

February 12, 2020 Louise Archer PTA Meeting Minutes

Location: Library

Call to Order at 7:33 pm

- **Principal's Report**

- We've seen a lot of rainy days lately, which has made recess hard, but we try to have students go outside anytime there are breaks in the rain.
- Thank you to the PTA for the last teacher work day Stock the Fridge. The teachers really appreciated everything.
- Pizza Bingo was another great success. Teachers will be in touch to those who won experiences through the silent auction within the next few weeks.
- Renovations
 - FCPS has acquired the architects for the design phase of the project. We had a kick off meeting recently. The architect will come to the building to look at the layout and the land surrounding and gather data. The plans will build to a capacity of 700.
 - The design phase is one year, so will last from February 2020 – February 2021.
 - Once the Architect has surveyed the building and land, we have a community meeting for input (likely in the spring) and a committee will be formed.
 - Feb 2021 – March 2022 will be the bidding and permits timeframe, and then construction will take 18 months. Once construction happens there will be no night events during the construction phase, so next year the PTA will have to think ahead about those events that typically occur in the evening at the school. They may consider allowing after school activities, but this is still to be determined.
 - There will be a slight overlap with Madison's construction, but we are told there should be minimal impact from the overlap.
 - More information to come in a future News you Choose
- Illnesses – we have seen an uptick in flu and strep cases, but after looking over the data, we haven't been hit as bad as some other schools, and are actually doing better than previous years. When a classroom is hit, the custodial staff takes extra time to do additional wipe downs of the classroom.

- **Treasurer's Report**

- We need to increase the budget by \$500 for the 6th Grade Celebration. The vote was motioned and approved.

- Membership fees and donations are down, primarily to a reclassification of some funds to memberships and a decline in the student population.
 - Community events show a profit, but this is because the book fair revenue hasn't been transferred to the Library yet, once that is done, the net will be closer to zero.
 - School support is down because we did not renew licensing on some programs, but we are planning on using the extra funds to purchase new tablets for the school. The school is currently working on these purchases.
- **President's Report & Program Announcements**
 - **Survey Results**
 - Thank you to all the parents that took the survey, we got some very good feedback. We are currently working on incorporating speakers for the next and future meetings. Regarding school interests, STEAM and Technology had the most votes, followed by counseling services. For parent services, information about how to protect kids who use technology was of top interest followed by study skills/focus/keeping attention. We are working with Rachel Bailey to see if she can come in to talk about the later. We are also working on seeing if someone from the School board can come and talk about their work. If you have any other comments or suggestions, please reach out to Kristin Herrmann.
 - **Open Positions** – we have 3 positions we are looking to fill now:
 - **Treasurer**
 - This is Roger's last year as Treasurer and so we are looking for a new Treasurer for next year, but ideally would like someone to start shadowing the rest of this year, to take over for next year. This position is a 2 year term.
 - **LA5K need 2 chairs**
 - We **urgently** need 2 co-chairs for the LA5K. Planning needs to start around May in order to secure a date for the race and a timing company. Then there is a big lull until August.
 - **Before and After School Programs**
 - We are looking for 2 more chairs for the Before and After School Activities team.
 - We are looking for an additional volunteer to either help organize some of the activities, and/or someone who is near the school from 4-5pm who can help with some of the day to day when needed. For example, when one of the vendors cancels a class or just doesn't show up, and we need to help the school get the word out and get kids home etc. Currently both chairs work during the school day, and most of time not close to school, so when

something goes wrong with an after school activity it all falls on Kathy and the school staff to resolve it.

- Basically we have seen that the activities coordinators role is year round including all summer and we need a little more help.

■ **Nominating Committee**

- We need 3 people to serve on the nominating committee. This committee meets in the spring to help fill the vacant positions.

■ Please reach out anyone on the board if you have questions or want to volunteer. More open positions and their descriptions to come!

○ **Teacher Appreciation Week**

■ Is May 4th-8th. Regan will be sending an email to the room moms about a meeting soon. Please feel free to reach out to her if you are interested in helping.

○ **Locks**

■ We are collecting combination locks so that the 6th graders can practice using the locks before going to middle school. If you have any combination locks you'd like to donate, please drop them off (with the combination code attached) at the front office or at Kristin Herrmann's house.

○ **Faculty Volleyball**

■ Louise Archer vs Wolftrap teacher and staff volleyball game will be on March 21st at Madison High school. Doors open at 6, game starts at 6:30. We met with Wolf trap last week and will be meeting with the Volleyball committee next week. A signup genius will be coming out soon. Reach out to Abby Shannon if you have questions or would like to help out!

○ **International Night**

■ It is time to sign up to participate in this year's Louise Archer International Night, which will be held on March 6 from 6pm to 7:30. We are looking for 18 slots for country displays. We are limited to 18 displays due to the size of the cafeteria. Sign up is first come first serve. When signing up, if a country has already been claimed, do not create a second sign up for the same country. We would also like to have 4 student greeters to help distribute passports and trivia questions during the event, and we need help with set up and clean up. Contact Leslie Wood for more information.

○ **STEAM Fair**

■ Will be held on Tuesday, March 24th, during the school day and from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. This year, you will be able to register online! Signup sheets will also be available in the classrooms from Monday, February 10th till March 19th. STEAM fair still needs a lot of volunteers. Please go to the PTA website for the signup genius.

- **Skate Night**
 - Skate Night was a great success with 187 skaters this year. Next year's Skate Night is already scheduled for January 9, 2021. We will try to have group lessons available next year.
- **Dining for Dollars**
 - Our next dining for dollars is tomorrow, February 13th all day at Mod Pizza
- **PTA Teacher party**
 - is February 19th @ 4:30 pm
- **Box Tops**
 - We are down on box tops, primarily because of the new system collecting receipts rather than clipping box tops. Receipts are really easy to scan via the box top app, or if you prefer to submit your receipt, just drop it off at the Pink mail box, and Karen Meade will scan it in for you. The next box top collection drive is going on now.
- **Pizza Bingo and Silent Auction**
 - Pizza Bingo was a great success. We changed the layout of Bingo this year and brought in tables and chairs, which encouraged the parents to play more. We made about \$2800 on Pizza Bingo and \$7000 from the Silent auction.
 - We would really like more parent involvement with donations next year. Some thoughts include baskets made by each grade or experiences offered by parents.
 - We got mixed reviews about not having the raffle this year, so we will work on trying to incorporate some kind of raffle again next year. Please reach out to Sneha Mody or anyone on the Pizza Bingo/Silent Auction team if you have ideas for next year.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm