

**Louise Archer PTA  
General Membership Meeting  
December 9 2015, 9:30 am, Teacher's Lounge**

Attendees: Sarah Berry, Kerry Blankenship, Sarah Bohn, Heather Buescher, Tinelle Davies, Mary Franceschini, Cathy Hardman, Gergana Jostova, Elizabeth Lucca, Michelle Makrigiorgos, Huyen Pham

Agenda

I. Call to Order - at 9:33am by Kerry Blankenship

II. Principal's Report

Thank you to the PTA for everything you've accomplished in the short time period between Thanksgiving and Winter Break. The Reflections reception was wonderful as was the Thanksgiving Luncheon. Our teachers are very excited about the mini grants. The items are already being used in the classrooms and we are so thankful.

If you have questions or needs, please reach out to the classroom teachers. They are there for you and want to address any concerns or needs. Of course, Jennifer and I are also here for you.

Thank you for the great job you're doing on communicating the FCPS budget. I know that a lot of the schools have banded together to get the messages out. It's really important to have your voice heard. You have many opportunities to speak.

III. President's Report – Kerry Blankenship

We've had great events over the past month. Thank you to Danielle Somers and Jennifer Riddle for the Thanksgiving Luncheon. The cookie carry went well yesterday thanks to Claire Marble. The teachers were so excited. We are looking for new chairs for Thanksgiving Lunch and all of the steps have been beautifully laid out. Reflections had a great reception.

Ice Skating is at SkateQuest the last weekend in January on that Saturday night. We will be publicizing open positions more after the first of the year. We are looking for candidates for President, Vice President and Secretary.

Our PTA Holiday Party is next Wednesday evening at 4:00. Please stop by if you can.

IV. Treasurer's Report – Gergana Jostova

We're doing great relative to the budget. The LA5K raised \$1000 more than budgeted. The Spirit Wear raised more than we had hoped. We are still looking for donations for the Armchair Fundraiser. We're at \$12,000 and we're hoping for \$25,000. We spend over \$100 per child and if you haven't donated, please do so. If we do not meet our goal early in 2016, we will have a spring fundraiser.

## V. Old Business

### a. Minutes approval – November

Mary Franceschini made the motion and Heather Buescher seconded. Motion approved.

## VI. New Business

### a. Budget revisions

i. Increase Spirit Wear to \$3000. Mary Franceschini made the motion and Heather Buescher seconded. Motion approved.

ii. Reflections increase due to increased participation. Motion to increase budget to \$900 by Kerry Blankenship. Seconded by Gergana Jostova. Motion approved.

## VII. Program Announcements

### a. The Sunshine Times – Sarah Bohn

We're having a meeting on 12/16 from 6:00pm – 7:00pm. We're open to having Spanish language columns. The first issue will come out in February and the submissions are due January 15.

### b. International Night – Sarah Bohn

Friday, March 4th at 6:00 in the Cafeteria. I'm proposing that we cap the number of countries at 20 to keep everything in the gym. Deadline for choosing country is 1/22. Organization meeting for people participating is 1/27. Families can get together to represent one country. Some people do their heritage and others do countries they want to learn about.

### c. Reflections – Mary Franceschini

The Reflections Committee had a reception with 200 people in attendance to celebrate the students and their art. With 102 entries and students from every grade level, we had the largest number of students participating in our Reflections program this year than ever before. The 13 winning entries have advanced beyond Louise Archer to be judged against other winning entries from local Fairfax County schools.

### d. Science Fair – Laura Plante

Will take place Tuesday, April 5th.

### e. Loyalty Rewards – Robyn Ngyuen

Giant Food rewards at \$645.37 to-date. Amazon rewards are currently at \$1099 as of Dec 5th. Keep using our link for holiday shopping!!

### f. Pizza Bingo – Elizabeth Lucca and Colleen Monahan

Will take place Friday, February 19th. We're looking for a new emcee and Michelle will send an email to the staff to see if they are willing to split the duties and call for specific periods of time that night. Withers Hurley and Jennifer Riddle will run the pizza again.

g. Safe Routes to School – Cathy Hardman Parents are responding to the survey on the website which is geared to families with kids who walk to school. Mary is working directly with the town on a few options regarding the design of the sidewalk across the street from the school. Sally Smallwood would like to come into the school in the spring and talk to the kids about bike

safety. She can give us helmets and reflectors and we also talked about the need for another bike rack.

h. Yearbook – Huyen Pham

We had 22 submissions for the yearbook cover contest.

i. Square 1 Art Fundraiser – Cathy Hardman

Children can produce a piece of art and parents can have it duplicated onto mugs, shirts, placemats, etc. We will have to talk to the Art Teachers to see if they can fit this into their schedules. Most recently, Room Parents ran the program with assistance from the Art teachers.

Adjourned at 10:28am.