

MINUTES

Felix Festa Middle School PTA

Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7-8 PM | Meeting called to order by Laura Pestone

Board Members L. Pestone, S.Wold, K.Ottenheimer, H. Fagan, S. Humbach, E. Yuen

Administration – M.St. John, C.Madigan, D.Mitchell, S.Lercher, J.Schatz, M. O’Casey, A.M.Hastings

Total Zoom Participants: 35

FFMS January PTA Meeting- 2/10/21- 7:00 PM

Meeting ID: 982 7334 7694

Passcode: 584669

PTA

PTA President Report presented by L.Pestone – Parents have shared positive feedback on the interactions and support of the guidance counselors. PTA committee positions need to be filled for next year, reach out to PTA for an opportunity to shadow a current committee member now.

PTA Treasury presented by K.Ottenheimer –Budget updated to include 8th grade t-shirts expense of \$3,786. Fundraising steadily contributing to budget, e.g. monthly checks received from DeCicco. Student Assistant Counselors (SAC) budget of \$1500 to assist students in need.

Fundraising presented by L.Pestone – Valentine’s Donut Fundraiser pickup on February 13th, 4:30-5:30, location in email sent to those that ordered the 48 dozen donuts. Sweet and Salty Gourmet Cookie fundraiser planned for March.

Reflections presented by S. Small – Congratulations to the students who have moved up from Regional to State level judging:

Shane Ripps (Visual Arts)

Kathleen Ottenheimer (Literature)

Ella Yomtov (Literature)

Spiritwear Report presented by L.Pestone – Online Store to open from February 23 through to 1st week in March. Variety of items available to include warm and cool weather gear, face masks, etc.

Scholarship Report presented by A. Gottlieb – In process of confirming Readers from last year to participate in this year/s program. Applications due March 15th. Readers will have 3 weeks from March 17 to review applications. If interested in being a Reader, you must be a current PTA member, you must not be a reader for any other PTA scholarship and not have a senior in high school. Send an email with your interest to felixfestapta@gmail.com. Last year’s (2020) scholarship winners:

North Scholarships: Academic: Daniel Kurland, Achievement: Tarik Ahmed, Service: Daniela Krasny

South Scholarships: Academic: Julia Zhu, Achievement: Megan Bonagura, Service: Jack Butler

Dianne Basso Scholarship: Abigail Poleway

Council Report presented by S. Humbach and C. Heidelberger – Council discussed quarantine period down from 14 days to 10 days; Review and evaluating 6 ft. distance protocol; Discussion with BNL to complete

photos/retakes; Instructed vote passed (10 scholarships for North and South), \$750 invoice will be sent to FFMS PTA; Discussion on what can be done with distribution of PTA flyers; Superintendent Cox answered the questions raised by the Ed Panel.

Ed Panel presented by K. Ulrich – Discussion of guidance counselors experiences. The Ed Panel meeting raised questions but administrators not present to answer.

FFMS Administration Report

A School Report presented by M. St. John, C. Madigan – Yearbook important deadlines: Feb. 22 – Portraits and Baby photos, no middle school retakes scheduled before Yearbook due dates so you can submit your own portraits. Email yearbook team if you have questions about submissions. Boosters are up to 3 messages, 200 character limit which includes spaces, punctuation. Extras ordered will be limited quantities.

C School Report presented by D. Mitchell, S. Lercher – Productive full day conferences, parents have opportunity to conference on 2/25 and 3/4 for evening slots- TEESO portal is open. Counselors are busy with course planning with students for 6th and 7th grade. Counselors will hold 3 lunch time meetings with students 2 weeks after the February break. FAQs will be collected and published along with links for Counselor office hours. Student logs (with courses) will be sent home on 3/8 and 3/9. Waiver process will follow and close on or around 6/1. Counseling office will work with families to honor reasonable requests.

D School presented by J Schatz, M O'Casey– 8th graders had their H.S. presentation on 1/25 & 1/26. 8th grade students need to submit their H.S. Art and Music selection by Friday, 2/12 using the link sent in an email. Since H.S. counselor assignment is not made until the summer months, any questions about high school courses should be addressed to their 8th grade counselors and the counselors will coordinate with H.S. counseling office. Cohort A 8th grade received their t-shirts today and cohort B received it last week. Students are encouraged to wear their shirts Friday, 2/12 8th Grade Shirt Day. Yardgrams and Balloons approved for 8th grade graduation.

M. St. John reviewed 5th to 6th Transition Timeline & Events – 5th Grade students will watch course selection video in class week of 2/22, Parents to receive virtual orientation 2/24 and FFMS Admin will host Q&A 3/2, 8th Grade Ambassadors will virtually visit with 5th graders in their classrooms in lieu of trip to FFMS. Student Orientation is planned for week of August 23. The intention is to continue to offer a Boot Camp option in the summer. IEP students will have courses selected during their regular review, the presentation video will have a section to cover special education classes and AIS.

Festa Administration Presentation

“Looking Forward to 2021-22- Part II” presented by D. Mitchell.

Next Meeting

Next meeting scheduled March 10, 2021.

Motion made to approve meeting minutes from January 13, 2020, seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.