

**Robert Frost Middle School PTSA**  
**January 8, 2008**  
**Meeting Highlights**

**President's Report.** Katie Grant reported that MCPS schools must submit a monthly volunteer hours report. PTSA volunteers and other Frost volunteers are asked to keep track of their hours. An estimate of hours worked so far this year was sent to 7<sup>th</sup> grade administrator Darryl Johnson to forward to MCPS. There was discussion about a proposal from a teacher of college preparation courses. There wasn't interest in pursuing this type of presentation at a PTSA meeting. A check for "School Support" was presented to Dr. Jones.

**2nd Vice President's Report.** Discussion about a family event at a Washington Nationals baseball game. It was suggested that the new stadium could be a draw for Frost families but that we should not get too many tickets. It was also recommended that event planners check the Frost (and elementary and Wootton) calendars when choosing a date.

**Treasurer's Report.** The Treasurer's Report was reviewed. A question was raised about the parent programs line item. The report did not show payment for an internet program for the Wootton cluster. An invoice will be submitted and paid. The treasurer received the invoice for SGA t-shirts. Dr. Jones will check with Mr. Childs, SGA sponsor, to approve the SGA logo artwork for the sheets.

**Committee Reports.**

**Reflections** There were 12 entries: Literature-3; Music-1; Photography-3; and Visual Arts-5 . Eleven of these entries (only four per category are allowed) have moved on to the County level for judging. A recognition party is planned for May.

**Frost Informer** A question was raised about the length (cost of printing/postage) of the *Informer*. KG asked if the "Middle School Years", a publication inserted into the *Informer* could be scanned and sent via email or posted on the website. Dr. Jones will check to see if Frost's subscription agreement will allow this.

**MCCPTA Report** RE attended the Operating Budget Forum on January 7. He reported that it will be a challenging budget year. Some of the funding requested by Dr. Weast is for increases for staff and administrative salary pension funding and increases for transportation (because of rising fuel costs). New initiatives included increasing the number of elementary assistant principals and guidance counselors, additional lunch aides, and funding for the continuation of the middle school reform and magnet programs. RE will testify next week on behalf of the Wootton cluster. Nominations for MCCPTA positions will be called for soon. Additional nominees are needed to be co-coordinators for the cluster.

**Principal's Report.** The Geography Bee was very successful. The annual instrumental music concert will take place at Wootton High School on January 9. Exams begin on January 14 and students received a copy of the exam schedule. Dr. Jones will make a presentation to the Board of Education about Frost's MSA One to One Advisory Program. The presentation to the board was postponed to a later date. A new date has not been determined. Frost is scheduled for a "tech. mod." this summer. A five-to-one computer ratio is planned. This ratio is based on student projections. Frost will also receive 18 Promethean boards (electronic white board). These boards will be distributed throughout the grades and subject areas.

### **Old Business**

**Dances** There was a follow-up to the discussion at the December meeting where the consensus reported by the students was not to combine 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade dances. The Executive Vice President will check with the Dance Chairperson about possible themes, types of games and number of volunteers needed.

**"Trout in the Classroom"** The total amount of funding approved at the December meeting is not needed because the Montgomery County Department of Recreation paid for most of the program. The PTSA will cover the cost of materials at approximately \$20.00.

### **New Business**

There was discussion about an article in **The Washington Post**, *As PTA Groups Move Online, So Does Dissension* (1/7/08). It was clarified that our email is not an interactive list-serve where people can reply back and forth. It is a private method, controlled by the PTSA not an individual, to share school information. It was suggested that the PTSA use the PTO Manager for the group email next year. It was also suggested that list-serve guidelines be addressed in future Bylaws templates.

**Transfer Season** A question was raised about the school's role in the student transfer process. Dr. Jones reported that decisions are made at the MCPS central office not at the individual schools. It was suggested that cluster leaders contact MCPS about looking closely at transfer requests that may eventually contribute to Wootton's overcrowding. It was also suggested that individual concerned parents contact MCPS as well.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janine Mooney, Recording Secretary