

**Frelinghuysen Middle School
Home & School Association
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 17, 2013**

Attending: Margaret Monahan, Preeti Arora, Diana Barilla-Ray, Ellen Letta, Wendy Vissar, Beatriz Bueno, Andrea Mazzocchi, Lyn Snyder, Kelly Do, Tara Johnson, Edward Cohen, Tanya Seaward, Deirdre Gaffney, Margarita Armington, Kerry Thomas, Missy Gleckner, Lisa Bensen, Lynne Boucher, Amy Craig, Janine Carterl, Christine Jungermann, Amy McDonald, Majorie Galinkin, Rose Ann Haberman, Mary Farro, Desiree Ellerthorpe, Sue Lawlor, Sue Kersten, Ruth Fleck, Tamara Haynie, Caroline Godfrey, Amanda Boyadjis

Meeting called to order: 9:45 by Caroline Godfrey

Introduction of the 3 Vice-Principals

Mark Manning introduced the 3 Vice-Principals and their areas of responsibility

Amy Bozza - House 1, Language Arts and Social Studies

David Thompson - House 2, Math, Art and Physical Education, Technology

Dr. Eddie Cohen - House 3, Science, World Language

Presidents' Council Update

- Dr. Ficarra expressed that the opening of the schools went well. He was also happy with the building renovations at FMS. A search committee has been formed for the new MHS principal. They are collecting resumes. Ethel Minchello will stay through the end of the school year. Chromebooks will be distributed this week.

Presidents' Report

- Caroline thanked all who helped with the Staff Appreciation Lunch. The event is truly appreciated by the staff. Caroline also acknowledge the landscaping committee of Missy Gleckner, Margarita Armington and Kerry Thomas for their hard work in the creation of the beautiful landscaping at the school entrance. They were also able to recruit Tree Tech to donate the pruning of 12 trees in the front of the school. This work was valued at \$1,800. Levato and Sons also donated material and stonework.
- The Colonial Challenge MEF Fundraiser is scheduled for October 20th.
- Parents should currently be getting two types of eblasts: the daily bulletin and the HSA weekly eblast. You will need to sign up separately. Parents should also sign up for the directory via a link on the HSA website or in the HSA eblast.
- The May meeting minutes were approved.

Principal's Report - Mark Manning

- Renovations were completed the Saturday of Labor Day weekend. The custodial staff worked hard over the weekend to make sure the school was cleared of construction debris and safe for the teachers' arrival on September 4th. Through the construction and reworking of space, we were able to gain
 - 5 full size classrooms
 - 3 small instruction rooms
 - 2 state-of-art Science labs for the 6th grade

The permanent modular buildings hold the Child Study Teams and the Community School. Any child who needs to go to the modular buildings will be escorted across the driveway.

- The opening of school went very smoothly until bus dismissals. There were 2 databases with transportation information but that problem has since been corrected.
- Rooms in the downstairs of the school have been renumbered.
- Back-to-School Night will be held by grade level per the teachers' request.
- Chromebooks were selected over the iPads for their functionality with the integrated keyboard and the expense (half the price). All 7th and 8th grade students with their completed paperwork will get their chromebooks in Social Studies.
- NJASK scores will be sent out the end of this week or early next week. Scores will be discussed more at the October meeting.
- Morristown High School has a new director of guidance, Scott White. We believe the 8th graders will meet in mid February/March with MHS guidance as they have done in the past.
- All students will have a google email that only works within the domain of FMS.
- All teachers are required to use Homework Now. If they have their own website, there should be a link to it from Homework Now.

Treasurer's Update

- We have a budget of \$32,800 sourced from two primary fundraisers, Magazine Sales and the Just Write A Check campaign.
- We have made \$1,800 in clothing sales and \$3500 in the Just Write A Check campaign so far this year. We have purchased QuickBooks in order to manage our finances.

Committees Update

- Thank you again to all who contributed in September, especially those who helped with the landscaping and the Staff Appreciation lunch.
- The 6th Grade Social committee is preparing for the October 4th Social. They will need volunteers to sell tickets at lunch and to donate snacks. Look for a link on an upcoming HSA eblast.
- The Communications Committee (Wendy Vissar and Sang Sporer) are looking for another person to help them. They have done an amazing job in improving our ability to communicate with parents. Join the team if you can!

- After School Clubs will be out by October. Look for information on an eblast or daily bulletin.
- Next Staff Appreciation lunch is in February. Teachers are very grateful for these events.
- The Cultural Arts committee attended the Morris Arts Council workshop and have selected some great programs for our children. Please see the attached file for details.

Meeting Adjourned - 10:59 am