

Forest View Elementary
Virtual via Zoom
PTA & Steering Team Minutes
December 14, 2020

MEETING ATTENDANCE: See below
MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:03 P.M.

Welcome - Liz Snyder

How are virtual room parents going?

Angie Smith served as room parent with Ms. Hall's class and shared that it went really well. The students enjoyed having the extra time to just talk with each other. They are possibly planning some chats over the winter break.

Approval of November Minutes

Motion to approve minutes - Liz
Seconded by Kathleen Graves
Motion carried.
November minutes approved.

Treasurer Update - Brian Fannin

Encouraged staff and teachers to request funds. We have not spent as much as we typically have at this point in the year and our \$100 classroom grants are being underutilized.

We will have another window of PTA grants that will open in January for larger expense items and will notify teachers and staff about new submission deadlines.

Please coordinate any technology grants with Ms. Stone and Mr. Sennett.

The PTA Board will meet to discuss a revised budget based on what has been spent so far and the funds we have received to date. We will reapportion expenses and present this to the full membership in January.

OPENED THE FLOOR FOR QUESTIONS AND COMEMENTS

Ms. Moore thanked the PTA for a block grant that was received and commented that once teachers know more about what quarters 3 and 4 will look like we will probably get more requests.

Ms. Graves stated we will not have a Book Fair this year but encouraged teachers to consider using First Book Marketplace to get classroom books. Posted their website in the chat.

Addressing new school needs with re-budget of PTA funds - Liz Snyder

We are looking at what is not being used because of the different situation this year.

When we planned our budget we did not know how long we would be in remote learning so it was difficult to determine how to best utilize funds. We also were not sure how much support we would get from our Unfundraiser and Spirit Nights.

Since we have not used a lot of the specials funds, we are talking with the specialists about what they need. We will possibly re-allocate some of these funds for other purposes or preparing for next year.

We are looking to add more to the technology line so the Media center can get a new computer.

We are looking at getting non fabric chairs to replace those that had to be removed from the building

We plan to have funding to support the Parents of African American Children (PAAC) subcommittee that is forming.

Administrative expenses have been a little higher than in the past since we are doing more mailing.

Let us know if you have seen other needs at the school or for students and we will see if and how we can support these needs.

Staff Grants Update:

We will do another round of staff grants in January or February.

Things that we funded in the last round were online books, teacher accounts /upgrades for online learning programs, programs for multi lingual learners and piano keyboards for the music room because they can be shared and played more safely than recorders.

Time capsule /5th grade legacy project - Ms. Graves

We have a time capsule at FVE. Maybe we could dig up the time capsule and catalog what is in it. We could then select two student representatives from each 5th grade class as ambassadors to collect new information about what to put in a new time capsule.

Ms. Graves is coordinating with Ms. Lindsey to discuss the idea with other 5th grade teachers.

It would be a way for our 5th graders to have something unique to them during this unique year.

Ms. Lindsey had an initial discussion with the 5th grade team and they will talk again at their next meeting.

Mr. Barnhill thinks it would be really cool to dig it up and see how items have evolved. Our 5th graders could try to mirror what they put in 20 years ago based on the equivalent today as well as add new items.

Principal Update - Principal Clay

Discussion of Plan B

There is a chance that Plan B may not happen because of the way our numbers are going. Currently it is highly unlikely that we will return in January. We still must have a plan in place but the numbers are going in the wrong direction.

Questions that were submitted in advance were posted and Principal Clay address those.

Q: If you chose remote will you go to Ignite immediately.

A: yes

Q: Will Ignite use the same platforms?

A: We know they will use Canvas but we do not know about Seesaw.

Q: How will testing happen in Ignite?

A: As it stands now the law says EOG's must be given and they must be taken in person. DPS Board is against this and they are trying to find a work around. However as it stands now it would be in person testing. But it is likely to change if the legislature intercedes.

At Forest View we are meeting with different teams to make sure everyone understands Plan B and to address any concerns from parents and staff.

Q: If an in-person class is small could kids attend four days per week.

A: No. We would not have enough space. We are currently at 50% choosing face to face and 50% choosing Ignite with about 80% of families responding.

Q: What will AIG look like?

A: The District did not go in depth about AIG. We will need to make some decisions at FVE based on when we know how many kids are face to face and what teachers are back in the building.

Q: What time will school start and end?

A: No decision has been made yet. Likely that our start time might move up to 9:00 a.m. or even earlier because all schools might be on the same bell schedule.

Q: Will face to face kids have 1 hour for lunch?

A: No it will not be a full hour for lunch. We will piggy back recess because we know it is important to get kids outside.

Q: Is the decision made on January 7 the decision we will stick with for the rest of the or will numbers be monitored for possible changes?

A: The School Board always has the right to revisit if things change. However the sentiment is that the decision made in January is what we will stay with for the rest of the year.

Q: Will students bring computers to school for face to face and how much screen time will there be?

A: We do not have an exact amount of time but in the class room things will look a lot different. Students and teachers cannot share materials and there will be social distancing involved so students will bring computers to school each day and they will still submit work via Canvas.

Showed a video of the board meeting to demonstrate what the district expects teachers to do on a daily basis.

Principal Clay shared that Board members welcome any input or feedback directly from parents. The Board email was placed in the chat (BOE@dpsnc.net).

No additional questions were posed after the video. Principal Clay reiterated that Plan B is still highly unlikely.

Save the date for future meetings:

- January 25th
- March 8th
- April 12th
- May/June TBD

Motion to adjourn made by Kathleen Graves

Seconded.

Motion carried.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:53 p.m.

ATTENDANCE (34)

Tony Patterson	Stephanie Hughes	Jennifer Avery	Glenda Narcisse
Nicole Sennett	Zachary Sennett	Felicia Sledge	Stacy Lindsey
Rhonda Faircloth	Amy Dillon	Evelyn Hallan	Kathleen Graves
Liz Snyder	Ryan Kempf	Jamie Barnhill	Barbara Goettsch
Shawn MacDuff	Scott Strickland	Sarah Miller	Dana O'Keefe
Brian Fannin	Kate Simpson	Laura Dubois	Laura Helton
Katie Neal	Catriona Moore	Angie Smith	Yana Lowry
Neil Clay	Suerissa Blecher	Emily Thrasher	Carol Barnhill
Ilene Farkas	Inessa Fannin		