MST will work with parents on math games and then they will go into the classroom. There will be extra sessions because 4th and 5th grade have AM/PM sessions. (Money, time, and facts will be worked on.)

Thank you for providing dinner! About 38 staff members will be at dinner.

ESOL test is done.

MSA Science is going to be given to fifth grade this year. This will happen in March.

PTAC - The County Executive budget is out. You can look at it on the HCPSS website. Wait til the budget goes to the Board of Ed, because they will try to change it. APFO 101 learning session March 22, 7PM.

March 30 – Author’s Visit – Parents are welcome to come in and meet Doreen Rappaport. We are using the Book Fair profits to pay for it.

May 6 Noon – 3PM – Carnival – They had a committee meeting this past week. Mid Atlantic will do the bounce houses. There will be face painting from 12 – 2. Java Juice would like a stand. The price will go up. It will be \$5 a card for presale and \$6 for at the door. Children will need a wristband to wear to go on the rock wall. This will show that their parents have signed the insurance paperwork/ waiver.

March 23 at Rams Head 7:00 - Next carnival committee meeting.

5th grade activities – Amanda Fields is the head of this committee.

May 23 – Visit to Patuxent Valley Middle School

May 24 - Simulated Congressional Hearings - We need someone to help with food for the guests – breakfast and lunch.

May 25 – Philadelphia Field Trip (Right now \$55 per kid. Need a fundraiser!)

They discussed the possibility of doing bunny grams with Peeps on them. There was a question about whether or not that would work since some children do not eat marshmallows.

June 10th – 5th grade dance (PTA funds this.)

T-shirts – PTA will help fund this

June 9th – 5th Grade Closing Ceremony

Jennifer Renkevans, president, wanted to make sure that everyone knows that the PTA puts \$2000 into the budget each year to fund 5th grade activities. Beyond that money, there will need to be a committee to fundraise for the extra money they need. We will create a line item for this committee money and are willing to give \$300 to help start a fundraiser, but will request that money back. We are asking 5th grade to only have one fundraiser as the PTA is required to do 3 spirit night/free events for each fundraiser they do. A restaurant night to support 5th grade does not count as a fundraiser and can count toward the 3 Spirit Nights needed to balance out the fundraiser.

We no longer have a PTA credit card. The 5th grade committee will need to get a check from the Treasurer as reimbursement for any fundraising supplies purchased.

Fundraising – Flower Power – catalogs coming soon. One box of catalogs went MIA. Orders will be due March 31st.

Auction – Jen will speak to staff tomorrow morning. Teacher Experiences - Need these ideas by March 24th. We will hold the auction on **April 20 – 23rd**.

Afterschool Activities– Schoolhouse Theater – Rock and Roll Review - Thursdays

Movie Night – no more.... We are losing money on these now. Let’s build this up next year.

April 28th – Skate night – Let’s make this a great one! Spiritwear Day! Try to get the staff there.

March 14 – Rams Head Dinner Night

April 5th – Rita’s Night

Staff Appreciation – We will do the Tea/Coffee Cart again after Spring Break.

May 1 – 5 Teacher Appreciation Week

Green Fest – April 1 10AM – 2PM Fliers will be going out soon. Hammond needs us to drum up the students to come. They need help. Need us to collect Capri Suns. They also need a handful a parents to do concessions. Leigh will send out the Sign-up-Genius. It will be indoors here at Forest Ridge so it will be rain or shine.

Turn off the Screen Week – Marilyn Otto will help organize this. Sweet Frog will hopefully give us a little voucher to help with the prizes. PTA may have to pay for some of them.

Variety Show still in the works – Forms will go out before Spring Break. They will be due April 28. May 10 and 12 will be the tryouts. Dress Rehearsal will be June 7 and the show will be June 8th.

Spiritwear – We will have another sale right before spring break. It will include more summer options.

Yearbook – The parents are working hard on this and are often seen sitting on our computer in the media center working on the yearbook. – THANK YOU FOR THIS HUGE COMMITMENT!

Ms. Shanks asked us how we promote **summer camps**. Many parents call the school wanting to know where to enrich their children since we only have room for 35 students in our summer school here at FRES. Tangie mentioned that there is a page on Facebook to tell all the summer camps. She will get that link to the school.

Box tops – Due April 20th. We will do the collection sheets again!