

Minutes: FR PTO Board Meeting
11/08/22
F/R PTO Meeting: 5:30 – 6:45

Attendees: Ann Sydnor, John Wallace, Emily Powers, Colleen Manner, Mickey Willis, Sara Levin, Colleen Moss, Soumya Palreddy, Christina Hanzlik, Erin McMillan, Ashley Russel, Clair

Call to order – 5:32. October Meeting Minutes – Erin motions to approve, Colleen Moss seconds. Minutes approved.

Principal Updates:

John Wallace – Randall School. Kids and Staff have been great. Now that relationships have been built, we are applying more rigor in the instructions. Staff is working with a new curriculum, so we are all students of this process. It is not easily done.

Student success night had everyone back under Randall roof – some families were seeing the building for the first time. First time that we have had a tornado drill when everyone was together – kids did amazing. Smiles on faces to gather together – powerful moment.

Emily Powers – Frankling – Curriculum is new, different, but also very exciting. There is a lot of preparation to make sure we are doing the curriculum justice. Shout out to Rachel, instructional coach to help preview what is coming. Will be introducing the “Fabulous Falcon” Award. One student per week who is demonstrating Falcon values will be awarded. By end of year, every student will be awarded. Rachel and Becca did a “news reporter” skit to introduce students to this concept. There will another school assembly around Family – to demonstrate the concept of family within our community and taking care of one another. Front desk – Kathy from Central office will be here Mon & Fri. Nicki Miller (retired secretary) will be here Tue, Wed, Thu.

Fall Fundraiser Update:

Currently \$5,628 (make sure to look at “payout” and “pending” in Paypal). New post went out on Facebook, new material for flyers and a video from a 4th grade Randall teacher explaining how she used the funds. Plan is to send a half-sheet home with the QR code. Colleen Moss/Ann volunteer to make copies and cut pages to put in teacher mailboxes – to send home with families 11/18. Christina to send QR code / flyer to get this re-formatted.

Was a Nov 25th deadline, but will extend and do a final push on Monday on Facebook for “Giving Tuesday” 11/22.

Treasurers Report:

Amazon Smile – Ann will re-introduce this before the Holidays in the next newsletter. Individual Donations are on a lag. Parking is filtering in at 21,000 weekly as Mary makes deposits. Check from UW is not in there yet either. Curriculum and Instructional support money has been paid out to schools and teachers and draw on that as they want to make purchases.

Grants Program

Ann and Soumya met a few weeks ago. Soumya just met with the person who previously ran the grants program. Improvements to changing the application process. 3 people on the committee - Soumya will draft application to review with the committee. Eventually they'll aim to add more student voices and their goals. Committee will bring a grant proposal to the board for review process and recipients will be notified in March. Timing of Spring seemed appropriate since schools have a better idea of what they need. If anyone has any interest in joining the committee – it is forming now. Feedback that we should explain ahead of time how we will be making decisions – it gets complicated. All grants need principal approval before being submitted. Rubric out there – Sara said she will look for it.

In the past, the process for principal approvals was applicants talked to principal before they applied. Principals may see there is another source of funding for applications – to help everyone get what they need. Sara recommends having a teacher on the committee. John/Emily – can you please ask your staff if anyone would be interested?

Parking Update: \$26,400 for the year with one game left to go. Average of \$4,400 per game. Shout out to volunteers for being out in the rain last Saturday, and shout out to volunteer Doug Noot who has helped us increase our numbers.

Directory: It's all done via spreadsheet so it will all be different every year. It's not just a simple database – all manual. A lot of work happening. Reaching out to families asking if they want to be included. Add a note to the back cover to explaining how to be included next year if you are accidentally left off. In the future, can we educate people on how to update their info vs having volunteers spend so much time reaching out to families. For new students in K-2 there hasn't ever been a directory, so this year may be more outreach.

Community Engagement:

Mickey: Playdate was fun, casual and not a ton of work once it got started. Lots of leftover popcorn and cider to be used for movie night. Maybe 100 people? Great turnout. Many Franklin families. For next time – volunteer list could include volunteers for yard games, speaker, etc.

Movie night updates (Sarah) – Friday 11/18 at Randall. Application submitted for licensing for How to Train Your Dragon (\$150). John Wallace confirmed they have a projector and screen at Randall. Suggest a trial the week before to go in and see how it works. Welcome to use gym mats or whatever they have. Doors at 6. Movie at 6:30. An evening custodian will be there during that time. Suggest to add to the flyer that children need to have an adult with them. If we want fresh popcorn, people would need to come pop ahead of time. Parking will be available on the playground.

School Community meeting - January topic brainstorm. Any ideas welcome. Social/Emotional, Nutrition, Overview of volunteer process orientation, Equity among schools where F/R fit in the larger Madison picture and how funding is determined. JW – we trust the MMSD decision makers and trust the title school funds are going where they are needed. Social Emotional and mental health seems like it might be of interest to the greatest number of people. Potentially staff members willing to share? Resources school social workers or teachers to share, etc.

Soumya –trainer for a public national mental health program called Mental Health First Aide. There is a child version of this. How do you recognize signs and symptoms, how to you have conversations, mental health literacy for parents. Parent friendly resources related to Soumya’s program would be interesting. C. Moss: In the past, a parent could share their resources or parent groups to support kids.

Summary – Social Emotional seems to be the topic everyone likes. District Speaker and staff at Franklin/Randall to come speak on this topic. Perhaps Social Worker or Psychologist. Emily to check in on resources to share. Should decide between advisory vs sharing what the schools are noticing and how they are addressing. A central office staff member may not be needed.

School Supply Fundraiser – supply kit – great way to raise money.

Meeting adjourned: 7pm