

Frost MS PTA: Virtual Meeting Minutes

Date: November 10, 2020

Secretary: Susanne Fitch

Meeting called to order: 7:30 PM

Present: Anthony Harris, Kathy Hughes, LaTisha Elcock, Kristi Irwin, Laura Reed, Jen Zabel, Alex Lantis, Kathleen Cheon, Hanh and David Michael, Kim Grant, Monica Lopez, Elena Slavinsky, Sandra Honeysett, Stephanie M., Pam Edwards, Katie Zhong

Welcome: PTA President (LaTisha Elcock)

Ms. Elcock welcomed PTA members and introduced the evening's featured speaker.

Featured Presentation: "Supporting Students & Families @ Frost MS 2020-21"

Guests Speaker:

Ms. Laura Reed, School Based Technology Specialist (SBTS)

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

- Mr. Harris explained that the teachers and admin team are getting prepared for the group of students returning to school next Monday. These cohorts are part of Phase 5. A few teachers will set up their classrooms. Frost MS is not in the pilot program for concurrent learning that has been launched by FCPS. However, some Frost teachers will lead concurrent sessions in their cohorts, so we can learn from their experiences. The admin team is also working hard to prepare to welcome the larger group of students returning to in-person learning in January.
- Mr. Harris announced some upcoming events. There will be a school board meeting on Thursday, November 12, about the return to school process. The meeting will also address the superintendent's report on concurrent learning. The online Equity Townhall meeting will also take place on November 12. This event had already been rescheduled once, so it will take place on the 12th despite the conflict with the school board meeting. Tomorrow is picture day.
- As far as the school renovation is concerned, multiple trailers have been moved into the field behind the modulares. The start date for the renovation has not changed; work will begin sometime in Spring.
- Mr. Harris wished a happy Veterans' Day to all current military personnel and their families and to all who have served.
- Mr. Harris thanked Ms. Reed for her presentation to the PTA and hoped it provided some clarification about the learning tools employed at Frost. He expressed hope that students have settled into the school year by now. He encouraged parents to reach out to administrators, teachers, or counselors if things aren't working well at home for their student so that he or she can get support from the school.
- Ms. Elcock added that report cards will be issued this week. She asked Mr. Harris to provide an update at the next meeting on how schedules and classed may be altered with the upcoming return to school.

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

- Ms. Hughes explained the PTA grant program to the membership. This year the program has \$13,500 in funding compared to just over \$12,000 in the last school year. This increase is intended to cover the cost of sewing machine maintenance during this budget year, since it did not take place at the end of the last school year.
- As background, Ms. Hughes explained that the PTA met on March 11, grants were approved, and then school closed on March 13. Because of the closure, some of the funds were carried over to the new year, such as PBIS and a summer literacy program.
- New grant applications for this year include funding for:
 - Professional development for language teachers (Rachael Aldridge)
 - The 5th annual Frost spelling bee (Colin Verbicar)
 - PTA Superstar of the Month to recognize staff (Matthew Bower)
 - Licenses for digital books and resources to help offset long wait times (Danielle Powers and Dawn Alexander)
 - Frost Mind Matters afterschool club (Jen Zabel and Alex Lantis)
- Ms. Hughes allowed Dr. Zabel to take the floor to further explain this initiative.
- In summary, the new grant applications add up to about \$2800. That leaves about \$5000 for the spring grant program.
- The membership voted to approve and fully fund all fall grant applications.

Treasurer's Report: PTA Treasurer (David Lee)

- Ms. Elcock presented the treasurer's report on behalf of David Lee.

Membership Report: Membership Chair (Kristi Irvin)

- Ms. Irvin reported that the new Frost directory should be available in PT Board starting tomorrow. A message will be sent to the membership notifying them. She hopes to be able to include the artwork by students that is typically included in the print version of the directory.

Questions from the Membership

Approval of PTA Meeting Minutes

Ms. Elcock asked members to review the minutes from the October PTA meeting, 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 8:55 PM.

Next PTA Meeting: Tuesday, January 12, 2021, 7:00 PM