



FCS Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) General Meeting Minutes

February 7, 2023

Attendees

- Attendance: Lydia Parris (President), Jennifer Renkema (VP), Karen Lecy-Alvarado (Secretary), Paul Lowe (PTO Treasurer), Martha Arteaga, Mel Masta, Erin Crowley, Nicole Brigner, Kelly Herndon, Michael B, Jennifer Barnes, Thelma Hayes, Darielle Hobson, Mrs. Hobson, Pat Fisher

Call to Order

- FCS PTO meeting was called to order at approximately 7:02pm by Lydia Parris, PTO President, virtually (zoom) on February 7, 2023
- Opening prayer led by Jennifer Renkema, PTO Vice President

Year-to-Date

- Mrs. Parris thanked all PTO members & FCS parents for their participation in all of this year's many PTO supported activities
- Year-to-date activities included, but were not limited to: membership drive, room parent program, Fun Run, movie night, holiday staff events (breakfast, raffle, gift cards, & sweet treats), ongoing library support, used uniform sale x 2, donuts for teachers back to school, ongoing refreshment of the teacher lounges & more

Room Parent Program Update

- Mrs. Renkema reported that the room parent survey was launched to both parents and teachers
- A gift card raffle draw will be performed for those who complete their room parent surveys
- To date, approximately 18 teachers & 12 room parents have turned in forms
- Once all forms are in, results will be discussed during a future general PTO meeting
- Some feedback may require Mrs. Renkema to follow up with teachers/room parents directly, as needed
- Room parents are encouraged to contact the PTO board members with any questions or concerns as well

Committee Reports

Staff Encouragement Committee

- Erin Crowley, chairperson, reported that electronic birthday cards are continuing to be sent on a monthly basis to FCS staff members
- The upcoming event includes the drink/snack “Heart Cart,” which is set for Monday, Feb. 13th
- The “Heart Cart” will include drinks and light snacks to be delivered to teachers/staff members around the building
- A signup genius has been sent to PTO members/FCS parents to request assistance with volunteer efforts for the cart; a flyer has been sent to teachers/staff to inform them of the event
- The next event will include the Easter bags for staff before spring break; more details to follow
- The next committee meeting (via zoom) is set for February 21 at 8pm

Fundraising Committee

- Martha Arteaga, chairperson, reported that this committee continues to collaborate with the Events committee
- The used uniform sale in January raised approximately \$724
- The yearbook ad sale launched this month via Mrs. Vislay’s weekly newsletter (email); FCS businesses are encouraged to purchase ads to display in the yearbook & contact Mrs. Arteaga with questions or for purchase
- The next fundraiser is set for Friday, March 31st with Kona Ice; students will have a ½ day of school this day, and volunteers will be needed to assist with ensuring safety with the lines/crowds
- The Spring Fling date is still set for May 20, 2023 (rain date June 10, 2023) at FCS; the committee is working on adding more activities in addition to the dunk tank
- The shoe fundraiser is still being discussed & more information will follow at a later date

Events Committee

- Mel Masta, chairperson, reported that the FCS Spring Auction will be canceled, however, there will be a gala instead
- The date for the gala will be Friday, April 28th & some details include: dining, music, silent auction, sponsors for table displays; Mrs. Arteaga will assist with décor
- The committee is seeking information on local Jazz artists or those who play instruments who may be willing to donate their time to the event; a PTO member suggested requesting assistance from the Springbrook HS Jazz ensemble (local high school)
- The PTO will kindly seek volunteers to assist during the upcoming events & PTO representation will be encouraged

Membership & Nominating Committee

- Per Lydia Parris, this committee is seeking the help of the entire FCS community to nominate members for the board next school year

- Each position is no more than 2 years, though elections are annual & all members must be nominated & elected
- PTO is encouraged to contact Ginny Lee directly with questions or nomination requests

Financial Update

- Mr. Lowe reported that he is continuing to track withdrawals & deposits, as needed
- The current balance of the PTO funds are approximately \$8,795
- Financial updates will continue each month

Other PTO Business

- Ongoing library needs: Mrs. Groom is still in need of ongoing assistance in the library; a sign up genius link launched last month & has been sent out school wide with date/time frames where parents can sign up to volunteer during the week
- On the weekly school newsletter, it was mentioned that Mrs. Groom is seeking separate assistance for those who are willing to take boxes of books home to tape using book jackets (approximately 300 books total are needed to be done); all supplies/instructions are given & interested parents can contact Mrs. Groom directly to pick up boxes
- The library will host another used book sale in the spring & will be seeking book donations for the sale; one PTO member reported that he does have many books to donate for the cause
- The PTO board is continuing to work on a form for teachers/staff to request for additional items above & beyond the budgeted items; decisions on how to vote for these items will be decided soon & the form is expected to launch this spring 2023, if possible
- A “bottom dollar” used uniform pants sale will be launched this spring to continue to raise funds for the PTO

Open Forum

The purpose of this forum is to address any questions or concerns from PTO leadership and PTO members alike.

- A PTO member reported a concern that her child’s class took a test in the 3rd quarter on work that was taught & reviewed in the 2nd quarter, which lead to her student’s grade in the 2nd quarter being negatively effected
- In response to the above concern, it was suggested that the parent discuss this concern directly with the teacher & administration; it was also noted from a FCS teacher present during the meeting that sometimes tests are not given at the end of a particular quarter since it does not give students ample opportunity to improve that grade (as needed); another suggestion is that all grades are due on a particular date for each quarter & grades cannot be entered after the due date unless for extenuating circumstances
- A PTO member asked whether FCS has a girl scout troop & other members reported that there is not one at this time at the school
- Another PTO member suggested that the parent refer to the girl scout website or she will assist him in determining where his daughter can attend a group for her age in the area

- Pioneer girls may return to FC bible church, which is a Christian version of girl scouts, & may be an option for the future

Closing/Adjournment

- Closing prayer by Lydia Parris
- This meeting was adjourned by Lydia Parris, PTO President, at 8:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Karen Lecy-Alvarado, PTO Secretary