

Franklin/Randall PTO Meeting Minutes

Date: December 09, 2025 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Location: Franklin Elementary School Library and Google Meet

Topic	Duration	Speaker	Time End
Approve November Minutes	5 min	Susannah	5:05
Principal Updates	15 min	John/Emily	5:20
Events Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Movie Night• MCM Night Date	10 min	Amanda	5:30
Grants Program	15 min	Soumya	5:45
Fall Fundraiser Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Money Status	10 min	Sarah	5:55
Parking - Plan for 2026 and Forward Proposal	15 min	Brian	6:10
Glow Ball	10 min	Mickey	6:20
Playground <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update• Moving Money	20 min	Caitlin	6:40
School supply kits	5 min	Caitlin	6:45

1. Approval of September Minutes (Susannah) - Approved

2. Principal Updates

Franklin (Emily Powers):

Sticking with the routines, in the next couple of days and weeks. Will be some exciting gingerbread gone missing and gingerbread house making activities – this is a fan favorite this time of year. Teachers and staff are celebrating the growth children have made so far this year.

- Kindergarten and 2nd grade makes houses and community pieces
- 1st graders – do foster in some fun but keep their normal routines

Randall (John Wallace):

Both schools enjoying outside recess with snow, asking students to share the snow mounds with each other ☺

Had a visit from Multico – program to celebrate culture through music and dance. There was a school-wide and then classroom based activity.

A Jazz group performed for strings group – visit had both a performance and instructional part to it.

One thing Randall will work on is helping students learn how to be good audience members

Morale is up overall, kids are ready for break but they will miss each other. Teachers are doing a great job keeping learning fun. Spirit week is next week.

3. Events Updates (Amanda)

- Movie Night
 - Friday 12/12, showing Moana 2 6:30pm at Randall, working on licensing items, final piece is the technical piece (dongle needed)
 - Doing a round of social update posts
 - Low volunteer sign up, a couple people signed up for clean up and to serve throughout
 - Recommend asking people to put chairs away at the end of the event
 - Q: Will there be a bill for movie license?
 - A: MMSD has a license that includes Disney, so we don't have to pay from PTO. New, we can't use Disney+ on the school wifi. We have to set up a link from Wwank.
 - Q: Is this meant to be a holiday celebration?
 - A: No, it's meant to be a way to get together in the colder months
- MCM Night Date
 - School fun night at Museum, this is grant funded
 - Any elementary school can sign up for Tues/Wed night – will be on 2/24/26
 - Will have bus transportation to, will have funding available for this (\$500 stipend), last year one bus was empty. Recommend only running shuttle type bus service between Bayview and the museum
 - We can also offer cab rides and can use social justice money for this.
 - On Children's Museum info – there is a room where we can have food, should we ask for donations for food?
 - We've asked Ian's for Teacher Appreciation, so maybe ask another location
 - Will ask some other places

Action Items:

- Need dongle for Movie night
- Look into food donations for Museum night
- Alter plan for Museum night transportation based on past year needs

4. Grants Program update (Soumya)

- 3rd year since Covid doing grants program
- 6 applications and we have total of \$4k, each grant can be awarded up to \$1k

- Put this in the newsletter, sent out a video
- 3 applications from Randall, 3 from Franklin
- Recommending funding 5 of the submissions and we have some funds remaining to potentially fund the 6th
- \$767 unused dollars

(include Canva link with recommendations when available)

Q: Do you reach out to applicants with questions?

A: Yes, Soumya reaches back out with initial questions. Committee doesn't reach back out during the review and recommendation process

Garden submission at Franklin – discussion on recommendation and feasibility. Not sure grant request is enough money to sustain, recommend revisit as part of the playground updates.

Q: Can we connect the requestor with Randall garden manager?

A: Possibly, we can also connect them with the sustainability contact at MMSD

- We ask for receipts and/or itemization of fund usage
- Clubs can ask for social justice funds, promote this on a go forward basis with social workers
- Randall garden, some of the effort is from the Scouts organizations.
- PTO voted to move forward with the committee's recommendation.

Action Items:

- Kindergarten teachers – follow up and see if they want remaining funds
- Soumya to connect back with Franklin garden requestor to get more information
- Inclusive seating grant request – Soumya confirming this is not related to an IEP
- Craft club – use grant funding for families that are not able to cover the fee
 - How will this club request funds based on need? Give the funds up front and if there is remaining funds, can use for extra materials. Ask for some documentation on the funds are used.
- Reach out to Scouts organization to see if they would want to help with garden

5. Fall Fundraiser update (Sarah)

- Goal of \$12,000
- Currently at \$5000
- We are almost \$3000 short on football parking
- We are \$1000 also over budget
- We are about \$10,000 over budget
- Implication will be to not fund line items next year

Lexia and Reflex – In the past district provides some licenses and the PTO funds 1 additional license for each school (~3000k per school). This year the district didn't provide money for licenses for Lexia, schools had to figure out how to purchase this

Have not seen requests for Parent Empowerment Groups funds – we have many thousands of dollars for this. There is not a lot of appetite for PEG groups to meet right now, Bayview community organization hasn't taken afoot yet and might not in the short term.

Q: Did we make videos last year or 2 years ago? Is there a marketing issue?

A: Maybe we can promote year end gift giving, can resend out holiday flyer we used (update for this year's information)

Action Items:

- Send out something to say it's about \$12 per student to meet our fundraising goal.
- Will send fundraising emails to generate more interest and donations to cover the full cost of this
- Will use constant contact for communication in addition to the newsletter

Parking - Plan for 2026 and Forward Proposal

(Brian)

Postponed this to January

6. Glow Ball (Mickey)

- 2/7/26 5:30 – 7:30 – will be at Franklin
- There is not a full group of volunteers for the planning committee
- Hat ladies are retiring, have supplies for another couple of years

Action Items:

- Be more specific on communications for volunteer needs for the glow ball planning

7. Playground (Caitlin)

Update

- Did voting and used the video with Principal Powers
- Interesting to see what kids voted for
- Looked at doing we go round, got proposal and it's expensive (\$80k), moved away from this idea
- Have a way to replace all the old equipment and now have the ability to have more playground
- Sustainability Manager at MMSD feels like we can get grant money for gardens, recommend to reduce to \$10k from 80k
- Fence, moving this and Franklin is not responsible to pay for this and MMSD and the city will pay for this
- PTO/Franklin has to fund and pay for the drain, will go out to bid in February
- Caitlin shared new schematic

- Replacing all the swings, planting trees, moving where adaptable swing is, getting friendship swing, two bucket seats, putting in a wee saw, balance beam, spinner wheel – total for this is \$80,000
 - 📎 Phase 1
- Next phase, getting quantas climber, cozy dome if we raise enough in the spring, we could do this too in 2026. Otherwise into summer or following year
 - 📎 Phase 2
- Phase III – Vola – climber with shade and a lot of high and low ways for kids to interact and has slides
 - 📎 Phase 3
- Kemper made an interactive view with updated vision
 - 📎 Playground Renderings 2025-12 - 2.jpg
 - 📎 Playground Renderings 2025-12 - 1.jpg
- Planning to put in pollinator beds, there was interest in garden at Franklin through the grants program, maybe connect the requestor with this plan to see if there is some coordination for 2026-2027 school year

8. School Supply Kits (Caitlin)

Sarah on PTO is moving and she supports school supply kits, is there a PTO member that is interested in taking this over? It's a low lift.

Action Items:

- Outreach to parents to see if someone is interested

✓ ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

- Promote social justice fund in the newsletter
- Let's Run – looking for volunteers, put this in the newsletter
- Need dongle for Movie night
- Look into food donations for Museum night
- Alter plan for Museum night transportation based on past year needs
- Kindergarten teachers – follow up and see if they want remaining funds
- Souyma to connect back with Franklin garden requestor to get more information
- Inclusive seating grant request – Souyma confirming this is not related to an IEP
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 - How will this club request funds based on need? Give the funds up front and if there is remaining funds, can use for extra materials. Ask for some documentation on the funds are used.
- Reach out to Scouts organization to see if they would want to help with Franklin garden

- Fall Fundraiser - Send out something to say it's about \$12 per student to meet our fundraising goal.
 - Glow Ball - Be more specific on communications for volunteer needs for the glow ball planning
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