

## **Louise Archer PTA**

### **General Membership Meeting**

**October 8, 2014, 7:30 PM, Library**

#### *Minutes*

Attendees: Kerry Blankenship, Stephanie Bollini, Heather Buescher, Ceci Campbell, Priya Chenthil, Tinelle Davies, Mona Eidizadeh, Adele Hubbard, Karen Landwehr, Kelly Stratman

#### I. Call to Order - 7:34 pm by Kerry Blankenship

a. Michelle and Katie weren't able to attend tonight.

#### I. Principal's Report – Reported by Kerry Blankenship

- a. There is a fox living on the school grounds. The school has called Animal Control and they will not come unless the animal is sick. The school contracted with Critter Creatures and they set a trap near the shed by JMHS. The teachers and LA Runners are aware.
- b. Most teachers are offering conferences to their parents during the two-day Teacher Workdays. This is no longer a requirement for the teachers.
- c. If you need to meet with your teachers, their contract is 8:30 – 4:00. Some will agree to meet parents after school, but they are not required to do so.
- d. Jennifer Condra will be back on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Michelle said Katie has done a great job and she will transition back to Marshall Road ES next week. The staff had a luncheon for Katie last week.
- e. Michelle will be going to Camp Highroads tomorrow morning. Katie is going tomorrow afternoon and spending the night. They have had great weather. They come home on Friday.
- f.
- g. Winter concerts are being organized for December and January.
- h. A new bike rack is coming. It will hopefully be in next week.
- ix. Michelle wrote a letter last week to the Town of the Vienna about sidewalk improvements across the street from the school.
- j. Parents have expressed concern about the buses not having enough clearance as they leave the school and turn onto Nutley. Please try not to congregate at that corner as buses are coming and going.

- I. President's Report – Reported by Kerry Blankenship
  - a. It's been a good first month. Good Back to School Night. Great American Fundraiser and Reflections had nice tables. Thanks to the Great American Committee and everyone who helped stuff packets.
    - b. Before and After school classes registration went well. A lot of people were happy with the consolidated process. We owe the committee a big thank you.
    - c. LA 5K is moving along. Tonight is the last night to register and still guarantee a t-shirt. Almost 300 registered as of yesterday. There are sign ups on the website for volunteers to help with packet pickup and race day. Sixth graders are helping with the water stations. Packet Pickup at school on Thursday and at Joe's Pizza on Friday. Will ask Joe's if they will donate a portion of the night's proceeds to the 5K.
    - d. Sock Hop and Book Fair set for beginning of November. Trader Joe's donated 108 cereal bars for International Walk & Wheels Day, which was today.
    - e. Some sign ups on the website for help needed. Junior Optimists are collecting unopened food from the cafeteria and they are looking for parents to help transport the food to a shelter.
    - f. Kindergarten teachers are looking for more help during lunch in the cafeteria.
- I. Treasurer's Report – Reported by Priya Chenthil
  - a. Donations have been generous so far this year. We budgeted \$6700 for the year and have already received \$7600. Many people are adding donations when they join the PTA.
  - b. Before and afterschool registration – We've collected \$19,000 for the fall session.
- I. Old Business
  - a. Minutes approval from June and September meetings was not done due to lack of a quorum. We will vote at the next meeting.
- I. New Business - Reported by Kerry Blankenship
  - a. Parent Seminars Update
    - i. Kerry attended the parent seminar on Mindfulness in Parenting at Vienna ES on Monday. The FCPS Superintendent is rolling out a mindfulness program to all schools in the county. It will start at the high schools and then trickle down to middle and elementary schools.

- ii. We're working with Wolftrap ES who will be hosting a cyber-bullying seminar in December There will be two more programs in conjunction with other Vienna-area elementary schools held in the spring.
- b. Volunteer Openings
  - . There are many Sign Up Geniuses on the website for volunteers
    - i. Still need a Field Day Chairperson
    - c. Skate Night Update
  - . Set for April 11<sup>th</sup>.
    - d. WLA-TV Announcements
  - . The length of time has been drastically shortened. If you have an announcement, it needs to be short. No skits, please.
- I. Program Announcements
  - a. Hip Hop – Reported by Tinelle Davies
    - i. Thanks to the different approach to advertising the extracurriculars, we had a higher number of students enroll in the dance class than any of the prior four times. The class is scheduled to start October 9<sup>th</sup>.
    - b. Reflections - Reported by Tinelle Davies
      - . The Reflections program is a national program where students interpret an annual theme through art. This year's theme is The World Would Be A Better Place If. The art can be a drawing, painting, photograph, film, dance, song, story or poem. We are hoping to have as many students participate as possible in the program. Details are available on the PTA's website on the requirements of participation. We have invited the Vienna Mayor to the reception on November 24th and as of now she is hoping she can make it. That evening the Reception Committee, Principal, Assistant Principal and the families of the participating student-artists will celebrate and recognize every artist. The deadline to turn the art into the drop box in the library is October 15th.
      - c. Thoreau Parent Program Series- Reported by Tinelle Davies
        - . Please note a schedule change for the Social Media Parent Program. It will now be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, November 20th in Warhawk Hall at Madison High School. This is a popular and informative program. We hope you can make it!
        - d. Thanksgiving Lunch - Reported by Tinelle Davies

- . The annual Thanksgiving Lunch is on November 20th. This is a fun event that the students and their families look forward to every year and an easy, fun event to volunteer at! Sign Up Genius will be going out in mid-October. Please consider volunteering for this fun event!
  - e. Yearbook - Reported by Tinelle Davies
- . Yearbook Committee is looking for a grade representative for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. This person will coordinate the third grade pages in the yearbook and make sure each class is represented in the candid pictures. Send an email to [yearbook@louiseacherpta.org](mailto:yearbook@louiseacherpta.org). if interested. Also looking for volunteers for picture day. A Sign Up Genius is on the website.
  - f. Sock Hop – Reported by Heather Buescher
- . The Sock Hop is November 7<sup>th</sup>. It is a Community Event this year, so there is no admissions charge, though food will be sold that night.
  - g. Book Fair - Reported by Tinelle Davies
- . Will take place October 30th through November 7th (ends evening of Sock Hop). October 30 and 31 are preview days. We will need volunteers to help staff during the week. A Sign Up Genius will be on website. Also, we're doing the used book sale this year and are looking for book donations (anything except board books). Please drop off book donations in the library.
  - h. Loyalty Rewards – Reported by Kerry Blankenship
- . We made \$229 from Amazon for September

Our next meeting will be on 11/12/14 at 9:30 am.

Adjourned at 8:10pm.