

FBMS PTO General Meeting
April 27, 2017
6:00 pm
Student/Community Center

Attendance: attached

Agenda: attached

Teresa Montgomery, President, calls meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

Amy Adams, Parliamentarian, declares quorum is present.

Secretary Report - Laura Carter

Presented minutes from the January 26, 2017 general meeting. No corrections or changes were noted, minutes were accepted as presented.

Parent Involvement Coordinator Report - Tim Weltin

Reports that the new community center has been completed, spent about \$65,000 in renovation costs. New furniture has been ordered for \$25,000.

Shares that the new incoming 6th grade class should have between 410-425 total students with 125 Vanguard students.

May 3 school will host a Coffee and Ice Cream social for parents/students. There will be 2 sessions with Mrs. Moak and Ms. Livas.

May 4 there will be a parent meeting for rising 7th and 8th graders regarding high school courses.

May 5 is the Beach Party dance being held after school.

Poem in Your Pocket event was held today.

Hoping to have a volunteer appreciation event on evening of May 22 for all FBMS volunteers, Mr. Castagnoli is planning to cook the dinner.

President Report - Teresa Montgomery

Teresa informs membership that they need to vote on the slate of candidates approved and submitted by the nominating committee.

Slate of candidates submitted by the committee is:

President - Amber Caver
1st VP for Education - Ed Muth
2nd VP for Fundraising - Carrie Botello
3rd VP for Community Building - Amy Maddux
Secretary - Sindee Bielamowicz
Treasurer - Ken Covington
6th Grade Representative - Nicole Weaver
7th Grade Representative - Jill Davis
8th Grade Representative - Leah Salinas

Alex Nett motions to approve the slate of candidates presented for the FBMS PTO officer positions for the year 2017-2018.

Dianne Holliman seconds.

All in favor.

Motion passes.

Teresa shares that a new committee has been created called the Mentorship committee.

Kat Creech, Mentorship committee chair, introduces herself and shares with the membership the purpose of the new committee.

She reports that the committee is seeking to support and mentor new incoming 6th grade students and families to ease the stress of the transition.

Shares they will be rolling out during Panther camp and will be seeking volunteer mentors to be paired with groups of homerooms.

Teresa Montgomery reports that the PTO will be creating a Color Run committee to handle the event for next year. Seeking volunteers to head it up. Going forward it's going to be more of a recruiting event for new families instead of a fundraiser.

Shares that the 60th anniversary of FBMS will be celebrated on Saturday August 19 and school will be seeking volunteers to help with the event.

Reports that there may also be a new Facilities Beautification committee.

Requests that VPs report on any committee openings.

Next general meeting will be held on May 18 at 8:30 am, followed by Coffee with the Principal.

Treasurer Report - Amber Caver

Distributed and reviewed updated **2016-2017 FBMS PTO Budget** and **Financial Activity Report from 1/26/16 – 4/26/2017**: see attached.

Shares that revenue from the auction is about \$49,000.

Shares that the auction had raised money from auctioning off parking spots for 6th, 7th and 8th grade. The money raised needs to be given to the school so membership needs to vote to cut the check.

Amber Caver motions that the PTO cut a check for \$525 to the school to forward the funds raised auctioning the parking spots for 6th, 7th and 8th grade.

Jill Davis seconds.

All in favor.

Motion passes.

Teresa Montgomery shares that she spent her funds for the president's project on a bench for the athletic field.

Amber Caver reports that since the last meeting the unused funds from the teachers' grants were rolled over into the general grant fund. The PTO paid \$5000 towards the repair of the Steinway and the school funded the other \$5000. The grant committee has a remaining \$1154 and is planning to use the funds to place new graphics in the community center. Shares the list of all grants approved on the **FBMS PTO Fall 2016 Grant Application** : see attached.

Amber shares with the membership that the PTO can designate two tax-free events each year under our non-profit status. The PTO needs to approve those dates , would like the dates to be the auction date as well as delivery date for pre-sale shirts.

Amber Caver motions to make August 22 and February 3 as the two designated tax-free events for FBMS PTO.

Teresa Montgomery seconds.

All in favor.

Motion passes.

The treasurer's report is accepted as presented.

Principal Report - Paolo Castagnoli

Reports he is currently interviewing for teaching staff for next year. Will be adding 4 new positions.

STAAR numbers that have been received back so far look good.

A member asks whether the school will be adding additional foreign language classes.

Mr. Castagnoli states that he is not sure yet if they will add another language besides Spanish. Confirms that there will be no plans to have school be a dual-language middle school.

1st VP for Education Report - Sindee Bielowicz

Informes that she is currently looking to fill Co-Chair position for Teacher Appreciation committee and the Library Chair position.

Reports that the Love Your Library campaign raised \$4000 plus \$700 in a title match. In addition FBMS received \$4000 from HISD board trustee Rhonda Skillern-Jones.

Poem in Your Pocket Day was just held and well received by students.

Alex Nett, Teacher Appreciation Chair, shares that the Teacher Appreciation committee is gearing up for Teacher Appreciation week the first week in May. There will be a Paris theme and there will be five different activities each day of the week. Monday crepes will be served to the teachers. Plan to send out sign up for additional donations needed. States they will have croissants Tuesday, quiche and salad Wednesday, dessert treats Thursday, and Friday will have party favors. Seeking a co-chair for next year.

Tim Weltin shared that Career Day went very well this year thanks to chair Nancy Greig. Says she did a great job of recruiting good speakers.

Also shared that Ms. Moak has ordered many new non-fiction books for the library with the LYL funds.

2nd VP for Fundraising - Carrie Botello

Reports that the current open positions she has for committees are Dance Chair, Fall Fundraiser Chair/Co-Chair and Tailgate Chair.

Carrie Botello motions to have membership approve funds in the amount of \$450 to be used by Auction committee for a deposit for the venue for 2018 auction.

Amy Maddux seconds.

All in favor.

Motion passes.

Member asks if there is any way to better communicate the open committee positions. Discussion ensues regarding the Facebook groups and PTO newsletters as forms of communication. Generally agreed that communication is a challenge and PTO should continue to brainstorm communication ideas.

3rd VP for Community Building - Dianne Holliman

Reports that PTO memberships for 2017-2018 are on sale online on the PTO website.

The FAQ's have also been added to PTO website.

May have t-shirt sales up by next week.

Shares she has cleaned up the newsletter mailing list and has obtained approximately 120 new emails from signing day event.

Informes that a new PTO Facebook page has been created for FBMS class of 2020.

Reports current open committee positions are Website, Newsletter, Media Relations and Color Run.

Dianne Holliman motions to add the Color Run as a line item to the FBMS PTO budget.

Tim Weltin seconds.

Discussion ensues about whether or not to have a starting budget approved also.

Dianne Holliman motions to add the Color Run as a line item to the FBMS PTO budget with a starting budget amount of \$1000.

Alex Nett seconds.

All in favor.

Motion passes.

6th Grade Representative Report - Jill Davis

Shares that she will be connecting with the incoming 6th grade representative.

7th Grade Representative Report - Karen Smiley

Currently doing a check-writing fundraiser, not sure where we stand yet with money.

Not sure where the students will be going yet for end of year field trip, will depend on the amount of money raised.

8th Grade Representative Report - Meredith Sipes

Not present.

Teresa Montgomery shares the dates for upcoming 8th grade events:

May 12 - 8th grade dance

May 19th - Fiesta Texas field trip

May 25 - Promotion ceremony

Reminds 8th grade parents that only two tickets per student will be offered for the ceremony.

New Business

Kat Creech, Mentorship Chair, shares with the membership that the committee hopes to help facilitate communication and support for new incoming 6th grade families.

States that her plan will be to present to the SDMC committee next year in hopes of making it a school-wide initiative.

Tim Weltin shares that he thinks the current PTO is doing great things and continues to improve communication for the school.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by Laura Carter