

Robert Frost Middle School PTSA
May 13, 2008
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

President's Report. KG reported that the Reflections participants did very well. A motion to approve spending up to \$150.00 for Reflections gifts and recognition ceremony was passed.

A motion to help cover costs (up to \$800.00) for the 8th grade Simulated Congressional Hearing. was passed.

A "Stuff a Bus" program will be sponsored by Manna, Whole Foods and Ride-On Bus on Wednesday, May 14. The purpose is to collect food for the needy.

MCCPTA will have a training session for PTSA/PTA leaders on June 4, 6:30-9:00 pm at Blake High School.

2nd Vice President's Report. The tickets sold out for the family event at the Nationals Stadium (May 4, Nationals vs. Pirates). There was positive feedback from the families attending the game.

Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. New activity not reflected in the report included receipts and reimbursement for the Dessert Theater and \$600 for Staff Appreciation Week. This activity will be reflected in the next report. It was suggested that next year's line item for Staff Appreciation be increased.

Cluster & MCCPTA Report. RE reported that the Board of Education adopted the Superintendent's Budget. RE reviewed some of the key points he provided during testimony to the County Council. The final budget has not yet been approved

Committee Reports.

Frost Informer It was suggested that the PTSA include a survey in the final issue to see what parents would like the PTSA focus on in the future. The final issue will go to incoming 6th grade families.

Nominating Committee New executive board members were elected.

President	Bob Quackenbush
Exec. Vice President	Neil Keller
1st Vice President	Dore-Jean Heverly
2nd Vice President	Diane Chace
Treasurer	Sonia Rickman
Recording Secretary	Janine Mooney
MCCPTA Delegate	Brad Davis
MCCPTA Delegate	Howard Yang

There are a few PTSA committee chair vacancies to be filled including key positions of Volunteer Coordinator, Directory-Editor and Directory-Advertising. The Nominating Committee will continue to search for chairpersons for the 2008-2009 PTSA board.

Helping Hands SA reported that Rita's Italian Ice was sold at two Frost soccer games and a Wootton lacrosse game. Rita's donated the ices (and coupons) and the money raised will be used to promote recycling; possibly purchasing new recycle bins for Frost (and maybe Wootton). There will be a Blood Drive on May 27, 3:30-8:00 pm. Students will sell red bracelets to raise funds and awareness for the Blood Drive.

Principal's Report. Dr. Jones expressed the staff's thanks for the PTSA treats during Staff Appreciation Week. He also thanked the PTSA for the honorarium for Dr. Jonathan Dalton, speaker at the Principal's Breakfast in April. The presentation was well-received and Dr. Jones would like to have Dr. Dalton come back next year to give a presentation to parents.

International Night is Thursday, May 22. Ms. Morrow is coordinating and families are encouraged to attend and participate. There are many end-of-year events for 8th graders. A letter explaining all of the activities was sent to all parents. Dr. Jones reported that MCPS is sponsoring a Back to School Fair on August 16. This informational fair for families will be held on the grounds of the Carver Building. Rain date is August 23. The Volunteer Luncheon is May 28 and all are invited. The instrumental music groups did very well at their recent music festival in Virginia Beach.

Old Business

Sensitivity Awareness Program. – SA reported that this program will take place during reading classes on May 23. Some of the activities will include wheelchair basketball, using walkers and/or crutches, and discussion with an amputee or hearing impaired person. The Interact team from MCPS will do a station. Volunteers are needed.

Bylaws - Our Bylaws were not approved by MD PTA. Three specific items need to be reviewed. Bylaws Committee member BD took the information and will meet with the Bylaws Committee for review and to re-submit the bylaws.

New Business

Sign at front entrance – A question was raised about whether Frost could get an electronic sign. Dr. Jones stated that it is not in the budget and that a work order is in to fix the existing sign. Discussion followed. There was interest in pursuing the possibility of a new sign and it was suggested that parents be surveyed to see if they would be interested in a fundraiser designated for this purpose. It was also suggested that students be involved in the design if this goes forward.

Missed work due to absence - A question was raised about the school policy for students to get assignments missed due to illness. Dr. Jones explained that students are to ask teachers for class work and homework when they return to school. Most teachers have a designated place in the classroom for missed work. If children are having a difficult time getting missed work from a teacher, parents should contact Dr. Jones. Dr. Jones will encourage staff to have a designated place for missed work in each classroom. Also, he will look at the policy to make it more student/parent friendly.

Master Schedule – A comment was made about a unit exam being held the Monday after the band and Chesapeake Bay weekend trips. This can be looked at for test and field trip planning purposes next year, but sometimes it is unavoidable.

Respectfully submitted, Janine Mooney, Recording Secretary