

Franklin School PTA Meeting August 29, 2017

Market of Choice, 6:00pm

Present: Amy Crump, Principal Harlow, Heidi Herring, Keri Taft, Peter Sabee-Paulson, Alice Nielsen, Stacey Free, Brooke Running, Mandy Martin, Tina Smith, Kristin Starnes

June PTA meeting minutes were approved.

Principal Harlow's Report: Principal Harlow shared that all staff have reported back to school. There are several new staff members at Franklin this year. Franklin welcomes new front office staff (Dani Warren and Breeana Myatt) and three new teachers (Julie Carver and Matt Shumski in 8th grade, and Bridget Eby in 1st grade). The district is in the process of filling the library media specialist position. The building received new paint accents outside. Principal Harlow is excited to become part of the Franklin community and meet the students next week. He emphasized that he values building community and relationships and looks forward to doing both at Franklin.

Treasurer's Report (Peter Sabee-Paulson):

- Monthly Report:
- Funding Requests:
 - Amy Crump presented the PTA with three technology requests. The first technology request came from 5th grade teacher Paige Hawkinson for the Typing Agent software for use with typing instruction for grades 4-5. The 4th and 5th grade classrooms piloted this software last year. The software has the potential to be used on student iPads, in addition to use in the computer lab. The cost runs \$6.95/student or approximately \$417 for a one year license. Peter Sabee-Paulson asked what the district's app/software budget is. Tina Smith didn't have the current figure, but the district office may be able to answer this. A discussion ensued about whether the district could support requests like these next year. Stacey Free made a motion that the request to fund Typing Agent for one year for the 4th-5th grade classrooms be approved. The PTA voted to approve this request.
 - The second technology request was presented to fund two new document cameras (one for each new 8th grade teacher). The document cameras will replace old equipment, including an overhead projector in one classroom. Each

document camera costs \$280, with a total request of \$560 for both. The PTA approved this request.

- The third technology request came from Principal Harlow for a color printer and projector for training in his office in the amount of \$236. The PTA voted to approve this request.
- A funding request from Paige Hawkinson to purchase Wordly Wise workbooks for all 4th-5th grade students in the amount of approximately \$621, an increase from previous years' discounted price at \$450. The PTA discussed the price increase. Only \$450 had been budgeted in curriculum support for this year. Amy Crump suggested that we could pull the extra needed funds from enrichment or from the surplus in the general fund. According to National PTA recommendations on general fund budgets, we currently have \$5,000 more than recommended in the general fund. This money could help support the increase this year in the cost of Worldly Wise. Amy Crump shared that in the future, there may be changes coming from the district's fundraising task force on how PTAs will be allowed to spend money on schools, in an attempt to address equity issues throughout the district. The PTA voted to move money from the general fund to the curriculum budget line to cover the increased cost of Wordly Wise, bringing the curriculum budget to \$625.
- An additional funding request from Paige Hawkinson in the amount of \$600 to help cover part of the cost of sending the 4th-5th grade students to Junior Achievement's BizTown was presented by Amy Crump. This program provides an enrichment opportunity for students to gain skills in business practices, financial literacy, and economics during a fieldtrip to BizTown in Portland. Oregon State Credit Union has provided this support in the past, but will no longer be funding this. Students also fund a portion of the cost of this program. This program takes place every two years. Stacey Free suggested that BizTown should be added as a line item in the budget every year. The PTA voted to fund BizTown in the amount of \$600 out of the enrichment fund this year.
- Amy Crump requested funding for an A-frame sidewalk/curb sign to help advertise school events such as the book fair, science night, PTA events, dine outs, etc. Principal Harlow asked about using a digital readerboard. Keri Taft shared that the school has not been allowed to have a digital readerboard. It was discussed that there is a real need to improve communication on school grounds for school events and notices. A variety of possibilities have been tried or suggested. If a sidewalk/curb sign is purchased, could it be stored easily in the

dungeon? Brooke Running asked about laminating signs or how to advertise in rain/inclement weather. The PTA voted to purchase three A-frame sidewalk/curb signs at approximately \$77/piece.

- Standing Committee Reports

- Community Building: Keri Taft shared that the Welcome Back Tea will take place on the first day of school following drop-off. There will be coffee, tea, and treats. Principal Harlow will attend to welcome new families to Franklin. The Back to School BBQ will be held on September 15th and will be a traditional BBQ this year. Families will be asked to bring a salad or dessert. She hopes to have games and possibly a drum circle. She may ask the Corvallis Police to come and help register bikes. Families are encouraged to bring their own plates, cups, and utensils. Andy Gallagher is in charge of the 6th Grade Picnic at Avery Park to help welcome and integrate the new sixth graders to middle school. Amy Crump mentioned that movie nights are on track. Brooke Running asked about confusion around the January movie night date. Amy will look into it. Amy mentioned that we're still looking for someone to coordinate the Sock Hop.
- Fundraising: Brooke Running has a Dine Out at Burgerville scheduled for September 26th from 5-8 pm. Stacey Free suggested that teachers and kids could help, as Burgerville requests that we provide people to help bus at the event. Brooke reported that the Block 15 Dine Out in July was a big success - over \$700 earned. The Jog-a-thon is on track - Ken and Jasmin have met.
- Special Programs: Heidi Herring reported that Garden Club will start on September 22 and will run until Veteran's Day. A new load of wood chips has been delivered for the garden. There may be extra available for landscaping around the school. Alice Nielsen, reporting from the Beautification committee, that the plants in the front of the school are looking good. She will be asking for volunteers to form a Beautification Crew to help throughout the year. Amy shared that we're waiting to see how the Composting program will go this year. Heidi mentioned that the program really needs an adult to help set up/take down. Stacey Free suggested that students could monitor the composting bins during lunch. Amy shared that there will be no French language classes after school this year, but Spanish will be continuing. OBOB is on track and Wendy Woothtakewahbitty is still coordinating this. Popcorn Friday will be funded for all elementary grades and middle school students will still pay for popcorn.
- Other: No news from student government. Spirit Wear t-shirts will be coming soon. Stacey Free asked if we could have a school color for the Franklin t-shirts.

Teal and black are the Franklin colors. Having t-shirts all in the same color would help build school pride. It was suggested that t-shirts this year be in teal.

- Old Business:
 - District Facilities Planning Commission: Amy attended the July district meeting and heard the presentation for facilities planning recommendations. A bond will be written this fall to be voted on next spring. Franklin received a lot of support at the district level, including support for basic structural repairs to the building and a light refresh in some areas. Amy thanked all who gave feedback and wrote letters to the district in support of our school. Principal Harlow will be scheduling a night to talk about Franklin and the district's plan.
- New Business:
 - Welcome to all of the new staff!
 - Volunteer signups are still in process.
 - Upcoming events:
 - 8/30 - 6th Grade Picnic
 - 9/5 - Open House, Middle School Info Meeting with Mr. Harlow
 - 9/6 - First Day of School
 - 9/12 PTA meeting 6pm, library
 - 9/13 - Picture Day
 - 9/15 - Back to School BBQ, DC Info Meeting 8-9pm
 - 9/19 - MS Curriculum Night 6:30-7:45pm, MS Science Olympiad Parent Info 7:45-8:15pm
 - 9/21 - Elementary Curriculum Night 6:30-7:45pm
 - 9/26 - Dine Out Burgerville 5-8pm
 - 10/4 - School Picture Retakes
 - 10/10 - PTA meeting 6pm, library