

Frost MS PTA Meeting Minutes

Date: February 19, 2020

Secretary: Susanne Fitch

Present: Clarence Thomas, Adele Nolton, Stephanie Murphy, Kim Grant, Maura Stevens, Kathy Hughes, Janine Taylor, Kathleen Cheon, Pam Edwards, Boshra Zawawi, Saundra Honeysett, Suzanne Peeler, Ellen Ingson, Julie Minde, Polina Braswell, Peng Wanveg, Karen Cheng, Susanne Fitch

The meeting was called to order at 9:39 a.m.

Welcome

Approval of January Meeting Minutes

Membership reviewed the minutes. Adjustments were suggested. There was a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded and passed.

Principal's Report: Mr. Anthony Harris

- Mr. Harris noted that the Frost Family Festival is coming up on February 20th. The event is hosted by the PTA, and the school is grateful for the PTA's support. Rising 7th graders have had a chance to familiarize themselves with Frost during their tours, but the Frost Family Festival gives parents a chance to explore Frost and to see the teachers showcase their activities.
- Teachers, staff, and administrators in the school system are nominated by their school or office for excellence in various categories and progress through the pyramid, region, and finally to the FCPS level. Linda Shannon was named Outstanding Leader and Samantha Jalajel was named Outstanding New Teacher for the Woodson pyramid and are going forward to the regional level.
- One-to-one has been approved. This is the technology initiative which allows each kid to take a laptop home. Frost is essentially one-to-one already, but the computers remain at school. This new policy allows for equity across the board. Even families that are well off may not have three laptops at home, one for each child. The policy also benefits families that are less well off.
- Mr. Harris has heard back from the architects who will be responsible for the Frost renovation. They are willing to attend a PTA meeting later this year to explain the renovation plans.
- Mr. Harris explained that a camera survey will be sent out after the new school year begins. External and internal cameras will be installed at the school as part of the renovation. The installation of cameras is one of the main initiatives of the Middle School Principals' Association.
- Hiring is currently underway for a new office assistant. Mrs. Winborn retired in January, and Karin Sasseville took her position. Interviews will take place next week.
- March 3 is a student holiday. All teachers and staff in Fairfax County will attend a training that day on equity.
- On April 23 from 6:00 to 8:00 PM Frost will host the third part of its three-part parent series. It will be facilitated by the school psychologist, the school social worker, and the parent liaison.

Introduction of Guest Speaker: Mrs. Deborah Metzger, After School Specialist

Mr. Harris introduced Mrs. Metzger and noted that he brags whenever he can about the after school program. Ninety percent of Frost students stay after to participate in the program over the course of the quarter, which speaks to the excellence of the program

Mrs. Metzger provided an overview of Frost's After School Program.

President's Report: LaTisha Elcock

- The PTA bylaws require the formation of a nominating committee of three people. We need volunteers to fill this role. The position of treasurer is open for the next school year. The treasurer could be the parent of a rising 7th grader.
- International Night is canceled for this year.

Treasurer's Report: Suzanne Peeler

Ms. Peeler noted that January was a quiet month. She reviewed the current income and expense report for the membership.

Assistant Principal's Report

There was no assistant principal's report.

Vice President's Report: Kathy Hughes

- Spring grant applications are due on February 28. Ms. Hughes explained grant program for parents new to Frost.
- The Superstar of the Month program now gets 100 new nominations each month. It is administered by Mr. Bauer, who presents two randomly chosen teachers with gift cards in front of the classroom.
- Ms. Hughes presented highlights from the fall grant program.

Membership Report: Ellen Ingson

- Memberships continue to trickle in.
- There are 30 or 40 spare directories in case someone needs one.

Committee Reports and Upcoming Events

- **Pam Edwards: Frost Family Festival.** The presales have been slow. We are behind on food donations and volunteers. It has been challenging to publicize the event at some of the feeder schools.
- **Bingo Night:** March 13 is Bingo Night. **Stephanie Murphy** is the chair. There will be many great prizes, including tickets to the Thanksgiving Macy's Day Parade, also Ski Liberty passes, Glory Days gift cards, escape room tickets, Air Pods, and movie tickets. The evening will feature bingo, raffles, and a silent auction. The volunteer sign-up is ready to go, but Stephanie is holding off on sending it out until after the Frost Family Festival. One idea to promote the event is lunch time bingo, with \$5 gift cards as prizes. At the actual event one bingo card will include nine games. It costs \$9 to purchase it in advance and \$12 at the door.
- Planning is moving along for the **8th grade celebration**, chaired by **Boshra Zawawi**. It is time to decide on contractors for DJs and games. The DJ from last year is not responding to inquiries. There was discussion about how many DJs would be appropriate, one or two, as well as the number and location of games.
- **Maura Stevens** provided an update on **Food4Thought**. Drawstring bags are still needed.

Around the Table

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 AM.

Next Meeting: March 11, 2020, 7:00 PM