

Robert Frost Middle School PTSA Meeting
Minutes: October 11, 2011

1. Welcome- Karen Snyder, PTSA President.
2. Electronic communication- Eileen Foster
 - a. Change to listserv began on 10/10/2011- PTSA non-members will receive reminders to join PTSA as part of the listserv e-mails.
 - b. Eileen demonstrated the use of www.signupgenius.com to invite volunteers to sign up for events. Individuals can respond to event requests without joining the site. Event coordinators can create email messages and send them to potential volunteers. Individuals who want to respond to a request can see which volunteer jobs are open or filled.
3. Executive VP Report, Lisa Dennison
 - a. Based on the recent 6th grade ice breaker event, the start and end time of the 7th grade event will be emphasized to parents and students. It is important that students not arrive too early.
 - b. The PTSA should consider motivational speaker Joel Penton. Joel Penton is a former football player from Ohio State, who presents "Stand Your Ground", a program that motivates students to not give in to peer pressure. He is available March and later. At this time it is not clear that we will have enough money to fund the presentation. We would need to find a date that does not interfere with MSA testing.
4. Review and approval of minutes from September PTSA meeting. Susan Schreck made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Deborah Altman. The motion (voice vote) carried.
5. President's report, Karen Snyder
 - a. There have been many wonderful PTSA sponsored and supported events so far this year- the first assembly speaker, 6th grade ice breaker, open house.
 - b. We need to focus on increasing membership.
 - c. The PTSA closet was cleaned. We have a lot of paper good and utensils. Event chairs should not purchase paper good or utensils until the current supply is diminished.
6. Treasurer's Report, Cathryn Chang
 - a. Cathryn presented a hard copy of the budget. (Note: the \$256.68 expense for Dessert Theater reflects a reimbursement for last school year's Dessert Theater.)
 - b. Cathryn indicated we need to increase the budget for the hospitality line item from \$275 to \$600. \$200 from this line item was used at back to school night. We have additional income from two sources- donations are higher than expected and the 6th grade ice breaker made money (which was not expected). **There was a motion (Suzanne Messing) to increase the hospitality budget from \$275 to \$600 (2nd by Susan Schreck). The motion carried (voice vote).**
 - c. Cathryn asked that we remove the \$0 line items from the budget, so the budget sheet is easier to read. **There was a motion (Susan Schreck) to remove the \$0 line items from the budget (2nd by Suzanne Messing). The motion carried (voice vote)**

7. Updates

- a. Spiritwear- Susan Schreck
 - i. Sales are good- \$450 at 6th grade ice breaker and \$1000 at open house.
 - ii. Reordered sweatshirts, to sell in late October.
 - iii. We may order a special 40th anniversary shirt for students.
 - iv. We are adding some non-clothing items- we have headbands now (\$10 each) and may order grocery bags.
- b. Membership- Debbie Copeland
 - i. Current membership- approximately 45% of families (plus 96 students and 26 staff)
 - ii. Debbie is leading a phone call campaign, to contact non-members and discuss the benefits of PTSA membership. 18-20 volunteers are each calling 25-30 homes.
- c. 40 year celebration- Alex Hazlett
 - i. Alex is working with Dr. Johnson on this event.
 - ii. For the big event on March 8, we need to find a good place to purchase cupcakes or a cake.
- d. Outdoor classroom- Alex Hazlett
 - i. Bruce Allentuck provided a preliminary design, which will be reviewed.
 - ii. We are working with Home Depot.
 - iii. We will solicit donations for the outdoor seating, which needs to be installed soon.
- e. Directory- Shobana Sampath
 - i. All data have been entered. Families will receive an email with a link to verify data. They will have 5 days to verify the data and then the directory will go to the publisher.
- f. Wootton Cluster update- Kellie Reynolds
 - i. From Sept 19 meeting: The group selected November 28 as the date for meeting with local state legislators to discuss items of interest. Delegations from Districts 17, 19 and 39 will be invited. We will highlight compelling issues when inviting PTA members to the meeting. Local PTAs were asked to get **at least** 5 reps to attend the meeting.

8. Principal's Report- Dr. Joey Jones

- a. Last week 13 students and 4 staff from Beijing were at Frost. Frost representatives will travel to Beijing for 10 days at Spring Break. Information will be available in November.
- b. The first principal-parent breakfast of the year was well attended (103 parents). A teacher panel discussed ways to support students.
- c. Approximately 500 parents attended open house.
- d. Clubs have started and tutoring will start at the end of October.

9. Old Business- none

10. New Business- We decided to move the PTSA meeting start time to 7:00 instead of 7:30.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Kellie Schoolar Reynolds
Recording Secretary