

Franklin-Randall PTO Board Meeting
10/8/24 5:30pm
Franklin Library

Attendees: Caitlin Voegele, Mickey Willis, Emily Powers, Vickie Eiden, Colleen Manner, Kemper Smith, Sarah Levin, Ashley Check, Amy Beyler, John Wallace, Lisa Hawk, Ashley Russell, Josie Fox, Kate Freedman. **Online:** Anne Reis, Erika Anna.

Call to order: 5:33pm

Minutes: Ashley Check motions to approve September meeting minutes, Lisa seconds, motion carries.

Principal updates – Emily Powers:

- Franklin students are building independence, excited for upcoming open house
- Spirit Days once a month – first was Sparkle Day, up next is Animal Day
- had a bus assembly to share Franklin expectations on how to behave
- first field trips this week

Principal updates – John Wallace:

- students saw the West High School homecoming parade
- hosted staff professional development day
- working on building sense of belonging at school, lots of new students this year
- Randall had 95% attendance for September, will have a celebration
- Student Success night was a success
- working on enrollment numbers for fall to show staffing needs
- need more staff to respond to situations around the building, hoping to have more staff soon

PEG funds – Caitlin:

- Proposal to reallocate Hmong PEG group funds from budget to form Bayview PEG group.
- Would need \$599 for staff member to run (Tonya and Rachel interested). Budget funds for groups are divided among all PEG groups equally.
- There are only 2-3 students at Franklin that are Hmong. Many Hmong families have left area due to Bayview restoration and the Hmong DBE (Developmental Bilingual Education) program at Lakeview Elementary.
- Current Bayview demographics are very racially diverse.
- Tonya has met with Bayview staff and Hmong BRS to figure out a plan for community PEG group
- Still in ideation stage to figure out how to support other family groups who need it and how that can work with Bayview
- Hamilton has a similar family group at Bayview
- Many families moving in are new to the area and eager to learn more
- Bayview is looking to become a community center for other Section 8 housing nearby, has a strong infrastructure and community, food bank, etc.

Lisa motions to move the funds allocated for Hmong PEG group to form Bayview PEG group and provide PEG stipends for Yvonne, Tonya, Rachel and Ellen, Sarah seconds, motion carries.

Treasurer report – Lisa:

- Paying out initial funds
- Parking is looking like it might come out ahead of budget
- Everything else is on track

Playground update – Kemper:

- Been working with district on how to hire consultants, MMSD recommended local landscape architecture firm Saiki Design
- Saiki Design delivered proposal: would meet with PTO group and community, deliver design options, would attend meetings hosted by PTO, iterate on designs based on feedback and come up with plans and phasing options for \$10,000.
- Will not include construction documents or renderings, but Kemper can provide renderings as a donation to project.
- Firm is aligned with PTO on limited budget and goals
- Firm can be more involved with stakeholder management, but it will save funds if our group runs the meetings
- Need to get moving, aim is to deliver by the end of December to get moving to plan to build in summer

General discussion on proposal:

- The first phase of the project could cost \$200-250k, entire project is likely \$600k-\$1 million.
- The PTO is holding funds that belong to Franklin, the decision to spend funds belongs to Franklin.
- Need to notify summer camps if there is a plan to build in the summer by January.
- Current funds (around \$90,000) came from Flash Dash
- Proposal would be a concrete step forward to help build momentum for fundraising
- Firm recommends a big virtual community meeting in November followed by smaller meetings in person with committee
- MMSD might pay for survey as of right now, but might be willing to offer more support once there's a plan in place
- There are no plans for Franklin in the referendum
- PTO supports Emily spending funds with Saiki, but decision is up to her

Fall fundraiser – Ashley Check:

- Fall fundraiser will go out in folders next week
- Discussion of fundraiser goal. Has been \$15,000-20,000 in the past.
- Plan for printing and distribution

Garden event update – Anne Reis:

- Thank you for PTO support
- There is a script for tours, volunteers lined up
- There will be harvest stations and have donations for cider, apples, squash, popcorn, broccoli, soil, herb gardens etc.
- Discussion on date conflict with Yom Kippur, plan to issue apology for oversight in newsletter

Taskforce for class size support – Caitlin:

- Follow up discussion on class sizes.
- Forming group of parents to work with teachers from both schools, get group of parents to attend board meetings
- Franklin teachers wrote letter to district
- Randall is not out of sync with board guidelines and is reactive to needs
- Goal is to not split classes apart after the schools starts, would prefer for projections ahead of time to allocate staff appropriately
- Current need is for people to research and write a letter, then organize to attend school board meeting in November.

Glow Ball committee – Caitlin:

- Just 4 months away! Will be February 8 at Randall.
- Do not have a glow ball lead, so it will fall to committee to divide the work
- Need to solicit donations, book DJ, etc
- Lisa will lead hats

Screenagers screening – Mickey:

- Recap: this is a 50 minute documentary with moderator conversation pieces about children and screens effect them, geared toward elementary students and families
- Hoping to co-host with some other west side PTOs, waiting to hear back before setting date and finding location
- Film was brought to PTO by parent hoping to build like minded community to delay phones and social media
- Another parent brought up Wait Until 8th Pledge which is about waiting until after 8th grade to get a smart phone
- PTO is not suggesting parents say no to screens, but is looking to provide a place for parents to connect on issues they're concerned about

West Side PTO group – Caitlin:

- Trying to form a PTO group for all of the elementary schools that feed to West to connect and get support from other PTOs.

Lice:

- Discussion on lice at both schools
- Health office at Franklin checks close contacts for head checks after confirmed case, will also check 7 days after they know a child has been treated.
- Communications team has a plan to feature topics for community Q&A, could do a feature on lice

Adjourned: 7:00pm