

## 10.13.21 FFMS PTA meeting

---

### Call to Order

**Approval of minutes-** per Laura Pestone and motion to approve minutes from last meeting approved, 2nd and third- all in favor. Minutes are approved.

- Many committee members have youngest children as 8th graders; positions will be opening. Go to the website to see what will be available. Reach out to friends who may be interested

### Treasure Budget Proposal and Vote

- Honor Fagan-
  - Dr. St. John posted link to the budget
  - Nice starting balance
  - Membership, spirit ware and fundraising, hoping to bring in approx 15,000 (guesstimate) based on what has happened in the past
  - Expenditures - lowering some of the operating costs
    - Scholarships - in the past weren't same amount, this year, all equal amounts
    - Operating costs - grade activities; 8th grade car parade, cultural parade
    - Took out a few things from last year,, based on other categories
    - Hoping to up fundraising and lower costs
- Kept all of the expenses hoping we can keep pre-covid activities
- Scholarships - worth the same amount; 7 scholarships \$500 across the board; 3 to north; 3 to south bound) - to see where the bulk of the money is going
- Motion to approve - Susanne Humbach makes a motion to approve
  - 2nd
  - All in favor, yes
  - Approved - Budget Passed
- FYI if you click on Sept. you can see income and expenses, questions, please refer to Honor Fagan
- Speaker came into the middle school, came in this year (kids have been talking about it, cultural arts expense)
- FYI fiscal year ends June 30th
- Student Center - gaming system for the new center
- 8th grade ambassador t-shirts
- 92 staff members have joined the PTA

### Committee Reports:

- Membership -
  - Almost 100 staff members joined, which shows great commitment
  - This year, FFMS won the Early Bird membership Award from the NY State PTA association based on the membership signed up before October (HOORAY!) - get a patch, put on our letterhead.
  - Anyone who joins by Oct. 31st, 2021, entered into a Raffle for FFMS spiritwear bag, as of this morning, 284 members. This number is going up (still need to input, will be 300+. Target was 372 based on last year's number).
- Fundraising
  - Great American Cookies Fundraiser -
    - Last day, this Friday
    - Good turn out with sales so far
  - Noricina's in NC, \$138 (first fundraiser of the fall)
  - Next: Carousel Cakes for Thanksgiving
    - Should come out next week
  - More ideas coming soon
- Council
  - PTA council is made up of all of the PTAs in the Clarkstown school districts.
  - Met with Acting Superintendent Sobel
    - Waiting to hear what we are allowed to do; support given
      - Handouts by the school
    - Consistency important - events we are doing
      - Outdoors
      - No large gathering
      - Smaller field trips are happening
      - Elementary may be doing things at Festa
        - Reminder - 1/3 capacity
    - Ed Panel
      - Disbanded; revamping
    - Need to send S. Wald website link and that the Officers are updated
    - PTA council Scholarship
      - Readers from every unit
        - Two readers from FESTA (one North Bound; one South Bound)
    - Reflections deadline:
      - Dec. 4th Midnight for judging
- Spirit Wear
  - Taken off this year
  - Two stores
    - \$1666
    - Missed deadline \$443
    - Over \$2100 total

- First store - nominate a faculty member (vendor's idea, morale booster) - Mr. Mollino, won \$200 gift card to the store
  - Next store will open in about 2 weeks; possibly a holiday store
    - Printer is short staff, supply issue (like all over)
  - Pick up - with the cookies - anyone who hasn't picked up yet: Oct. 18th 5-6pm; email will be sent (make sure to check spam folders, but will also be on the facebook page)
  - Overruns are being sold online; memberhub store
- Scholarship
  - Ready to be released to the guidance counselors in both high schools so students can begin applications
  - Scholarship Committee - recruit readers and scoring; rewarding; scoring is done online and anonymous; interested? Email the ffms PtA; or talk to Elizabeth at [elizabeth\\_yuen@yahoo.com](mailto:elizabeth_yuen@yahoo.com)
    - You can only be a reader for ONE UNIT (i.e. elementary only or FESTA only)
    - And you CANNOT have a student who is a Senior
- Reflections - Theme "*I WILL CHANGE THE WORLD BY*"
  - Flier went out with the PTA email (forms, rules)
    - 6 categories; Students can create whatever they like to go with the theme
    - No submissions yet, but still have a few weeks, will be judged by a panel; top two go onto regional judging

## **New Business/Questions**

- **Questions**
  - **Reflections Flier** - a parent did not receive, can it be resent? Yes
  - 8t Grade information (trip?)
    - Not yet; will have information soon, possibly boulders

## **FFMS Administration Report:**

Dr. D. Mitchell and Dr. M St. John, Principals

- Introductions of admin and teachers
  - Diane Mitchell
  - Christine Madigan
  - Scott Lurcher
  - Nicholas Pappas
  - Max O'Casey
  - Ann Marie Hastings
  - Tim Ferraro
  - Matt Royal

- **Reminders of Communication**
  - Weekly email blasts
  - Newsletters (two so far)
  - Links to PTA meeting
  - Calendars
  - Twitter posts (share good news)
  - School website
    - Main page, scrolling images and the events for the month
    - Daily announcements
      - Clubs
      - Sports
      - Upcoming events
      - Whatever is read to the students that morning; updated midday
  - Quick links - daily lunch order forms; extra help; clubs
  - Student Center
  - “No Place for Hate”
    - What went into the Day?
      - Presentation to Homerooms
        - Lunch; classrooms
        - Great impact
        - Training with the ambassadors
        - Sent the video (able to view and share)
        - Inclusive message, positive, impactful
        - Spreading kindness
        - Revisiting this as a message
  - Fall Sports
    - Intramurals are open to everyone, less competitive, range from Sports to activities, no tryouts
    - Interscholastic - sports that start in 7th grade and competition between the schools
  - ENL - *English as a New Language* services
  - School Pictures -
  - Pink Day coming up
    - Students wear pink
    - FFMS sell things
  - Halloween-hope that all of the teachers and students can dress up
- **Report of What’s New**
  - Not exactly new, but now that we are back to the building....”Be Your Best Self” theme
    - Interview it into conversations and activities
    - See it throughout the year
  - Move towards 1:1 devices

- Every students has their own chrome book
  - Reminders that every student charges their devices are charged and bring daily
  - Google classroom - teachers still posting here
- New School Counselor added to staff
  - 7 total, Mrs. Katherine Reynoso
    - Working with ENL
    - PEC Students
    - Homeroom will consist of a 4 week rotation
      - Activities will cover
        - RULER (social and emotional)
        - No Place for Hate
        - DEAR (Drop Everything and Read)
        - Monthly Organization Activities
          - Locker
          - Technology (students struggle with email)
  - Student Center
    - Open in the morning before school
    - Different classes can come down and use as rewards for students
    - Foosball
    - Ping pong
    - Basketball
    - Board games
    - Big hit
    - Lunch periods
      - Groups of students
    - Limited number of students
    - Hundreds of students already have been accessing
    - Special programs - huge hit
- New Structure
  - Used to be a 3 Principle model
  - Now two lanes under the two principles
    - Dr. St. John ----- Dr. Mitchell
    - Main idea to have continuity
    - Have the same principle; same school counselor, psychologist, etc.

Next meeting - November 10th, 2021

**Presentation- Welcome Back**

**Upcoming PTA dates (see website)**

## **May 11th 2021 Founder's Day**

### **Announcements**

- Parents/Students may check daily announcements on the school WEbsite: [ccsd.edu/ffms](http://ccsd.edu/ffms) as well as Twitter: [@ffms\\_Falcons](https://twitter.com/ffms_Falcons)
- Be sure to check the FFMS PTA facebook page and WEbsite [ffmspta.org](http://ffmspta.org) for updates and info on upcoming PTA events
- Contact PTA via email at [flexifestafpta@gmail.com](mailto:flexifestafpta@gmail.com)