

## Robert Frost Middle School PTSA Meeting

Minutes: September 11, 2012

1. Approval of minutes from May 29 PTSA meeting. (approved by unanimous consent)
2. President's Report (Alex Hazlett)
  - a. Alex reported on the Frost PTSA Board changes that occurred over the summer. Changes affect 4 positions.
    - i. Previous: Executive VP- open; 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Amy Bryan; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Deborah Altman; Treasurer- Elena Searles.
    - ii. New (current): Executive VP- Amy Bryan; 1<sup>st</sup> VP- Deborah Altman; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP- Amy Barrett; Treasurer- Fang Jiang.
  - b. There are some open committee chair positions. The list is on the PTSA web site. Open positions include hospitality chair (there are approximately 4 events per year) and volunteer coordinator.
3. Treasurer's Report and Budget Discussion (Fang Jiang)
  - a. Fang presented the proposed budget that was discussed by the Executive Board on August 20.
    - i. Total revenue and total expenses balance at \$48,380 each.
    - ii. The bookfair is "break even" because we donate the profit to the media center.
    - iii. In the revenue section \$465 was deleted from general school support (line item not used last year) and the amount for fun nights was reduced from \$3800 to \$2400 (3 events at approx. \$800 each). The proposed 3 fun night events are- 6<sup>th</sup> grade dance, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Halloween Ball, a movie night. The \$1765 (465 + 1200) was moved to Student Support and Enrichment, bringing the total for that item to \$7865. The Student Support and Enrichment line item includes in house field trips.
    - iv. This year we will not increase the Spiritwear inventory. We will sell Spiritwear by preorder only.
    - v. Ms. Varghese discussed the funds needed for Outdoor Education. The 6<sup>th</sup> graders will go to Skycroft in May. There are two trips- 6A and 6B. To enhance this educational experience, Ms. Varghese wants to invite 3 speakers for each trip. Examples of speakers- Reptile Man, Under the sea presentation, historian who does a reenactment of Battle of South Mountain. (Note- the budget includes \$4500 for outdoor ed)
    - vi. **Deborah Altman made a motion to approve the amended budget (second by Amy Bryan). The motion passed.**
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> VP report on fundraising (Amy Barrett)
  - a. September 12- restaurant night benefitting Frost at Stella's. The next 2 restaurant nights are at Ledo's.
  - b. Joe Corbi's fundraiser was discussed. The fundraiser will run the first two weeks of October. The Joe Corbi's representative can present at lunch time assemblies to build enthusiasm for the fundraiser. The profit from the fundraiser will be used for the outdoor classroom. As an incentive, there was a proposal to give the top seller per grade a \$50 gift card. **Motion from Amy Barrett- Give the top seller for each grade a \$50 Visa gift card. The \$150 will come from fundraiser profits. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Amy Bryan. The motion passed.**

5. Principal's report (Dr. Jones)- Dr. Jones discussed his written report "Visionary Plans for the next dimension of Excellence." Items in the report include:
  - a. Focus on teaching and learning to eliminate the teaching/learning gap.
  - b. Strengthen TV production program (the program has grown from a club to a class for 8<sup>th</sup> graders)
  - c. (Continue to) establish an outdoor multi-purpose room. Purchased several benches last year, but still want more seating.
  - d. Increase use of technology to work smarter and to improve learning. Dr. Jones hopes to implement use of Mobile Computer Labs this year. There are only 4 computer labs for 1140 students. The cost for a cart with 10 laptop computers is \$9519.48. Dr. Jones has a full proposal with justification and benefits of the mobile computer lab.
  
6. Mr. OKeefe (Grade 7 Science Team Leader) gave an overview of the science department at Frost.
  - a. He requested funds for an in house field trip on Nov 9, to coincide with the end of the Chemistry hydroponics unit. There would be two one hour presentations, for a total cost of \$1050. This program was previously part of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. (Note- Alex indicated that all proposals for in school field trips should be submitted by Oct 5 for consideration)
  - b. Mr. Okeefe also reported that Ms. Varghese won a national contest related to Outdoor education. The prize includes attendance at a conference and \$2500 of field equipment for the classroom.
  
7. Membership (Cheryl Miller)
  - a. Membership drive is going well. The numbers will be available for the next meeting.
  
8. New Business
  - a. Deborah Altman indicated *The Gazette (Montgomery County)* is sponsoring a "My Favorite Teacher" contest. The applicants need to write an essay in support of the teacher they nominate. Applicants will be entered in a drawing for an iPad. This information will be provided in the morning announcements.

Submitted by- Kellie Schoolar Reynolds, PTSA Secretary