Franklin/Randall PTO Meeting Minutes
10/13/2026, 5:30-7pm
Franklin Elementary LMC

Attendees:
Kate, Jennie, Susannah, Brian, Kemper, Ashley Russell, Lynn, Amanda, Principal Wallace, Vicky, Anna, Principal Powers, Ashley Check, Colleen, Sam

Topic	Duration	Speaker	Time End	Actions
Welcome and Meeting Start	10 min	Kate/Jennie	5:40	
Vote September Meeting Minutes	2 min	Susannah	5:42	Post to website
Motion to add Lynne Cotter as co-treasurer	5 min	Lisa/Brian	5:47	Motion approved, begin onboarding Lynne
Principal Updates	15 min	John / Emily	6:02	November meeting - Sown to Grow as topic
One-off Fundraisers • Example: Pasture & Plenty • Are we supportive of fundraisers like this?	10 min	Jennie/Kate	6:12	Jennie to do additional research
Fundraising updates • Fall Fundraiser • Franklin Playground	10 min	Lisa, Caitlin	6:22	Continue promoting the fall fundraiser as planned. Request for students to make thank you signs to use at parking events.

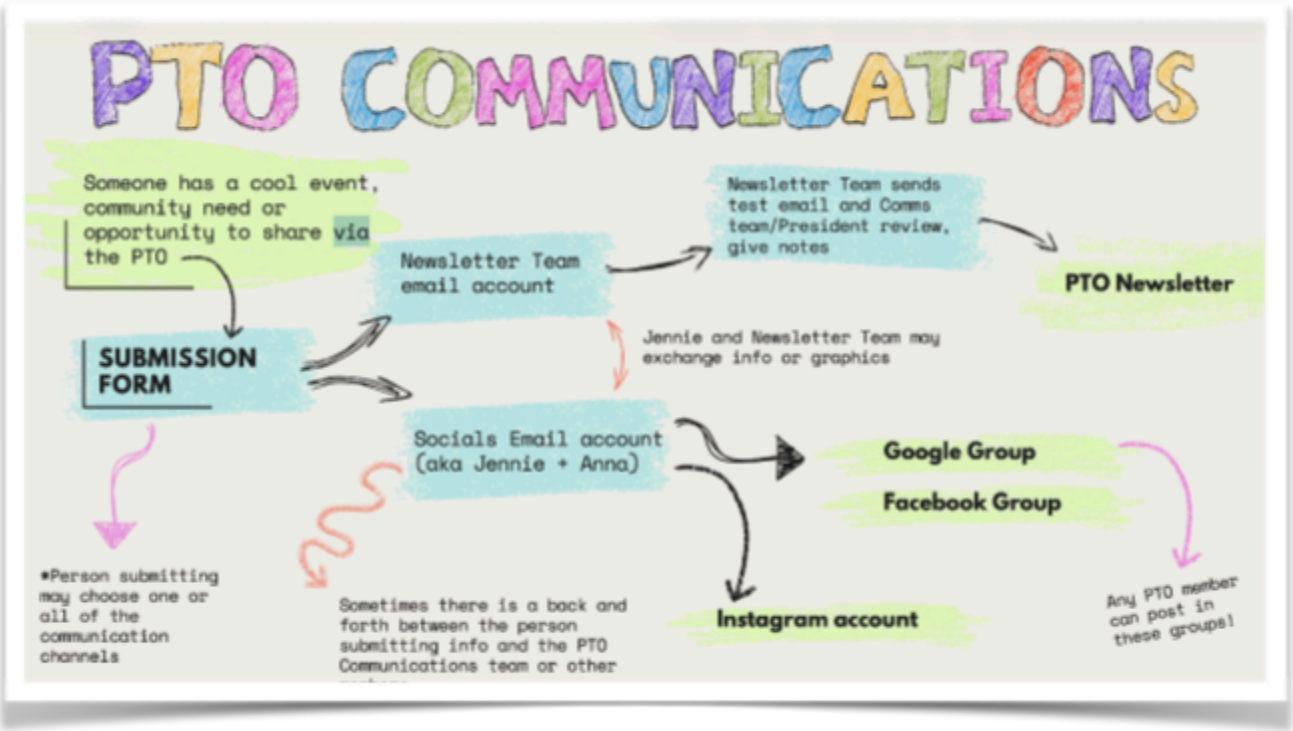
				Contact Ashley Check.
Language translation for flyers & language accessibility for PTO communications in general	10 min	Jennie	6:32	Kate will connect with principals to discuss what the best next step is what is needed for translation and what languages
Update on Work Completed This Summer to Organize Drive and Do Some Forward-Looking Planning	10 min	Kate	6:42	Kate will send out communication and access to the drive for others to add artifacts. Kate to share resource with overview of the PTO and terminology for use with new PTO meeting attendees and volunteers. Kate to send draft calendar/task document to board members, board members to update by December PTO meeting

Additional Topic District Boundaries				Newsletter team to link to website in next newsletter

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Introductions

Jennie walked through the high level PTO communications and workflow and discussed capabilities.



- There is a submission form to submit request for one or more of the communication channel. Initial request goes to newsletter team and socials account team.
- Anyone connected to the google group can send out information, this is also true for Facebook group.
- Having an additional volunteer (Anna) is helping Jennie have more capacity with graphics.
- Sometimes brings in website team (Ashley Russell) to make sure content is aligned.

September Meeting Minutes vote
- Minutes approved, will posted on website

Motion to add treasurer
- Lynn Cotter stepping into Treasurer in Training role.

Principal Updates

Randall - Principal Wallace
- Kids now know what is expected of them and taking ownership of that. Incoming 3rd graders, nice getting to know them.
- Had West homecoming parade last week. Randall students are the main audience and love the candy.
- Had monarch butterfly hatchings recently.
- Taking advantage of the weather, having math, art, and gym outside.
- Getting ready for Randall Relay fundraiser, hoping the weather will be good too.
- Upcoming Teacher professional development - focused on reading program. Working on different strategies on/at reading levels and teachers are collaborating in ways they haven't before.
- Sown to Grow - this is something new and teachers have been working on learning more about it

Q: Is reading program digital?
A: No, it's hands-on and not digital. New strategies are hands-on reading in small groups and individually. There is a cost to implement this curriculum but seems to be worth it. Future PTO meeting, literacy team can come in and talk about this.

Franklin - Principal Powers
- First 6 weeks of school is important time of year where teachers and classrooms are building community. This is about the time students feel like they are settling into their grade level and know their routines, independent group, reading stamina, working together in groups. Also thinking about what it means to be in a reading group.
- Had our first evacuation and fire drill. Used new platform district purchased for us. Don't have to use the real fire alarm, this is disregulating for some students.
- Principal can push a button and there is a voice that repeats this is drill, please evacuate, and follow your teachers directions.
- Drill went smoothly.
- Principal can click a button and get a voice that says "All Clear"
- Will keep using this for other practice drills.
- Fire alarm will go off in event of actual fire
- Last year, switched from actual alarm to Principal making an announcement.
- Also having time to find the fun and joy - had 2 field trips
  - Kindergarten - Schusters Farm
  - 2nd Grade - School Forest to explore and learn about nature and trees. This is in Verona. Hopefully this will be a recurring trip in coming years.

Emily and other staff passionate about inclusion of learners in all of our spaces. Learners show what they know in different ways. Want to make sure all students have a way to represent what they know. Most screeners are orally based so if using ASL or communication device, this is not an opportunity. Over summer created alternate screening tools and have been working on incorporating these. Really incredible to capture and celebrate the hard work the students are doing. Ex. Be able to read a 2nd grade passage and answer questions. Once it's more systematized, will share with other Principals in the district.

November meeting - planning to have a speaker for Sown to Grow

Q: Are there specific pieces of the program that are most interesting? Or is it more of a general overview want we are looking for.
A: It would be nice to understand the differences between the curriculum and the tech pieces. It would be good to know more about the whole package on social emotional assessments.

One off fundraisers

There are quite a few emails that come through from various businesses and restaurants. Last year we were contacted by a recycling organization. The problem is always that it might seem simple and is it worth the time. Do we have the volunteers to support this? Absent a fundraising coordinator, are we open to taking these on?

One recent inquiry was from Pasture and Plenty
- Does this present an equity issue?
- This came up a few years ago with a family portrait photographer and there were some equity conversations.
  - We ended up doing it. There wasn't any feedback, just had a note that this wasn't affiliated in the PTO.
  - Conversation was to frame that this isn't PTO, these are stand-alone events with business we can support. We need someone to manage these relationships.

- 20 years - Fall Fundraiser, had been no fundraiser except parking fundraising. Then fun run started coming in and that was different but realized we would compete with fall fundraiser. Beyond that, it's always been that it's not in principle that we won't be asking for other money outside of these annual fundraisers.
- Could we frame as "this business wants to support our PTO, here's how you can participate."
- Have done pizza nights at Randall
- It is a common way of fundraising
- Could we have an option that when they purchase, could it go into the food pantry?

Q: How much is made from these?
A: Something like 5-10% of the profit for those that identify as showing up for the fundraisers

Do we have someone to organize this?
Want this to be passive and want some guidelines for which businesses, how many

Q: Equity - Is this for students/family or businesses?
A: More about students/family and considering high end pricier product

- There is a perception about this PTO and the ability to raise a lot of money. Parking was one of the focus areas, the result of this is profit sharing with other schools in the district.
- If we are going to spend our resources and time promoting any monetary ask and it should be direct to our schools. If we need to promote will this take away from other fundraiser. Also don't want to have fundraising fatigue.
- We are about to go out to raise funds with playground, want to focus on this.
- Additional Fundraising Idea - could sell food at parking (ex. Pretzel necklace)
- Principal Powers shared some students have raised funds from lemonade stand. Principal Powers will share a photo the next time they donate funds so Jennie can do a social post on this.

Q: What happened to the inquiry about shared funding across district?
A: They will come to the November meeting.

Follow up - Ask Pasture and Plenty for PTO reference to see how this is gone for other schools. Vicky has done this before and will connect with Jennie

Fundraising update
- Lisa shared we have raised $3766 to date.
- Will have a flyer every other week until break.
- Next playground committee meeting is a week from today. This group will push forward and organized into the task force. Have 3 new kindergarten parents that have joined the committee

Language translation
- Yvonne, within PEG group was compensated for the doing translation for flyers
- Parent has volunteered to do the Spanish translations, will help with fall fundraiser content, and then will work on newsletter and go from there.
- There is a parent within the community that speaks Hmong and is also an MMSD employee
- Next step - Kate will connect with principals to discuss what the best next step is what is needed for translation and what languages
- Parent is also interested in helping but not sure how related to Spanish translation and inclusion efforts.

Q: Is parent square translated into Spanish?
A: Yes, it is.

Update on work from this summer

- Kate sent updated draft document to newer additions to the PTO and some seasoned PTO members. It is a reference document for new members. Kate will share this with the board and plan is to put on the website.
- Ms. Rachel organized the PTO Google Drive over the summer. Kate will send out communication and access to the drive for others to add artifacts. There will also be guidance on permissions.
- There is a reference document.
- Kate is creating a calendar by role and month - each task and event with responsibilities. The goal is to be able to make a copy and hand it off to the PTO next year.

- **Ask to the PTO board** - add your role/responsibility tasks each month. Goal is to complete this by the December meeting.
- Anna and Kate offered to compile information so if anyone isn't able to complete the spreadsheet, can email Anna and Kate directly with details.
- Ask - November meeting, show spreadsheet on the screen to show what level of detail is needed. Yes.

Ask - if you have creative kids, can they make a thank you sign to use at during parking fundraiser? Ashley Check will come and pick them up or you can drop off at Ashley's house.

Parking fundraiser update - We had a full lot for the last game and we are on budget for this year.
Ask - if you have creative kids, can they make a thank you sign to use at during parking fundraiser? Ashley Check will come and pick them up or you can drop off at Ashley's house.

- Have a new parking volunteer!
- Principal Powers volunteered for a past game.

Q: Can we have a QR code that would explain where the money goes to?
A: Have tried this in the past, but no one used it.There are little flyers with summaries of where the money goes.

Additional Topic - Draft boundaries
- Kemper -shared the District released updated boundary and is open for feedback
- Follow up - put it in the next newsletter