

Rodgers Forge Elementary School PTA Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Called to order at 6:05pm

1. Welcome

2. Approval of minutes (from last meeting) - Nicole Dobbs, Secretary

3. President's report - Jenni Mumford, President
 - a. Thank you to the community for cookies for Cookies & Cocoa. We received thank you notes from teachers/ staff.
 - b. Buzz Book has been distributed. Thanks to Sarah Roberts, Lauren Crabtree, Courtney Weinstock and Menaka Enten. We had two sponsors this year (Brittany Pedersen-Cummings & Co; Kona Ice)
 - c. School store opens Thursday.
 - d. Wockenfuss Chocolate Sales- They are not able to do an Easter fundraiser. Are we interested in doing Mother's Day? Yes. Jenni has reached out to them and will let us know when she hears back.
 - e. Free State PTA, Former MD PTA & IRS- If we want our tax status, we need to pay dues to the former PTA. The Free State PTA has figured out how to file under DE PTA's group exemption. We are going to file under DE until the Free State PTA gets it figured out.

4. Treasurer's report - Huong Hill, Treasurer
 - a. Starting balance \$25,512.
 - b. Ending balance \$25,110.
 - c. We are positive \$11,300
 - d. Agreed to try to fund raise again.
 - e. Field trips will be starting again. We will budget for \$750/ class. No out of state field trips.
 - f. Chorus Club stipend- How much do we give? We agree to amend the budget to include the updated stipend.
 - g. Due date for Teacher Reimbursement is Spring Break. Ms. Thomas will remind teachers they need to be PTA members to be reimbursed.
 - h. We made money from dinner nights and winter greens.

5. Principal's report - Missy Fanshaw, Principal
 - a. In-state field trips allowed
 - b. Extra curricular spectators up to 50% capacity
 - c. Sports Day will be divided up to 2 grade levels per day and will run over 3 days
 - d. Happy to have school store running
 - e. Catch Up Club on Tues/Thurs will continue up through the end of March

- f. Jump Rope for Heart will be in person at the end of February
- g. Lost and Found- Found a place for a coat rack back by the cafeteria.
- h. It is School Counselor Week
- i. Marianne Lohr is our Teacher of the Year nominee.
- j. Stakeholder Survey is coming
- k. 5th Grade Farewell- We have Towson HS reserved as a back-up plan, but are hoping to have it at RFES on the last day of school in the morning.
- l. SIT Mtg
 - i. Concerns about arrival and dismissal. Students being dropped off from the drop-off lane, can go straight to the cafeteria.
 - ii. MAP testing - Feb 14-March 15th. Reading and Math. It's a predictive test. As students answer questions correctly, it gets harder. Allows us to see where your child measures across the nation. It is also a growth predictor, so we can see if students made their predicted growth.
 - iii. Grade 5 MiSA will be in March
 - iv. Grades 3-5 MCAP in the Spring.
- m. Outdoor lunches- Will start up in April. Looking into having classes eat outside 2x/ week.

6. School Committee Reports -

- a. Lisa Donelan- Math Committee. STEAM Night Feb 17th. Thankful to PTA for helping get volunteers. Over 300 students have signed up. Many staff members have also volunteered. Activities centered around teamwork and the heart. Ms. Tierney and Ms. Dickerson are organizing a Coffee House (Students have submitted a video of some of their talents and that will be shown towards the beginning or end). There will not be a snack.
- b. Peter Holden- Literacy Committee. Black History Month Writing Contest sponsored by BCPS English and History depts. Due Date- Mon Feb 14th. Literacy Committee recommending 4 students for County competition. Read Across America on March 1st. RFES Olympics. Multi-disciplinary unit. Each class is given a country to represent. Students learned about the country in each of their special area classes. There will be an Olympic showdown in PE. The official US Olympics twitter account retweeted the picture of the curling picture from RFES. There was a flag ceremony and a lit torch that went throughout the school (Can be seen on YouTube). Thank you for the Dancing Through the Decades program. The students loved it! Poetry Contest- 55 students entered; 1 winner per grade. Ms. Day had a popcorn party.
- c. Karen Kotapish- Grade Level Chair - March 18th is Career Day, which is a half day. Volunteers will be needed from 8:45 - End of half day.
- d. Mary Alice Thomas- Climate Committee. Different committees have been planning each house party. They have had them outside, in the condos, and now back in the classrooms. They are hopeful house parties can go back to being in the condos. There is a house party tomorrow. Kids love the swag shop.

7. Volunteer report - Tracey Dieter, VP of Volunteers

- a. Valentines Parties- Thanks to room parents for organizing classroom parties.
- b. Room parents- Check in with your teachers to see if they need anything else.
- c. School Store- 4th and 5th grade parents are needed to help. One volunteer each day that the store is open. Thank you Aileen Perrelli for running it. Sign up as an adult first, and then she will schedule your child for the day that you have signed up for.
- d. Still need cafeteria helpers.
- e. Need 2 parent volunteers per class for STEAM Night. Ms. Lark is coordinating the volunteer efforts. 3:40-5:00.
- f. Need event coordinators for Movie Night and the Book Fair. Mr. Holden handles the ordering of the books. The Chair helps set up / break down and coordinate volunteers. May 9-13. Movie Night (May 13th)- Need to find vendor and work on getting the rights to the movie etc. We also need volunteers to run a concession stand that night.
- g. Adult Social- Need more volunteers.

8. Committee & Other reports

- a. DEI committee - Kelly Seidel-
 - i. Asked if she can hold in person meetings. Ms. Fanshaw gave permission for the school to be accessed for an in-person committee meeting.
 - ii. Previously looking at assemblies, but that hasn't been a priority for this year due to covid logistics.
 - iii. LGBTQ liaisons.
 - iv. Still planning a Welcome mural- had been waiting until we could have parents back in the building (we now have permission to do so).
 - v. Still have one session left with Dr. Allison Briscoe-Smith.
 - vi. Looking for a co-chair for the DEI committee.
- b. Family Fun Nights - Beth Prevoneau
 - i. Corner Bakery- Feb 26
 - ii. Taharka Brothers Ice Cream- Apr 18 (orders due) & Apr 21 (delivery to your house) It will be an online link that goes live.
 - iii. Looking for more restaurant Suggestions- Shake Shack & Noodles and Company were proposed
- c. Adult Social- Huong Hill
 - i. Need volunteers to call businesses for auction items and also to help with set up and break down.
 - ii. Will be held at Guilford Hall Brewery in Baltimore. Parking available at the school across the street.
 - iii. We really need help with getting auction items.
 - iv. Still deciding what to raise funds for. Current ideas are:
 1. a portable sound system.
 2. PE materials for inside and outside.
 3. All classrooms could use new carpets.
 4. A fund for classroom/ instructional updates (eg. Promethean board bulbs).

5. Also considering putting money into the Education Foundation of Baltimore which would allow us to access funds when needed, as well as share with other more needy schools in the county.

9. New Business

- a. The Fisher Family (Sadie 8th grade and Christopher 3rd grade). GoFundMe account for Mrs. Fisher who has a congenital heart defect and will be on the transplant list.
- b. Next meeting is in person on March 8th, 6pm.

10. Announcements-

- a. Kona Ice- Hoping to resume the first Friday of March.

Adjourned at 7:20

Attendance

**Michele Rowland
Missy Fanshaw
Tracey Dieter
Huong Hill
Jenni Mumford
Kelly Seidel
Nicole Dobbs
Lisa Donelan
Peter Holden
Mary Alice Thomas
Karen Kotapish
Sara Lee
Courtney Cook
Hailey Harvey
Laura Burgoyne
Monica McGrath
Therese Ku
Beth Prenoveau
Rebecca Kysiak
Desiree Rowe**