

FRES PTA 2023-2024
General Membership Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2023

Welcome

PTA President Jackie Matanin called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of September Minutes

- Minutes were posted and sent out via PTBoard. Hard copies are available for review.
- Motion was made to approve and seconded. All were in favor of approving the September minutes.

Membership Update

- The 2023-2024 membership goal is 120
- As of the end of September, we have 94 members
- 22 are staff memberships
- Please encourage your neighbors & friends to visit our website and click on the links to join.

Financial Report

Membership income = \$1065.10

Back to School Celebration (\$1100)

- Spent \$370.65
- Expense lower due to rescheduling of event

Environmental Enrichment (\$600)

- Spent \$265 on non-slip paint for map on playground

WatchDogs Kick-Off (\$700)

- Spent \$519.91
- Earned \$434.98

Staff Appreciation (\$1600)

- Spent \$289.05

Liability Insurance (\$300)

- Spent \$296

Office Supplies (\$300)

- Spent \$80.04

Website (\$50)

- Spent \$467.64
- This will need a reallocation of funds

PTBoard Fee (\$65)

- Spent \$64.99

Fundraising

- First Restaurant Night earnings are pending.
- Next Restaurant Night is all day on 10/18 at Maiwand Kabob. FRES gets 20% back.
 - Volunteers needed to do a lunch run for the staff that day. Open at 11:00am.
- Joe Corbi's order forms are due 10/16

- Pickup is scheduled for Saturday 11/18. Volunteers will be needed to help sort and manage pick-up.
- 4th grade - increased in funds needed for field trips due to need for 3 charter buses
 - Designated restaurant night at Chick-Fil-A in February
 - Will sell Papa Johns cards starting in November

School & Community Reports

Ms. Lannon, Ms. Pazornik, Ms. Morici

Map testing

- 5th grade 10/10 and 10/11
- 4th grade 10/17 and 10/18

Thank you for the Watch Dogs event. It was great!

Crazy hat day tomorrow, 10/6

Hispanic Heritage Night – Thursday 10/12 at 6:15 for whole school

Safety issues in the car loop.

- Drivers are not being safe. Drivers are on cell phones, not following staff's directions, turning into the lot and blocking the entrance, blocking Gorman Rd, etc.
- Signs will be put up
- Unmarked police are taking data
- Crossing guards would help but not available
- Would "right turn only" out of school help? Could make it worse as drivers attempt u-turns to go the other way on Gorman.
- Please remind children to cross where crossing guards are.

Committees

- Committees have formed and Amy sent out welcome/orientation emails to all those who have signed up for a committee. If you signed up and did not receive an email please let Amy know.
- Google form remains open and all are still welcome to join a committee
- There is a need for more volunteers for Watch Dogs Leadership & the Technology supports.

Fall Festival Committee (Chair - Jackie)

- October 28th from 4:00 – 7:00
- \$4.00 in advance and \$5.00 at the door
- Fall themed games, pie walk, maze, candy stations, costume parade, and food trucks
- Scary Haunted Hallway inside the school - Pratima and Barbara are planning
- Donations Needed: candy and non-candy treats, pies, fall or halloween decor, and scary hallway items

Health & Wellness (Chair - Pratima)

- Event is scheduled for January 31st
- This is a no cost event covered by PTA fundraising
- Focus on health and wellness for children and families. Invite local vendors to share information, provide demonstrations, etc
- Health food options

- Will use more space this year and have stations for families to rotate through.
- If you know of anyone who can provide activity or demonstration please contact Pratima. Cooking demonstrations, yoga, art and music therapy, fitness, etc.

Fine Arts Committee (Chair - Amy)

Reflections Arts Competition

- This is a National PTA program that starts at the local level. Winners then go to county and then state competitions.
- Last year a FRES student was in the top 3 in the state
- The theme this year is: "I am Hopeful Because..."
- Information will be going home with students shortly and posters are going up in the school
- The submission deadline is Monday after Thanksgiving
- There will be a help session for interested students on October 26th in the art room
- Please encourage your students and neighborhood kids to participate!

PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC)

No Report

Other Announcements/New Business

- Ms. Tordella could use volunteers to help with shelving books during school day
- Watch Dogs sign-up is available
- Spirit Wear Sale – new design from last year and new colors; deadline is 10/9
- Carrie Picton has volunteered to chair the 5th grade committee
- Daria introduced herself as the SEATAC – special education student advisory committee; representative from FRES. Monthly meetings 1st Tuesday 7-9 at Patuxent Valley Middle School. Topics each month with a focus on various disabilities
 - Amy shared that this makes her think of ways to make our events more inclusive of children with special needs and to think about sensory friendly events.

Please email president@frespta.org or contact@frespta.org with any questions or concerns
Stay up to date! frespta.org, Forerunner, FB FRES PTA & FRES Guardians Groups