

November 30, 2018 PTA Meeting Minutes

Call to Order at 9:35 am

Principal's Report

- Please take a look at the Gratitude Tree up front. The art teachers created a beautiful tree and each child had a leaf to describe what they are thankful for.
- Please consider nominating a teacher or staff for an outstanding staff member award through FCPS. The next step, is a school level committee who decides who get submitted to the pyramid. And then the pyramid decides who to move forward to the region.
- Officer Jacobson is working on a buddy program, where the Police Department can get in and engage students on a regular basis. If there's an event we want her to come in, she will work it in the schedule.
- Lauren Wagner - Junior Optimist Club leader, is working on a milk donation program. During the week, there's a little fridge, in the cafeteria, where milk unused by students, can be dropped off in fridge and then they donated to a shelter. They need some parent volunteers to help collect milk and drive them over to the shelter. Can PTA post something on the website, and send a Sunbeam and create a sign up genius?
- Coat drive is underway, through SCA. Please consider donating over the next few weeks.

Treasurer's Report

- Louise Archer 5K, total revenue was \$12,750, netting ~\$7200. This is in line with last year.
- We have a high cash balance because we still need to pay for before and after school program costs
- Before and after school programs are not a fundraiser - it is a service to the community

President's Report & Program Announcements

- Ornaments
 - Cathy Hardman, a former parent, came to us to offer ornaments hand crafted by Vienna Historic Inc. The profits from the ornaments will go toward the Louise Archer archives maintenance program. If you interested buying, go to the website to order. The ornaments are \$20 each.
- Cookie Carry
 - Annual staff holiday cookie carry will be on December 10th. More info and SUG is on the website.
- Skate Night
 - Will be on Saturday, February 2nd from 6:10 - 8:00 at Reston SkateQuest.
- Science Showcase
 - Showcase will be Tuesday, March 5th, the setup day will be March 4th.
- Box Tops

- Toth's class was the winner of the Fall 2018 Box Tops contest with 884 box tops. Ms. Harris' class came in second place. We collected over 3630 box tops this fall. Good news! A check should be arriving to the LAES front office sometime in December. Please continue to submit box tops over the holidays as there will be a spring contest coming up.
- Rewards Programs
 - As you are shopping for the holidays, remember to link your Amazon account to the Louise Archer PTA, and shop using smile.amazon.com.
- Sunshine Committee
 - In addition to the birthdays, in September, we welcomed two babies. In October, we celebrated the bus drivers and crossing guards. The committee had water bottles customized. They turned out really cute.
- Sunbeam
 - To advertise in Sunbeam, please remember to:
 1. Send out your blurb by end of day Thursday to guarantee a run in the following Sunday.
 2. If you want to advertise for multiple weeks, you may put all text in a single document and send them all together.
 3. Most importantly, if you don't get an acknowledgement of your submission, please email again. Chances are your text hasn't been seen and will not be added to that week's or future Sunbeam. If you sent multiple emails with texts, please look for acknowledgement for every email with content for sunbeam. Again, please follow-up if you don't hear back.
 - Website
 - Please let us know if you are interested in doing the PTA Website with Jennifer O'Beirne next year and then taking it over the year after that.
 - Sock Hop
 - The 2018 Sock Hop was a success! The event was very well attended, and we ended up making a bit of money (though the Sock Hop is a "community event" and not a "fundraiser", so this was an added bonus). Everything went really smoothly, and we have already begun taking notes for next year to ensure that we keep making changes as needed. We used the same DJ as we have in previous years, and the kids had a great time dancing and playing games. We were pleased with all of the parent volunteers, and used some 8th graders as volunteers as well. Special thanks to Patty Elmas for stepping and taking over the 6th grader portion of the sock hop. If anyone has any comments or questions, please feel free to contact Erin and Karen.
 - Cultural Arts Assemblies
 - We have arranged that the cultural arts assembly is also set on a new date because of the snow day: Friday December 14 (Grades 1,3,4,6 at 9:30 and K,2,5 at 10:30). Then Cello Fury will come and perform for the kids. Cello Fury are three classically trained cellists and a rock drummer performing high-energy original music that fuses together classical and rock genres. In their show "Melodies, Moods and Movies" they will take

the students on a journey from the silent film era to today's blockbusters. Cello Fury helps students discover how and why movie music tells a story and creates an emotional response.

- On March 27 Billy B. will perform his show "Ways of the Bay". "A Billy B. show is kinetic learning – from mimicking the slide of tectonic plates with legitimate “moon walking” to pretending to be photosynthesizing leaves, Billy B. and kids all over the country have sung and danced their way to a better understanding of the natural world."
- Parents are welcome to attend, they can sit in the back.
- Reflections Reception
 - 28 students participated, and the reception was well attended. The students got t-shirts as their prize this year.
- Faculty Volleyball
 - Is on March 9th, which is a Saturday. The costs are more expensive this year because the clean up over the last few years has needed extra help
 - If anyone can help with this event, please reach out to Leslie Maffeo.
- Book Fair
 - Was very successful this year. Total sales were \$18,700. Which is notable because the total student population has decreased
 - 68 low income students got books ~(\$880). This year there was no limit to the voucher amount.
- Spirit Wear
 - Sales this year are already higher than last year's total sales. They have lots of sales and free shipping throughout the year.
- Dining for Dollars
 - Social burger is 12/5
 - Panera in January
- Teacher Appreciation
 - Thanks to all the parents that donated food and items for the November Stock the Fridge. It was a great success and well appreciated by the teachers.
- Before and After School Programs
 - The chairs are working on winter spring before and after school program, which will be mainly the same as fall, but a few classes that were canceled in the fall due to low enrollment won't come back.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15am