

## **Frost MS PTA: Virtual Meeting Minutes**

**Date: April 13, 2021**

**Secretary: Susanne Fitch**

**Meeting called to order: 7:31 PM**

**Present:** Anthony Harris, Steve Stotler, Kenya Champ, Kristi Irvin, Todd Irvin, Vince Santmyer (FCPS Design + Construction), Lisa V., Karl Frisch (School Board Member), Elizabeth Beck (Stantec), Kathy Hughes, Kathy Phillips, LaTisha Elcock, Saundra Honeysett, JD Morgan, Susanne Fitch, Joe Berret, Danielle Hornbecker, Heather Diez, Lisa V., Karen Keys-Gamarra (School Board Member), Jessica Gillis (FCPS Design + Construction), Julie Minde, Rachna Sizemore Heizer (School Board Member), Megan McLaughlin (School Board Member), Linda Shannon, Eric Foust, Becky Baenig, Alex Lantis, Stephanie Murphy, Dr. Zabel, Pam Edwards, Kim G., Rhonda Anderson, Jennifer Mack, Melanie Porter, Valeriya Kachanovskaya, John MacG., Christine Wilson

### **Welcome: PTA President (LaTisha Elcock)**

Ms. Elcock welcomed PTA members, School Board members, and guest speakers from FCPS Design + Construction.

### **Featured Presentation:**

**Vince Santmyer**, Coordinator, FCPS Design + Construction  
**Elizabeth Beck**, Stantec

### **“Robert Frost Middle School Renovation Update – PTA”**

### **Principal’s Report: Frost MS Principal (Anthony Harris)**

- There is great demand for four days of learning at Frost MS. Students who were identified as needing academic support are coming back to the school for four days of learning starting this week. Families will be notified about which students will be able to return to school for four days when the largest group returns for four-day learning during the week of April 27. Half of the Frost student body is already accessing in-person learning. There is a wide range across the county; some schools have only 25% of the students accessing in-person learning. Frost faces some unique challenges due to the renovation which affects the school’s ability to accept more students. Currently there is no access to the library or the lecture hall. Ms. Hornbecker is working hard to accommodate as many students as possible. However, the school cannot accommodate everyone who would like to return. Mr. Harris is trying to determine the ethical way to determine which families can return for four days, out of the over 443 families who wish to do so. The school is going to bring back as many students as safely possible.
- The school is trying to determine how many families are opting to have their students take the SOL tests. The goal is to have the tests take place on Mondays so that the remainder of the week can be dedicated to instruction. If most students plan to take the SOLs, testing may occur on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. Ms. Metzker is figuring out the testing schedule. Eighth grade writing and civics SOLs will not take place this year, instead they will be assessed throughout the year. Negative SOL results will not count against any school or student this year.

- Hot lunches will be served from now on in the cafeteria starting today. Lunches and breakfast are free.
- This is the month of the military child. Frost has over 130 families with connections to the military. Students are asked to wear purple in support of military families on “Purple Up” day.
- The counselors have organized a “walk and talk” on Wednesday and Friday mornings to get kids out on the track before school (7:10-7:25) to help them make some connections in a socially distanced way.
- All students can access all teachers during Falcon Focus so there are no limitations on in-person students reaching out to teachers.
- An incentive program for virtual students is currently in the works to help motivate students. More information on that will follow. Ms. Hornbecker and her team are working hard at keeping students engaged as the year draws to a close.

#### **President’s Report: PTA President (LaTisha Elcock)**

- Ms. Elcock explained to members that the PTA is seeking candidates for the roles of president and vice president for the 2021-2022 school year. Both the PTA president and vice president will be moving on from Frost.

#### **Treasurer’s Report: PTA Treasurer (David Lee)**

- No report this month.
- Ms. Elcock noted that spirit wear sales were good this month, due to an event organized by spirit wear coordinator Becky Mancuso.

#### **Vice President’s Report: PTA Vice President (Kathy Hughes)**

- Kathy Hughes explained that the PTA had approximately \$2800 in grant funds remaining after the two grant application periods for the 2020-21 year. The PTA board approved offering a third application period for grant funds for the school year.
- Two applications were received: “Teacher Materials for Creative Writing and Journalism Classes” from Jenny Champagne and “CSS Positive Reinforcement Program ‘The Nest’”. Ms. Hughes summarized the grant applications for the membership. The two grants add up to \$750, which still leaves available funding to roll over into next year’s grant program.
- There was a motion to approve the two grant applications as submitted, which was seconded and approved by the membership.

#### **Approval of PTA Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the March meeting will be reviewed at the May meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.**

**Next PTA Meeting: Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 7:30 PM**