

FRES PTA 2023-2024
General Membership Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2024

Welcome

Jackie Matanin called the meeting to order at 7:04. Total attendance for the meeting is 14.

Approval of March 4th Meeting Minutes

- Minutes were posted and sent out via PTBoard. Hard copies are available for review.
- Motion made by Jackie, second by Lavina . All were in favor of approving the March meeting minutes.

Membership Update

- 130 members for 2023-2024

Financial Report

Current balance of Balance \$28,000

Income:

- Read-A-Thon – we received a check today for \$6138. Another is coming. The total was just under \$8000.
- Five Guys \$350
- Chick-Fil-A \$560
- Sweet Frog \$175
- Wendy's \$126
- Main Event - still waiting for check. Liz suggests not working with them again due to various difficulties.
- Note Restaurant Nights have been doing better than planned.
- Ms. Morretti asked about teacher night at McDonalds. They have been unresponsive to scheduling. Sweet Frog and Rita's could be options for a teacher's night.
- Silent Auction 4/26 - 4/28 - donations coming in; basket request will go out on PTBoard for sign up; winners will be able to pick-up items at Carnival; staff are signing up already

Expenses

- Culture Fest – under budget at \$400 at this time. There are some outstanding expenses so this could change.
- DJ paid for both carnival and the 5th grade dance
- Field Trips have been paid for
- Teacher Grants have been paid
- 5th grade T-shirts = \$730

School & Community Reports

Principal - Ms. Lannon

- Staffing updates
 - FRES does not qualify as Title I. We could if more family's filled out free and reduced meal forms. For many reasons FRES is at 39%.

- 13 schools are currently funded as Title 1 schools. The county has decided that 5 additional schools will be treated as Title 1 Schools, including FRES.
- This gives FRES back its GT and Music Teachers for the next school year. These were to be cut under the new budget.
- Staffing cuts for 2024 - 2025 were proposed to include GT, Music, a 5th grade teacher and a 2nd grade teacher. FRES was given back GT, Music and a 5th grade teacher. FRES will also gain a .4 PE Teacher, a .5 ESA Para and full time Spec. Ed Para. Band down to .4 based on enrollment. FRES will need to hire a new Art Teacher as Ms. Owens has resigned. Ms. Lannon has requested an additional 2nd grade teacher and a Special Education Teacher.
- Amy suggested an enrollment push throughout the Spring to encourage K and 1st grade family's to enroll early to ensure proper staffing.
- This Thursday, 4/11 – Howard County Schools Art Show opens at the Columbia Mall
- April 19th – Battle of the Books 4 teams at Merriweather 7:00 pm

Assistant Principal - Ms. Pazornik

- Started testing 5th grade yesterday
- Thanks to PTA for Hammond High Assembly – so nice to have former FRES students there and recognized. Great to have and hope it continues.
- Hammond is donating a basket to the Silent Auction as well as a summer camp week from the Hammon Boosters.

Committees

PTACHC

- No Report

Staff Appreciation (Akta): PTA will celebrate in May - teacher appreciation week; May 6th - 10th. No theme yet.

- Monday - coffee and bagels
- Tuesday - hydration station
- Wednesday -
- Thursday – trail mix bar
- Friday – catered lunch (sign up and donations from parents and community)
- Donations can be dropped off at Carnival

Teacher Grants Report (Pratima): All funds have been disbursed.

Fine Arts - May 8th School House Rock! Kids will make advertising posters

Student Enrichment (Mallory)

- Little Track Stars Program is starting
- There was a mix-up with space for STEM Tree this week, but it's all be worked out.
- STEAM Night Support in May 30th - budgeted \$200 (donation requests to Home Depot and Lowes)

5th Grade Activities (Carrie):

- Art to Remember fundraiser (5th grade) sales info going out soon. Note that this takes a lot of work and requires parent volunteers to help in the classrooms.
- SCH May 15th - Panera for food (15-20 people) - need to check cost as budget is only \$200. Decorate with flags outside and in the 5th grade hallway. Austin's music room for lunch.
- Dance 6/1 - DJ already confirmed, Glow Party Theme
- 5th grade field trip \$430 from PTA and parent fee of \$25

Spring Carnival (Barbara)

- Scheduled for 5/4 from 1:00 – 4:00
- Food Trucks confirmed Between the Buns, Mike's Gelato and Kona Ice
- Working on games and entertainment
- Inviting small business vendors to "buy booth space" and sell their items at the Carnival.
- Request for cake donations for Cake Walk
- Will need 100+ volunteers to support the event.
- Tickets will go on sale 4/15. Barbara asked about what tickets prices should be as several other local schools have posted for similar events at \$15 - \$20 per ticket. We charged \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door last year. There is support for a small increase. No more than \$10. Reasoning for increase includes increased costs, what we are offering at Carnival vs. Fall Festival and other events.

Other Announcements/New Business

PTA Board Election Process

- Still need at least 3 PTA members to serve on a Nominating Committee to organize and present candidates to the general membership for voting. One must be a current board member.
 - Liz and Pratima volunteered for the committee
- Present slate of candidates at May meeting on 5/23
- Vote at June Meeting on 6/10

Ms. Lindsey Kim – 2nd year at FRES – instructional coach for teachers (Thurs, Friday, some Wednesday)

- Welcome packet for new families and students – interest from teachers
- If you are new to FRES what do you need to know? Information, Resources, People They Need to Know About
- Resources – testing schedules, calendar on FRES page, QR code for PTA, Color Days,
- People – school nurse, counselors, staff pictures on webpage,
- Information – school messenger, texting, suggesting to parents that they set up an exclusive email address for child/school related information. What is Synergy, Connect, Canvas etc.; before and after care options

Yearbook Cover Voting

- Yearbook covers created by 5th graders
- 11 submission for the front and 6 for the back
- Also requesting baby photos and dedications;

- Working to organizing candid photos and club photos
- Purchase link will go out by 4/15.
- About 62-63 pages – estimated \$21.53 per book. PTA will buy 1 – 2 for the office and 5 to sell.
- Request for budget increase to \$150. Akta motioned, Amy 2nd - All were in favor

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