

Frost MS PTA: Virtual Meeting Minutes

Date: February 2, 2021

Secretary: Susanne Fitch

Meeting called to order: 7:06 PM

Present: Anthony Harris, Linda Shannon, Yonas Asrat, Susanne Fitch, Rachel Bailey, LaTisha Elcock, Allison Hagner, Kristi Irvin, Kathy Hughes, Beth Byron, Stephanie M., Shannon DiGaudio, Tanya Erway, Becky Ferguson, Jackie Cranford, Sandra Honeysett, Jinhee Kim, Lisa Libby, Roger Libby, Kathleen Cheon, Brian MacDonald, M. Reinhardt, Elena Slavinsky, Ethan Lee, Amy Zganjar

Welcome: PTA President (LaTisha Elcock)

Ms. Elcock welcomed PTA members.

Susanne Fitch introduced the evening's featured speaker.

Featured Presentation: "Supporting Adolescents with Anxiety"

Guest Speaker:

Ms. Rachel Bailey, Parenting Specialist, M.A., CPDPE
Rachel-Bailey.com

Principal's Report: Frost MS Principal (Anthony Harris)

- Mr. Harris reported that the School Board has given consensus to move ahead with Dr. Brabrand's plan to return to school. That means that on March 2, 8th grade students who have elected to do so will return to school two days a week for hybrid learning, and on March 9, 7th graders who have elected to do so will return to school. If parents wish to change their learning preference, they should reach out to Frost. Ms. Hornbecker will be in touch with parents regarding any scheduling issues which may arise from changing the learning preference.
- There will be a parent information night prior to the return to school at which Covid guidelines, mitigation strategies, and other metrics related to Covid will be addressed. This is tentatively scheduled for February 18. Mr. Harris explained that each school operates under FCPS guidelines, but Covid outbreaks in classrooms or that affect operations will be addressed at the school community level and it will be determined if a return to virtual learning is called for on a case-by-case basis. Decisions in this regard are made by the superintendent's office.
- The school will send out communications regarding the new bell schedule, orientation, and other aspects of the return to school. Mr. Harris hopes to have more information from the county by then. Safety for everyone associated with Frost will be the utmost priority.
- Mr. Harris explained that Frost has hired two classroom monitors to provide a classroom presence for teachers who are instructing virtually. At least one or two more monitors are needed.
- Mr. Harris provided an update on the school renovation plans. In March the bid goes out to perspective companies to build and renovate the school. A contract should be finalized by mid-March, and over spring break, impacted teachers will move their classrooms out to Frost Village (the mobile units that will be used for learning during the renovation). Mr. Harris will send out information to parents about cameras that will be installed in the building for security purposes.

- Mr. Harris noted that representatives from the design and construction teams for the school renovation would like to attend the April PTA meeting to provide updates, assuming that the process remains on schedule.
- Ms. Shannon provided an update about Book Circles and professional development for staff.
- Mr. Harris recognized Miss Healy, Technology Education Teacher, who recently retired. Dr. Mitch Raton is joining the Frost MS team.
- Mr. Harris responded to questions from the membership.

President's Report: PTA President (LaTisha Elcock)

- The Frost Readathon fundraiser is in progress. This is an easy way to support the school and its programs. Ms. Elcock urged parents to click on the personalized link that was sent via email and to sign up to participate.
- Ms. Elcock explained to members that a nomination committee would be formed to recruit new PTA board candidates for the 2021-2022 school year. She encouraged the membership to think about who would be a good fit for these board roles.

Treasurer's Report: PTA Treasurer (David Lee)

- Ms. Elcock presented the treasurer's report on behalf of David Lee. She pointed out that, due to remote learning, there is not much to report.

Vice President's Report: PTA Vice President (Kathy Hughes)

- Ms. Elcock presented the vice president's update on behalf of Kathy Hughes. The PTA sponsored grant program is well underway. Ms. Hughes is working to publicize the grant opportunities and to make sure that teachers and staff are heard so that the PTA can support them appropriately.

Questions from the Membership

Approval of PTA Meeting Minutes

Ms. Elcock asked members to review the minutes from the November and January PTA meetings, which were shared on screen. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes. There was a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded. The minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Next PTA Meeting: Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 7:30 PM