

FRES PTA 2023-2024
General Membership Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2024

Welcome

PTA President Jackie Matanin called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of November Meeting Minutes

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

Membership Update

- The 2023-2024 membership goal is 120
- 122 paid members - including an increase in teacher members this year.

Financial Report

- Five Guys restaurant night income - no check yet
- Chipotle restaurant night income - just under \$1400
- Tampico Grill income for 4th grade - ?
- Papa John's Cards for 4th grade - we sold \$1200 in cards of which FRES gets \$800. Fundraiser is closed.
- Paint Night - \$1100 for art department. PTA kept 10% for to cover fees.
- Teacher Grants – Pratima has sent a draft of the grant application. Open once form approved and will remain open through Spring Break or until funds are exhausted. Max grant amount of \$400. Rolling, first come first serve. \$2500 in bucket. Staff have questions, reach out to Pratima, Trish, etc.

Coming Up

- Chuck E Cheese 1/17
- Sweet Frog 1/24
- Main Event 2/7 (5th grade)
- Chick-Fil-A 2/20
- Silent Auction in April
 - Assistance is needed in procuring donations. See Akta or Barbara if you can help.

School & Community Reports

Ms. Lannon

- Ms. Pazornik unable to attend tonight
- Ms. Lannon is present but is also required to watch the board of ed meeting as they are talking about the budget.
- School is CLOSED Monday & ½ day Wednesday
- 1/18 - PVMS night for current 5th graders who will transition to middle school next year. Focus on what happens in 6th grade? Highly recommended even if you've been before.
- Chorus & Band Concerns 1/24 - at Hammond High School
- HVAC system issues - Mike has been here everyday having to reset the system. FRES has submitted a request for replacements to be completed over the summer.
- Night Chief Job - posted job twice and haven't had any luck. There is someone coming from another school.
- ACCESS testing for ESL students 1/15 - 2/23, MAP testing throughout January and progress monitoring for others.

- Ms. Morici has sent the silent auction teacher experience requests to the staff.

COMMITTEES

Health & Wellness (Chair - Pratima)

- Event is scheduled for January 31st; 6:30 - 8:30
- 13 confirmed participants and 2 possible
- Down to logistics - need help with signage/advertising, day of logistics - what vendors need
- GYM - 5:00 pm - cleared with Ms. Robin
- Cafeteria - food only; no food outside of the cafeteria
- Vaccinations available in the Cafeteria
- Gym - vendors other than food; physical fitness circuit, activities
- Expressive Therapy - forms of creative therapy in Ms. Allen's room
- Media Center - quiet area
- Raffles/Prizes - there will be a punch card for families to get a certain number of punches to enter the raffle
- Budget \$2500

Staff Appreciation (Akta)

- Staff dinner 2/7 - lunch/dinner for conference day

Culture Festival (Khalada)

- 2/24 from 3:00 - 5:00
- Committee met - discussed layout, country boards from Hammond, henna, reaching out for families to participate, food options, etc.
- It is a Saturday this year and hoping families can more easily participate.

Fine Arts Committee (Chair - Amy)

- Spring Musical, Reflections Arts Program, Paint Night, and Art Department's Spring fundraiser idea
- Fantastic paint night, brainstorm for next year on how to accommodate more people
- FRES submissions for Reflections - art teachers at Hammond and had 3 advanced art students to be our judges
- Spring Musical in partnership with Columbia Center for Theatrical Arts (CCTA). This year's program is "School House Rock Live! JR." Wednesdays starting 2/15. Registration open \$60 per student. Performance is May 8th.
- Art Department Fundraiser - students create a piece of art for 'Art to Remember' - parents can then order online mugs, keychains, etc that have their students' art on it. FRES gets 25% back. (suggested to see if Ms. Allen would partner with just 5th grade)

Student Enrichment

- Coding/Robotics Workshop through StemTree
- MD History Center Artifact Trunk - Amy proposal \$50 from assemblies fund to MD History Center Artifact Trunk - aligned with state learning objectives - trunk with artifacts for grade level social studies units. Only \$50 if someone from school picks up and drops off. Natalia 2nd, all approved
- STEAM Fair will be in May & could use some scientists / engineers to come speak

- Howard County Parks and Rec offers some before and after school options. Unfortunately lack of sign up has led to cancellations. Suggestions for more advertising were made.

5th grade

- fundraising for 5th grade
 - Main Event 2/7 4 - 7 pm, FRES gets 20% back
 - See's Candy possibly in late Feb/early March
- SCH 5/15 - need decorations, lunch, volunteers for setup
- Dance 6/1 - Glow Theme
- T-shirts - signatures
- field trip - DC
- end of year celebration TBD

Silent Auction

- Will be virtual in April
- Need volunteers to call, reach out, fill out forms for donations
- Will seek donations of baskets again this year

Technology

- Need volunteers to support website, social media, email accounts, etc.

Yearbook

- First meeting in November;
- Talked to Ms. Allen about cover art for collaboration
- Club photos
- Collaborative space for photos from events

Carnival

- May 4th 1:00 - 4:00
- Please let Barbara know if you'd like to join the planning committee.

PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC)

Other Announcements/New Business

- Leap Day ideas - purchase frogs for the kids?
- PTA Board Election Process
- There was some discussion of fundraisers and the amount we are asking of families. Are families of older children feeling the pinch more than younger?

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