ROBERT FROST MIDDLE SCHOOL PTSA
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General Session Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

Approved. These minutes were approved by the membership at the November 10, 2026 general session.

Location	Zoom
Time	Called to order at about 7:03 PM, adjourned at about 7:36 PM
Presiding	Mike Wu, President
Recorded by	Veronica G, Secretary
Attendance	About 35 participants. Quorum (5 members, per Article XI, Section 5) was met.

1. Approval of the September 8 Minutes

Mike Wu noted that the draft minutes of the September 8, 2026 general session were sent to members by email and posted on the PTSA website. One minor correction was received before the meeting and has been made.

Motion: To approve the minutes of the September 8, 2026 general session as posted.
Vote (Zoom poll): 14 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining.
Motion carried.

2. Principal's Message: Dr. Joey Jones

Dr. Jones reviewed the school's vision, mission, and core values, the MCPS instructional focus (all students will be prompted to think effortfully in order to meet or exceed grade-level standards), and this year's school theme, "Soaring Together."

Street Data question of the week

Students were asked what makes a great teacher and a great student. Early responses came from 36 sixth graders, 72 seventh graders, and 33 eighth graders. In every grade, the top answer for a great teacher was being nice, kind, or caring, followed by qualities like listening, patience, respect, and fairness. For a great student, top answers included being respectful, listening, staying on task, and being on time to class. Dr. Jones noted that teaching is relational before it is educational. Staff were asked the same questions, and the responses will be compared.

Media Center

- Last year: more than 10,500 student sign-ins, 7,300 books checked out, 400 new books added, and 45 pounds of Jolly Ranchers earned.
- This year, as of October 8: nearly 2,500 sign-ins, more than 3,500 books checked out, and more than 280 new books added.

- Part of the Media Center is being redesigned so students can eat lunch there.

Hispanic Heritage Month

Principal intern Ms. Carrillo shared highlights: lessons during Eagle Time and NOW Reading time on scientists, activists, and community changemakers; Latin music at arrival on Fridays; a daily trivia question; and Friday raffles of $25 gift cards. Spirit Week is this week.

Mental Health Awareness Month

The annual Each One Trust One poster contest is underway. The PTSA is providing gift cards for the first, second, and third place winners in each grade, and the credit union is expected to provide a grand prize of AirPods. Dr. Jones spoke about the importance of a trusted adult at school; in the last survey, about 88% of students said they had one, and the school surveys two to three times a year. He also noted that more than 70% of eighth graders take two or more high school level courses, and the advisory program helps give students a break from the academic load.

Other updates

- Two information sessions on the new regional high school program model have been held for eighth grade parents. Information is on the Frost and MCPS websites. The programs begin next school year.
- Frost was ranked the #2 middle school in Montgomery County and #4 in Maryland by Niche, an improvement over last year.
- Frost continues to receive the most COSA requests of any middle school in the county.
- Dates: 8th grade PSAT on October 14; professional day (no school for students) on October 16; marking period ends October 30; open house on November 11.

Dr. Jones thanked the PTSA for its continued support.

3. Membership Update

- Membership is at 192 families, with a few more since the numbers were pulled. Last year finished at 153 and the year before at 152.
- Many families have two Membership Toolkit accounts, so some members are getting “not signed up” emails at an old account. Families who notice this should contact the PTSA so the extra account can be deleted. This is being done manually for now.
- Grade challenge: 7th grade has taken the lead. The winning grade gets a popsicle party.
- Membership raffle: closes October 15. More than 21 prizes were donated by parents, including Nee Dohs, Pokémon cards, and gift cards. Winners will be drawn, emailed, and posted online, and prizes will be picked up through the school office.

4. Budget Check-In

Income and expenses were about even for the quarter, as expected. Most of the spending was last year’s activity bus bill, which arrives after the school year ends and is paid from the following year’s budget. Spending is on track with the plan.

5. After-School Clubs

Clubs have been the most common topic in the grade-level WhatsApp groups, several of which now have more than 100 members. Mike Wu has been in contact with Ms. Freedenberg, the after-school club coordinator, who has answered the questions sent to her and is committed to working with the PTSA to improve the process for spring. Much of the confusion has been around communication: when rosters are posted and when students can sign up again. Parents can continue sending questions and suggestions to Mike Wu.

6. Bylaws Review

The PTSA has used the generic bylaws, which call for more officer positions and processes than a small board can realistically support. The board is cleaning them up to make the PTSA easier to run and to keep it in good standing for state reporting and compliance. The proposed changes will be shared with the membership for a vote.

Elena suggested giving members background on the move to Free State PTA and the related compliance changes. Mike Wu will add this to the agenda for the next meeting.

7. Next Year's Board

Mike Wu announced that this is his last year on the board, after three years on the board and two as president. President and treasurer are typically the hardest positions to fill, so he is starting the search early. He is writing a handbook so a new president can get up to speed quickly, and the bylaws changes should make the process simpler. The PTSA must have a separate president, secretary, and treasurer to stay in good standing. Anyone interested is encouraged to reach out.

8. Dine Out

The first dine-out of the year is at Chipotle (Fallsgrove) on Tuesday, October 20. 25% of sales go to the PTSA. Online orders must use the fundraiser code. Chipotle requires at least $150 in total sales before any donation is made.

9. Upcoming Events

October 15	Membership raffle closes
October 20	Dine Out at Chipotle Fallsgrove
October 31	Grade challenge ends; the popsicle party will be planned with Dr. Jones and staff
November 10	Next general session, 7:00 PM on Zoom

10. Questions and Adjournment

Mike Wu invited questions. Draft minutes will be posted on the website, and members can message him with any corrections. WhatsApp is the best way to reach him. He thanked Dr. Jones, the staff, and all parents for attending. The meeting adjourned at about 7:36 PM.

11. Action Items

Item	Owner
Post the approved September 8 minutes on the website	Mike Wu
Continue removing duplicate Membership Toolkit accounts as families report them	Mike Wu
Hold the raffle drawing, email winners, and post results	Mike Wu
Arrange raffle prize pickup with the school office	Mike Wu
Continue working with Ms. Freedenberg on club communication for spring	Mike Wu
Share proposed bylaws changes with the membership for a vote	Mike Wu
Add Free State PTA and compliance background to the November agenda	Mike Wu
Continue writing the President's Handbook	Mike Wu
Send additional promotion for the October 20 Chipotle dine-out	Mike Wu
Plan the popsicle party for the winning grade	Mike Wu, Dr. Jones
Post the draft October minutes and update with any corrections	Mike Wu

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Veronica G, Secretary — Date

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Approved at the general session of November 10, 2026