

Frost MS PTA: Virtual Meeting Minutes

Date: October 6, 2020

Meeting called to order: 7:30 PM

Present: Anthony Harris, David Lee, Susanne Fitch, Kathy Hughes, LaTisha Elcock, Melanie Porter, Amy DeCarlo, Kathleen Cheon, Melissa French, Stephanie Murphy, Allison Hagner, Becky Mancuso, Beth Byron, Hanh Michael, Jenni Frieden, Jennifer Rade, Julie K., Kim Grant, Larisa Sawhney Frutchey, Lisa Libby, Roger Libby, Rhonda Anderson, Sandra Dantzler, Sandra Honeysett, Yamon Shresstha, Yuko Whitestone, Vanessa R.

Welcome: PTA President (LaTisha Elcock)

Ms. Elcock welcomed teachers, parents, and staff and introduced the evening's featured speakers.

Featured Presentation: "Empowering Your Students to Get the Most of Their Frost MS Experience"

Guests Speakers:

Ms. Angela Aldave, Frost MS Parent Liaison
Ms. Erika Deem, Parent Resource Center Liaison

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

- Mr. Harris was pleased to share great news about the accomplishments of Frost teachers. In the final round of FCPS recognitions for outstanding employees in 2020, Ms. Samantha Jalajel was recognized as an outstanding new teacher, and Ms. Linda Shannon was recognized as an outstanding school leader. Kathy Hughes pointed out that Mr. Harris was also recognized as outstanding new principal.
- Mr. Harris noted that the school was still waiting for some families to return the required Digital Resources consent form. Every family needs to complete this form, and it is especially important with distance learning underway. Targeted emails are being sent out to reach families. After the deadline to complete this form, teachers will have to provide alternative activities to students who do not have parental consent to use the digital resources.
- Ms. Laura Reed has created a Frost Student Resource Information Sheet available through the Frost landing page, to inform families about differences among the various available resources and how to use them:
<https://frostms.fcps.edu/announcements/frost-student-resource-information-sheet>.
- This year, Frost MS is focusing on equity. Mr. Harris wants to make sure that equity is at the center of everything teachers and staff do at Frost. He explained that equity is an outcome, and it is achieved by keeping each person's needs at the forefront. Mr. Harris introduced a new program, "Frost Scholars," which aims to help disadvantaged groups

to be successful in school. These groups include minority students, disabled students, and those who are economically disadvantaged or otherwise underrepresented.

- The Equity Committee, headed by Ms. Champ and including students, parents, and teachers, is looking at processes at Frost. Their objectives are to strategize, organize, and mobilize.
- A townhall meeting focused on equity issues will take place on October 29.
- Staff members are participating in a book club on race issues, and have read two of the three following titles: "Wait, What? And Life's Other Essential Questions," by James E. Ryan, "How to be an Antiracist," by Ibram X. Kendi, and "So You Want to Talk About Race," by Ijeoma Oluo.
- Last year, the school focused on the theme of engagement: student engagement, staff engagement, and parent engagement.

Treasurer's Report: PTA Treasurer (David Lee)

- Mr. Lee presented the treasurer's report.
- He noted that there are already several business sponsorships in place.
- He also noted that Spirit Wear sales have been weak, likely because students are not physically at school.
- So far 22 photo sessions have been sold.

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

- Ms. Hughes explained the PTA grant program to the membership. The deadline for fall applications is October 23. The membership will vote on the applications at the November PTA meeting.

Membership Report: Membership Chair (Kristi Irvin)

- Ms. Irvin reported that so far this year, 142 parents and 20 teachers have joined the PTA. There have been 20 donations.

Approval of PTA Meeting Minutes

Ms. Elcock asked members to review the minutes from the September 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 unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Next PTA Meeting: Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 7:30 PM