

## Robert Frost Middle School PTSA Meeting

Minutes: October 9, 2012

1. Approval of minutes from September 11 PTSA meeting. (approved by unanimous consent)
2. President's Report (Alex Hazlett)
  - a. Report on fundraisers- We earned \$20 at the restaurant night at Stella's (need more publicity next time), \$325 at the restaurant night at Ledo's. The Joe Corbi's Pizza fundraiser ends on 10/15.
  - b. Approximately 400 parents attended the open house on 10/8.
  - c. The dance for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders was a success. Judi Halperin was in charge of the event.
  - d. Upcoming events- 7<sup>th</sup> grade dance (10/26); 7<sup>th</sup> graders will go see the movie "Tom Sawyer"
3. Treasurer's Report and Budget Discussion (Fang Jiang)
  - a. Balance sheet through 9/30/2012.
    - i. Revenue through 9/30/12- \$11,943.09 (majority is membership dues [\$8495.57] and spirit wear [\$2602.95]). Expenses through 9/30/12- \$2857.07 (majority is fun nights [\$1277] and spirit wear \$[1538])
    - ii. More membership forms have been submitted, so membership revenue will increase. Upcoming expense- We need to pay MCCPTA and MD PTA dues for each member.
  - b. Discussion of funding requests
    - i. Mr. O'Keefe requested funds for a Nov 9 in house field trip for 7<sup>th</sup> grade science, to coincide with the end of the Chemistry hydroponics unit. There would be two one hour presentations, for a total cost of \$1050. (Discussed at 9/11/12 PTSA meeting)
    - ii. Mrs. Horwitz requested \$300 for the Turkey Trot to pay for water for participants and for T-shirts for the winners (3 per grade). The cost of these items is usually deducted from the amount that the school collects from students (\$2 per student), which decreases the amount of money donated to the Rockville food bank.
    - iii. PE department- requesting \$300 for a Zumba assembly/instruction the first week of May, to coincide with National Physical Education Week.
    - iv. Dr. Jones discussed a request for funding of after school clubs and activities. The school needs \$4200 for the year. MCPS only provides enough funding for 5 clubs for the full year. MCPS previously provided more funding. Other previous sources of funding for the after school activities were: school picture money (dramatic decrease in the past few years because many families take their own digital pictures), investment income (decreased recently) and PTSA. \$2700 from the PTSA would cover the first semester.
    - v. The funding requests were discussed. The goal is to fund as many enriching opportunities for the students as possible. However, we need to be conservative at this point in the year because we do not know whether the membership income will be as high as anticipated. The attendees at the meeting decided to fund the 7<sup>th</sup> grade science field trip (\$1050 from student support line item) and 1<sup>st</sup> semester after school clubs and activities (\$2700 from school support line item). We will consider funding of the Zumba activity and the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester after school activities at a later date. We will not provide money for the Turkey Trot. The funding decisions did not require a vote because they are consistent with the PTSA budget approved on 9/11/12.

4. Membership (Cheryl Miller)
  - a. 323 families have joined the PTSA so far this year, based on the forms that have been processed. Cheryl had received additional forms that had not been processed at the time of the PTSA meeting.
  
5. Principal's report (Dr. Jones)
  - a. Eleven students and two teachers from Beijing visited Frost MS last week. The visit included a visit to Medimmune.
  - b. Open house was well attended (300-400 parents).
  - c. Eighteen parents attended the first Principal/Parent breakfast for the school year. A panel of team leaders from each grade participated. The next Principal/Parent breakfast is the second Friday on January. A University of MD admissions officer will provide information about how to prepare for college. Each year more than 100 parents attend this breakfast.
  - d. Dr. Jones has observed great teaching and increased student engagement this year. Some of the lessons are captured on video and are available on YouTube.
  - e. This year, a Gallup poll on student engagement replaces the poll conducted in previous years. Students will participate in late October.
  
6. Wootton Cluster Report (Nancy Deprey)
  - a. The main topic at the Sept 19 cluster meeting was the Feb 21, 2013 meeting between Wootton Cluster representatives and the Board of Education (BOE). We need a list of 3-6 topics to present to and discuss with the BOE. The schools will be asked to help develop the list over the next several months. The meeting will be at Wootton, so the BOE can see the need for modernization of the school. Wootton is scheduled for modernization in 2020 and we want to ensure the modernization is not delayed.
  
7. Membership (Cheryl Miller)
  - a. Membership drive is going well. The numbers will be available for the next meeting.
  
8. MCCPTA delegate assembly report- John Casper
  - a. Standing rules for MCCPTA meetings and the discussion of issues were approved
  - b. A working group is being formed to address issues surrounding edible gardens in MCPS.
  - c. The 2012-2013 MCCPTA budget was presented and approved
  - d. MCCPTA proposed priorities for the MCPS Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) were presented and discussed. The list will be voted on at the October MCCPTA delegates assembly.
  - e. CIP testimony to BOE is Nov 12 and Nov 15 (Wootton cluster testimony is Nov 15).
  - f. MCCPTA is still working on the legislative platform for 2012-2013.
  
9. Old business- none
10. New business- none

Submitted by- Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, PTSA Secretary