

PTA Meeting February 5, 2018

The meeting started after our technology teachers and counselor gave a Cyber Safety presentation to approximately 15 parents.

The meeting began at 7:10 with 17 parents, Dr. Varlack, Ms. Shanks, and teacher, Dawn Yost.

January Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report – Put the money in for the Dad's club to do the Terps' tickets. Tampico Grill earned \$490.

Teachers in grades K, 1, 2, and 4 need to use their field trip money. The PTA will be giving \$7 a student to support trips.

Principal's Report – Dr. Varlack shared that it was highly likely that we would lose our spring break due to snow days.

A question was asked if we would be able to do the Hammond High School Green Day again this year at our school. Dr. Varlack reported that our Green Committee had looked at the calendar and there were too many events going on in the spring to support it. Perhaps we can try again for next year.

Teacher's Delegate – We just had our Quarter 2 Assembly to celebrate good behavior. Teachers each gave out three awards for effort, perseverance, and improvements. The related arts teachers gave Golden Awards to each grade as well. The kids seem to enjoy it. Tomorrow night is a math night for grade 4.

PTAC – They did not have a meeting. It has been cancelled for 2 months in a row so they will be holding it now on February 12. A survey is being put together about diversity and inclusion. We should look for it.

Fundraising – Cookbooks will be finalized soon.
Spring auction is being planned by Jessica.

Membership – Jessica is getting a few more cards printed.

Board Positions for next year. Look for a flyer to go out on Thursday. It will direct people to our website.

Carnival – May 5th – Mid Atlantic is our vendor. Jen is putting together a committee to plan the carnival. Looking into meeting on a Tuesday night.

25th Anniversary – April 20th! Tile wall is coming along really nicely! Mrs. Lindenmann explained that during the day, grades will pair up together to do an activity related to what life will be like in 25 years. They also will be preparing a display of our 25 years and decorating the hallways. We are hoping to invite old staff here to be guest readers and to participate in our schoolwide assembly. The tiles will be unveiled at that 2:00 assembly. Dr. Martirano has been invited as well. At the end of the assembly, the students will parade around the building taking a look at all the decorations. There will be an evening event from 6:30 – 8:00 PM that will include the whole community. We are working on getting each of the children a “favor” for the day. A whole school picture for the 25th is scheduled for March 16th.

Math Night with Mathnasium – Mathnasium has requested to be a part of a math night here at FRES. Parents expressed a concern that it teaches math in a different way than Howard County teaches math. We also don't have a night available. He said he would need 12 volunteers. It was suggested with lots of agreement to let him set up a table for the Carnival.

Watch DOGS program – This is a program called Dads of Great Students, and it is being run at Bollman Bridge and Patuxent Valley by a man named Joe Small. The goal is to try to get a dad in the building every day of the year. Dads would help with recess, greeting kids, reading with children, etc.. It costs \$1400. There is a training and t-shirts are included. We are looking for a Dad to help run the program. Joe would get it started. Everyone seemed to think it was a good idea.

5th Grade Committee – Leigh reported how kind Tampico Grill was to bring in workers early to cook for our first shift teacher's lunches. We earned \$490. It was discussed how we need to use a better form for the teachers to make sure each teacher gets the correct meal.

Lunch time fundraiser is coming around St. Patrick's Day, March 13, 14, & 15. They are thinking of selling mini erasers for a dollar a bag at lunch time. – They would use Friday as a day to wrap up orders and get erasers out to any upset children. Dr. Varlack is looking into these dates.

Jen reiterated that we have special fundraisers for fifth grade since this is a special year for them. They also go on the most expensive field trips.

5th grade to Mount Vernon – June 7

5th Grade Closing – June 13

5th Grade Dance – June 9

Restaurant Night – Chick-Fil-A – February 15

Sweet Frog in Laurel next to Target February 21.

Last Skate Night – March 23

Staff Appreciation – February 15 – We will be making crockpots of soup and salads. This is taking the place of the meal we usually make the staff during conferences.

Movie Night – May 18th – Thursday or Friday – We will get the kids to vote for the movie again, because they enjoyed it so much last time! We will probably charge for this one to get money back for our license or we could do a donation. Perhaps even a competition for the grade that shows up the most.

Patuxent Valley PTA President wants to work with us and other feeder schools to show “Screenager.” – This would be a showing for children 10 years to adult.

Boxtops – There will be a spring contest, prizes TBD. (If anyone has any ideas, please contact Lauren.) She is working on a collection sheet now.

Wizards – March 17 – \$29

Screen Free Week – April 30 – May 4 We are hoping to get a Sweet Frog gift certificate for those who participate. We will do a Rita’s night. We discussed having a Game Night during the week as well. Jennifer Gifford was interested in heading this up. We might even ask Mathnasium to join us for Game Night.

Spiritwear will do another order this year. They have had several requests from parents to do this again.

Variety Show – March 29 – Applications will go out. April 13 – Applications due. May 24 Show! Dress rehearsal May 23.

Yearbook – PTA Photo will be done at next meeting. Superintendent approved that the folks working on the yearbook could do so at home. This year it will be \$23 for the kids to buy. We are on track with plenty of photos. We voted on front page and back cover.