

Robert Frost Middle School PTSA Meeting

Minutes: April 17, 2012

1. Approval of minutes from February PTSA meeting. (motion by Deborah Altman, 2nd by Cathryn Chang, motion carried)
2. President's Report (Karen Snyder)
 - a. Nominating Committee Update- Four individuals expressed interest in the Treasurer's position. Elena Searle has the most experience because she has been a PTA treasurer in the past. The other individuals are considering other important positions, such as record keeping for membership and for the book fair. Still looking for President and Exec VP.
 - b. Spiritwear for Fallsmead- Kara Crocker (Frost parent and Fallsmead parent) requested Frost spiritwear items for the Fallsmead auction on May 11. She indicated we could also have a table and sell spiritwear at the auction. We will donate 2 items. Cheryl Miller indicated she could sell spiritwear at the auction.
 - c. Recent events- The Differently Abled Fair, Book fair, and 40th anniversary celebration were all successful and well run events.
3. Treasurer's Report (Cathryn Chang)
 - a. The current cash balance is \$21,394.22.
 - b. In February and March, revenue was \$10,022.27 (mainly from donations, book fair, spiritwear, and family events) expenses were \$10,438.65 (mainly from accountant fee, book fair, 40th celebration, and fun night).
 - c. April expenses for the first half of the month include: \$650 for the 6th grade dance, \$481 for 40th celebration food, \$25 for MCCPTA dues.
 - d. The Differently Abled Fair had \$100 in excess expenses (transportation for some speakers, \$5 thank-you gifts to volunteers (not parent volunteers)). **Lisa Denison made a motion to increase the budget for the Differently Abled Fair by \$100. Alex Hazlett seconded the motion. The motion carried by voice vote.**
 - e. There was a \$1200 net profit from the book fair. In the past The PTSA donated the profit to the school media center. However, our budget for this year does not include the expense (donation). There was a discussion of the worst case scenario regarding expenses and income for the rest of the year. Based on that discussion, we have at least \$5000 to allocate for the remainder of the year. **There was a motion from Lisa Denison to allocate \$1237 (book fair profit) as a donation to the media center. The motion was seconded by Suzanne Messing. The motion carried by voice vote.**
4. Executive Vice President's Report (Lisa Denison)
 - a. New idea for the 7th grade spring event- drive in movie night on the blacktop at the back of the school. A two-story movie screen is available. It is preferable to advertise a "mystery movie" instead of providing the movie name. For a PG-13 movie we need to provide the name of the movie ahead of time for permission slips. We may not have to provide the name of a PG movie ahead of time. If it rains, the event can be in the gym. Date- May 18.
 - b. 6th grade committee is working on the 6th grade event.
 - c. Speaker idea for next year- Joel Penton is a motivational speaker who wrote the book "Stand Your Ground." He played football at The Ohio State University. His presentation, also entitled "Stand your

ground,” helps students learn to resist peer pressure. We should consider partnering with another school if we invite him to speak, because his fee is high.

5. Request for funding of *ScienceWorld* (Ms. Garber)

a. Ms. Garber presented information about *ScienceWorld*, which is published by Scholastic. Grades 6-8 use this periodical during “now reading” time. The periodical includes articles in a wide variety of scientific areas. The students often want to take *ScienceWorld* home, but there are limited copies so they have to remain at school. Ms. Garber asked the PTSA to consider funding the purchase of *ScienceWorld* subscriptions for all 7th grade students next year. The estimated cost is \$3762. (Conclusion- PTSA will consider this budget request, along with several other budget requests, at the next PTSA meeting)

6. Principal’s Report (Dr. Jones)

- a. The 40th celebration was a huge success. 500 to 600 parents attended. One feature was the yearbook timeline that Mr. Johnson arranged.
- b. Over spring break, 10 students, 6 parents, and 2 staff members went to China. It was a great experience. The students indicated they would have enjoyed more time with the host families. RFMS will host visitors from China in October.
- c. Differently Abled Fair was a great success.
- d. Parents who attended the Principal-Parent breakfast on 4/13 saw the outdoor classroom and the organic garden.
- e. The band is getting ready to go on a trip to Boston (approx. 160 students).
- f. MSA Science testing for grade 8- first week of May.
- g. The state is considering changing from MSA to “Park Exam.” The exam is given twice per year and it is electronic. A major hurdle to implementation is the number of computers needed for each school.
- h. Upcoming events: Staff appreciation week (May 7-11) and Desert Theater (May 3-5).
- i. Dr. Jones indicated he had two budget requests. First, the school requests \$3500, which is half the cost of a Promethean board. Second, the funds that are used to pay for items such as end of year celebration and international night are low. The discussion at the 4/17 meeting focused on the Promethean board. Some donations (approx. \$400) were made to the PTSA, with the intent of funding purchase of a Promethean board. Based on the worst case funding scenario discussed earlier in the meeting, we have adequate funds to provide the \$3500. **Alex Hazlett made a motion to add a \$3500 line item for the Promethean Board. Seconded by Deb Altman. The motion carried by voice vote.**

7. Old Business- None

8. New Business- There will be two additional funding requests in May—Special Education incentives and purchase of crackers that the nurse can provide for diabetic students, as needed.

Submitted by- Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, PTSA Secretary