

**Freedom Elementary School PTA**

**Meeting Minutes, May 5, 2022**

**I. Call to Order**

Virtual meeting due to COVID-19. Lori Coon, Co-President, calls to order the virtual meeting of the Freedom PTA at 6:30 p.m. on May 5, 2022.

**Attendance**

The following individuals are present at the meeting: *Jessica Smith, Lori Coon, Becky Clemens, Jane Castner, Melissa McGuinness, Courtney Seitz, Liz Rosenberg, Karice Parada, Stephanie Otterson, Karen Barnes, Stephanie Lihvarchik, Ashley Schall, Todd Souder, Allison Steele, Katherine Farrar, Rahul Chaudhary.*

**II. Motion to approve minutes from April PTA meeting. Approved.**

**III. Old Business Review**

- A. April Spirit night earnings (Becky C.): Seafood Legend \$102.76, Pizza Boli's rounded up to \$100 (we didn't get flyers in time), CFA \$487.70. Another CFA this week, total pending.
- B. Casey Cares- Did really well, sent out CFA cards out today for those that donated. We collected around 75 pajamas.

**IV. Board Reports**

- A. Treasurer: Rahul Chaudrey: Reimbursement submissions should be submitted by 5/31. Any expenses b/w 6/1 and 6/10, should be submitted by 6/10. Therefore, everything can be processed and checks dispersed by 6/12. We will request that all checks be deposited by 6/20 in order to clear by 6/30, as our financial year ends 6/30/22. Ms. Castner will send out reminder to staff regarding the dates for reimbursement deadlines. Extra forms are on top of mailboxes if needed.
- B. President Report: Becky C.: Reptile World came to school and had glowing reports of the students. The kids really enjoyed the show.
- C. Principal report: Jessica Smith: Teachers are loving Teacher Appreciation Week. We are in the middle of MCAP testing. Looking forward to Play Day. Everything seems to be returning to normal and looking forward to a smooth end of the school year.
- C. Assistant Principal (Ms. Barnes):
  - 1) Mr. Tozer is worried we won't have enough volunteers for Play Day. He may need to move volunteers around to cover certain stations, which he is hoping he doesn't have to do. We sent out another sign-up and it appears we have filled some more slots. Many openings for kindergarten and prefer a volunteer does not have a student in the class they volunteer for. In need of donations of newspapers.
  - 2) 6<sup>th</sup> grade orientation at ORMS. Scheduling conflict but will be advertised on FB and Sway. This is a parent orientation. Info being sent out tomorrow.

3) Reminder: Any events coming up, the volunteers need to be volunteer trained. Jessica will send an email reminder to the volunteers.

4) Thanks everyone for the lunch today and everything that the PTA has done for staff.

- D. Teacher Report (Ms. Castner): Teachers have loved teacher appreciation week and really appreciate everything that has been done! She reports how much the field trips are costing. The PTA has contributed \$5 per student for the last 20 years. With prices going up, she asks that the PTA perhaps increase the field trip budget for next year. \$5 does not go as far as it used to. The transportation has increased drastically. A trip being planned right now is \$17 for the students, but transportation is causing it to be doubled. PTA will move around some funds we have left over to help with this trip, and plan to increase for next year. She will update the amazon wish list for end of year and start of next year. The PTA closet is now empty. PTA will be purchasing some of the items needed. **Tissues are desperately needed now if parents can donate!**

## V. New Business

- A. **Spring sale at Buppert's through 5/31**
- B. **Upcoming spirit days:** (Becky) 5/12, 4pm to 7pm Ritas; 5/16, MOD Pizza
- C. **Paint Night:** 5/6, supplies have been purchased. Reservations only. We have sold 96 tickets. (100 limit). Community Service hours will be given for student volunteers. (Sign up genius is posted)
- D. **Hershey Park tickets:** Tickets will be distributed at MOD Pizza night and Paint Night and 4-5pm drive-thru in parking lot prior to paint night. We will also have a table set up at the playground ceremony. Contact us if none of those dates work for you.
- E. **Spring Spruce Up 5/14/22:** Mr. Richard has worked a lot around the grounds and it looks great! Drinks/snacks will be provided. Service Learning Hours will be available for student volunteers.
- F. **Spring Playground Ceremony 5/19/22 (Lori):** We have worked with Deb at Buppert's and we are purchasing flowers for all of our big donors, along with a box of cookies (around 38-39 big donors). If the donors are not present, those flowers will be donated back to the school and be planted on the school grounds. We have chosen flowers that will be low-maintenance and some shade. Invitations have been sent to the donors, and no RSVP is needed. She thinks maybe half will show up. Ms. Castner advised outdoor school is donating some native plants and seeds, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will plant.
- G. **Chalk-the-Walk:** Not many people came to chalk the walk, so perhaps 5<sup>th</sup> graders can do that next year! Ms. Castner advised she could make that happen.
- H. **Play Day 5/27:** (Rain date is 6/2) Jessica has reached out to Liberty for student volunteers during the day. The Liberty PE teachers are coordinating with Mr. Tozer.
- I. **Stem Fair 6/1:** Still looking for judges. PTA is purchasing the medals for the participants. Danni Healey is in charge of the Stem Fair this year.
- J. **Kindergarten Celebration (date?):** Need 3-4 parents to help check people in.
- K. **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic 6/8:** We will need 5<sup>th</sup> grade parent volunteers from each homeroom for set up, tear down, drinks, snacks, decorate, from 11am-2pm. Need to be volunteer trained.

- L. **5<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotions scheduled for 6/10.**
- M. **End of Year Party 6/11:** Merritt, flyers will go out very soon. Limited capacity. Waiting for response for Merritt. Serving pizza, picture booth will be there. Indoor/outdoor pools open, gym, and kid's corner.
- N. **Benches:** Three (3) 8-foot blue benches have been purchased and will be situated around the playground. Approximate shipping date is 8/19. The brick installation company will work with the bench company as to where they will go.
- O. **Brick Installation:** A few companies are interested, and we have asked them to send in proposals/drawings/quotes by 5/13. Once received, they will be sent to CCPS purchasing. They will decide or return to us for a vote.

## VI. Committee Reports

- A. **Teacher Appreciation Week:** (Karice) Everything went smoothly, but a mix up today with the lunch from Nora's. Candy Buffet was a huge success (especially the gummy bears!) Decorations, Snack cart, treat in mailboxes today, all staff got a poster for their door, Donuts tomorrow. She got a lot of great feedback from the teachers. Spin-the-Wheel in staff room with gift cards.
- B. **NexTrex Recycling:** (Melissa) We submitted 4,456 pounds of plastic and won a bench! We were #6 in Elementary schools and #8 in the Nation of 686 total schools! NexTrex collected a total of 323,586 pounds!!!! We hope to do this again next year. Even if not to win a bench for OUR school, we can try and win a bench for the senior center or humane society, etc. Jessica notes this bench will go in the garden area, and the 4 Nextrex benches she purchased will go in the front. Melissa notes she had fun and looks forward to next year.
- C. **Bingo:** (Stephanie Otterson) Sold just under 400 tickets, total profit was about \$5,500. Everything went smoothly and fun had by all. Volunteers stepped up and everything was cleaned up within 30 minutes. Stephanie has documented everything into a comprehensive package for future reference. (Companies, prices, etc)
- D. **Hershey Park Tickets:** Sold 940 tickets, distributing throughout this month.
- E. **Yearbook:** Presold 393 yearbooks. Last two years we presold around 350. They have shipped and are at school. They will be handed out during the last week of school. She ordered 30 extras for those that may have forgotten. (mostly soft cover, some hard cover) First come, first served. Email Ashley if you still want a yearbook and forgot to order. \$9,200 in sales. Profit is usually between \$2,000 to \$3,000 . Melissa offered to make a square link if needed for any extras. 5<sup>th</sup> grade has priority. Ms. Barnes notes that some parents don't have internet access or facebook, so a square link may not be feasible. If a check is received in PTA mailbox, we will send a photo of it and send to Ashley.

VII. **Chair Positions**

- A. **Reconciliation Committee positions have been filled.** (3 individuals) Meeting with them in next few weeks
- B. **VP position is still open.** Anyone interested, please contact a board member.
- C. **Square Store:** Melissa still willing to head up the square store. Hopefully someone can help with merchandise. There is now room up on stage to store the merchandise, and we can then easily pull out for events.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm by PTA Co-President Lori Coon. Minutes submitted by Melissa McGuinness. Next meeting scheduled for 6/2/2022.