

Franklin-Randall PTO Board Meeting
2/13/24 5:30p.m.
Randall Library

Attendees: Colleen Manner, Mary Rihani, Ashley Russell, Lisa Hawk, Emily Powers, Kemper Smith, Mickey Willis, Soumya Palreddy, Beth Waldron, John Wallace, Caitlin Voegele, Sarah Levin, Colleen Moss, Ashley Check, Kate Freedman. **On Zoom:** Samip Kothari, Ashley Rose.

Call to order: 5:33pm

Meeting Minutes:

Colleen Manner motions to approve, Mary seconds. Motion carries.

Super Science Saturday update – Colleen Moss:

- 12 groups coming including Wonders of Physics booth, Rocket Club, Astronomy Club, parent led stations, Women's Physics Group, UW Medical School organs, UW Women in Engineering, identifying rocks, etc.
- Will make a flyer to pass out at event
- Will need volunteers to welcome and help direct people
- Signup genius to bring food & water for volunteers
- Custodians will arrive at 7:45/8am to set up tables
- Will make a flyer to send home in backpacks
- Could still use a sustainability related volunteer if we can recruit someone

Principal update – John Wallace:

- Leadership groups have been meeting. Teachers select students for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade groups.
- Clubs have been meeting in library – book, crochet, games, film, etc.
- Ending first half of the year – very encouraged by how things are going.
- Working on staffing for next year – will get allocation soon for teachers and support staff.
- Continuing with professional development and have been doing walk throughs with district staff. Have gotten some good guidance and affirmations.
- Celebrating black history month – African American students identify someone they admire during announcements (if they wish). Had a luncheon with African American students and families to build community. Would be great to do earlier in the year to allow families to connect with teachers, families, each other – perhaps form another PEG group.

Principal update – Emily Powers:

- Working on budget and staffing planning.
- Had an assembly to set a goal (being kind) to earn golden falcons. Gave some 2nd graders the opportunity to speak and teachers gave examples of what kindness can look like.
- Continuing to recognize “class of the week” that exemplifies Franklin values.
- Social worker resigned last month to return to Sun Prairie. New social worker (and Franklin parent) started today and will be here for the rest of the year and possibly beyond.
- Tomorrow is Friendship Day. Will have lots of great celebrations and energy.

Discussion with principals:

Discussion on possible increase in population and staff needs for next year.

Randall is trying to get a math interventionist, otherwise does not anticipate a big shift either way with population and staffing.

Act 20 just passed which focuses on early literacy and requires districts to try to eliminate the achievement gap. MMSD is thinking about how they can provide for schools to support this. Franklin has been enrolling new students on a rolling basis all year and Franklin has been advocating for additional support staff.

Staffing will come out Friday. MMSD is aiming for smaller 5k class sizes. There is a board policy "guideline" for class size and we're currently over.

Fundraiser update – Ashley Check:

- Sending out thank you notes
- Total raised is \$7654
- Will have poster with QR code at the Glow Ball (and all events going forward)
- Discussion on thank you to community to cap fundraiser.
- Discussion on how next year's budget will be impacted due to lower contributions.
- Discussion on possibility to have both fun run/rallies in the spring next year and only PTO fundraiser in the fall

Budget update – Lisa Hawk:

- Contributions – budget was \$16k, we raised \$9300. \$7000 deficit
- Parking came in \$3000 over, but funds will go to community giveback
- Interest income is \$1000 over
- Box tops funds go directly to schools rather than coming through the PTO
- Expenses are on track, or a little under
- Overall around \$2000 in deficit for the year

Grants Committee Update – Soumya Palreddy:

Funds are out and clubs are in full swing. Still working on getting funds to one grant recipient.

Discussion on timing for next year. Will aim to kick off earlier so funds can be available before winter break. Previous discussion landed on shifting the window to mid-October to mid-November.

Glow Ball Committee Update – Lisa Hawk

- Committee of 8-10 have been meeting every couple of weeks, led by Katie Hoerz
- Discussion on move from Franklin to Randall, committee thinks layout work better. Dance space is smaller, but food and other activities will move to hallways. DJ will be on stage and there is a plan to block it off.
- Simplifying food options – freezy pops, popcorn, drinks.
- Have lots of West High School volunteers
- Lots of donations

End of Year Picnic

At Brittingham Park on Friday, May 31. Lisa will reserve shelter.

Franklin Playground Committee update – Kemper Smith and Colleen Manner:

Met with Amanda White Consulting, a non-profit consultant who helps coach groups on how to raise funds. We need to form a committee and she will train them. Would require 5-8 well-connected volunteers who would spend a year working with Amanda and fundraising. Her typical projects are \$1-35 million, our project is more like \$.5 million. She brings 100 organizations to reach out to. Fees are \$4,000/month for 3-4 months. We will need a developed design and a few committee members lined up before starting to fundraise. She can start late spring or early summer.

Discussion on proposal. Recommendation to start to put awareness into our community to see if anyone steps forward to work on fundraising committee.

School Supplies – Sarah Levin:

Has been working with secretaries on the supply lists.

Coming Up – Teacher Appreciation:

General discussion.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:56 pm.