

Robert Frost Middle School PTSA Meeting

Minutes: February 14, 2012

1. Approval of minutes from December and January PTSA meetings. (motion by Deborah Altman, 2nd by Eileen Foster, motion carried)
2. President's Report (Karen Snyder)
 - a. 450 to 500 parents attended the 5th grade orientation the previous week. Many will have children at Frost for the first time. A letter was sent home with the parents inviting them to sign up for the ListServe as "Future Frosties" so they can receive messages over the summer.
 - b. Bookfair is the week of the 40 year celebration. We need a few more volunteers, but preparation is going well.
3. Treasurer's Report (Cathryn Chang)
 - a. The current cash balance is \$21,345.16.
 - b. In January, revenue was \$931.51 (PTA dues, donations, restaurant night, and Spiritwear) and expenses were \$468.41 (2011 sales tax for Spiritwear; MCCPTA dues).
 - c. We consulted an accountant who prepared the 2011 sales tax for filing and also provided some general consulting.
4. Principal's Report (Dr. Jones could not attend; he provided a written report)
 - a. Organic Garden Club- RFMS is in the process of establishing a partnership with Silver Diner Restaurant. One of the goals is to develop an organic garden on school grounds. One or two parent volunteers are needed to serve as a "School Champion" for the partnership with Silver Diner. The school champion's major role is to serve as coordinator for two school fundraisers with Silver Diner and to disseminate information about the partnership. Ms. Jill Garber, one the science teachers, will serve as the sponsor. Parents interested in serving as the school champion should contact Dr. Jones.
 - b. Frost 40 and Fabulous celebration is March 8.
 - c. Outdoor Multi-Purpose Room- PTSA is in the process of purchasing the outdoor furniture. Allentuck Landscaping has provided landscaping design services.
 - d. Habitat for Humanity- On Friday, June 15, we will help build a house for a family in need in Gaithersburg. Kathy Hallas, one of our counselors, will sponsor this project.
 - e. MSA testing is March 12 through March 26.
5. 40th celebration and Outdoor classroom (Alex Hazlett)
 - a. Three table and chair sets were ordered for the outdoor classroom. Plants need to be purchased and we will need someone to do the planting. We are still waiting for county approval of the steps on the patio.
 - b. The 500 cupcakes have been ordered for the 40th celebration. The party on March 8 starts at 6:30. The academic arts fair is the same night and the bookfair will be open.

6. Executive VP Report (Karen Snyder for Lisa Denison)
 - a. We will have a DJ for the 6th grade spring event.
 - b. The 7th grade spring event will be a drive in movie night on May 18. It will be outside. There was a suggestion to use the tennis court so the students will be in an enclosed space. The movie will be a surprise. Permission slips are needed, so the students can watch a PG movie.

7. Wootton Cluster Report- (Nancy Deprey)
 - a. The Board of Education approved a budget with a 2% pay increase for teachers. The budget goes to the County Council next. The level of funding from the County will be influenced by whether the State fully funds the teacher pensions.
 - b. Wootton Cluster is circulating petitions for the County (requesting the fully fund maintenance of effort) and the State (requesting they not shift the pension funding back to the County).

8. Old Business
 - a. There was a previous request from Dr. Jones for 50% funding for a Promethean Board, so all science classes have one. We will continue to request donations for this purchase. We need to have a way to give letters to individuals who donate, so they can get a tax deduction. We will assess the amount of money we still need at the end of the school year.

9. New Business-
 - a. Karen indicated there is a way for parents (and others) to go through a school website to place orders on Amazon. The school would earn money for each transaction. It would be good to have a volunteer set up this program for Frost and Wootton. Andrea Bernardo wants to start a "Marketplace" program at Wootton. This program allows individuals to visit a school or PTA sponsored website that serves as a portal to many different merchants. Again, the school makes money when items are purchased through the marketplace. If the program is successful at Wootton, we may try it at Frost.
 - b. Amy Barrett indicated that the resource teachers would like small denomination gift cards to give to students who meet their agreed upon goals. The PTSA has some gift cards that we can use for rewards for various programs. Meeting attendees agreed to break a \$100 gift card into small denominations (such as \$5) to use for this purpose.
 - c. There was a motion to select the following individuals for the nominating committee: Alex Hazlett, Amy Barrett, and Karen Snyder. (motion from Julie Abod, 2nd by Eileen Foster). The vote carried.

Submitted by- Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, PTSA Secretary