

FROST PTA MEETING MINUTES
March 10, 2008

Attendance: Marti Jo Jackson, Lisa Rampino, Loren Brandman, Donna Greer, Regina Printz, Maryann Stawowczyk, Jane Ohashi, Lori Sharn-Bryant, Ann Stokowski, Rita Manfredi-Shutler, Barbara Kelley, Jingai Fu, Kim Seo, Wendy Williams, Lynn Mulvey-McFerron, Emily Slough, Magie Medsen, Lauren

I. The meeting was called to order by Donna Greer, PTA President, at 9:20 am.

II. The minutes from the February PTA meeting were unanimously accepted as written and presented.

III. Principal's Report - Marti Jo Jackson

Welcome to new comers and veterans. There are no serious discipline issues to report. Reminder of appropriate dress code, especially as the weather is getting warmer. Inappropriate dress can cause a distraction in the classroom. Offenders are reported to the guidance office, who work with the student to correct the situation. Refer to the Fairfax County Code of Conduct/dress code. The spring can sometimes bring an higher incidence of pranks, such as flagging or pantsing, this results in a one day suspension.

S, R & R were recently reviewed in the classrooms.

A big thank you goes out to the parents of 8th graders for getting their children to school on time last week on the SOL testing days.

Reminder that the children need to be settled in their classrooms at 7:25 am, please have them arrive by 7:20, so they have time to go to their locker, etc. before heading to class.

Lisa Barrow was welcomed back & Jane Cooke was thanked for her months of service as a substitute while Lisa was out.

A substitute has been lined up for Katie Mankin, who is having twins. Bree Melton has been co-teaching w/veteran Frost teachers.

In January, moms from the Korean community prepared a feast for teachers and staff during the January teacher's work days.

A couple of KIT e-mails were sent out last week regarding a Wakefield Chapel incident which occurred on Saturday, March 1. There was minimal feedback from the community w/regard to the event. The original info was gotten from police communications, community relations and WFES principal, Sheri D'Amato. After further police investigation, a clarification KIT e-mail was sent out to the Frost community. KIT e-mails of this nature are approved by Fx. Ct. Police.

IV. Assistant Principal's Report - Anne Stokowski

Thanked everyone for coming. The first batch of SOL testing, the 8th grade writing section, was last week. Thanks to Ms. Metzker's meticulous planning, all ran smoothly. After the testing the students returned to a 2hr. delay schedule. Planning is already underway for next months SOL testing.

The rising 7th grade orientation was last week, many great questions were asked. Frost MS has an open door policy w/regard to questions and answers.

Reminder that cell phones are not allowed to be used during the school day and extended to after school activities and the buses per Fairfax County policy. This was discussed during the recent S, R & R review with the students. Cell phones must remain off and out of sight, they can be used

outside of the building, after regular school hours. Once they are taking away, they will only be returned to the parent.

SLEEP proposal came out last night and will be submitted to the Board for review.

V. Faculty Report - Wendy Williams

The 8th grade field trip to Washington, DC is slated for this week, March 11th. Explorers and Seekers, along with their chaperones will meet at 8:30 to review the days activities. All are to bring a bag lunch and are encouraged to bring minimal carry-ons. On March 12th, the Atoms and Galaxy will meet after 2nd period for the start of their field trip. The trip includes a scavenger hunt around Capital Hill, as a way to get to know the nations Capital.

Mr. Schlobach did a dry run and has the proper controls in place w/regard to safety and security. All students will be given a t-shirt the morning of the trip to wear, for easy visual recognition. March 14th at 7pm is the drama production; Spring Break is next week, the school office will be open Tues., Wed. and Thurs. There are no after school activities on Friday, March 14th; The book fair will take place March 31-April 4; Frost Family Festival is Thursday, April 3rd; April 7th is a teacher work day, no school for the children; April 11th report cards will be mailed home.

VI. Treasurer's Report - Loren Brandman

Bingo raised over \$3300. We are currently looking for someone to run the event for next year. A summary of the PTA Grant expenditures are included on the back of the monthly treasurer's report.

The treasurer's report was approved as presented.

VII. Committee Reports

Barbara Kelley reported on a Nationals ticket sale. The game is set for May 3rd, game time is 1:05, against the Pittsburgh Pirates. In order to get the reduced group rate, 100 tickets must be sold. It's to be advertised as a "Family Fun Day", tickets are \$9.00 each, with a suggested \$3.00 addition to consider it as a PTA fundraiser. The ticket sale will be advertised on E-Facts, the morning news and fliers. Transportation to the park is not included.

Susan Sabin, this years co-chair of Bingo, will consider taking on Bingo again next year with the help of another volunteer.

VIII. Old Business

The Music Department's Grant request of \$2500. was deferred to this month. Ms. Penserga revised the request, it'll now be used towards individual and small group sessions.

Approximately 500 chorus, band and orchestra students will benefit from this. The instructors will be volunteers, among the candidates are retired music teachers. All volunteer instructors will go through Human Relations and require a background check, finger printing, etc. before being able to work in the school with our children. It was decided to get more detailed information on the workings of the program, with the executive board making the final decision of whether or not to allocate the funds, not to exceed the original \$2500. request.

If Grant money is not spend within the time allotted, it returns to the PTA treasury.

IX. New Business

Approximately two-thirds of our current committee chairs will be leaving Frost after this year. Let Donna Greer know if you are interested in heading any of the vacant positions. Some of the positions available for next year are PTA President, PTA Treasurer, Bingo, Book Fair, Spirit Sale, E-Facts, Web Master and Hospitality.

Fairfax County FY09 Budget update: The Braddock District Coalition is made up of elementary, middle and high schools. A panel meeting is set for Wednesday, March 16th at Annandale High School, starting at 7:30 pm. Sharon Bulova and several Braddock District School Board members will be on hand. This will be a question and answer forum.

Ways in which the budget cuts can affect Frost Middle School: an increased class sizes resulting in the lose of 2 or more full time teachers. A change in the summer school program, 3 weeks, down from 5, with fewer able to participate, with an emphasis on literacy and math only, rather than on the four core classes. A possible decrease in funding for after school activities, not only the academic intervention programs, but also the fun stuff. Debbie is in the third year of setting up programs where the kids can get academic enrichment and fun activities, in a safe environment.

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for April 14th at 7:00 pm.

X. Adjournment - Donna Greer

The President thanked everyone for coming. The meeting was adjourned by Donna Greer at 10:36 am.

Following the meeting, a Parent Panel was conducted to answer any questions brought forward by rising 7th grade parents. Among their concerns were, how to obtain information about the school and activities (sign up for KIT, you don't have to have a child in Frost to receive our info), late bus schedule, lockers, getting to class on time, school supplies, lunch, electives, after school activities.

Respectfully submitted by Regina Printz, Frost PTA Secretary