

Frelinghuysen Home and School Association

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Committee and Attending: Margaret Monahan, Lucy Webber, Patty Haralampoudis, Ellen Hays, Christine Sicat, Theresa Scott, Robyn Beh, Nancy Lia.

Meeting called to order at 9:55am by Margaret Monahan

Welcome - Margaret Monahan

- **Approval of September Minutes** by Robyn Beh and Teresa Scott
- **Frelinghuysen Yearbook - Sarah Satkowski**
 - would like every 8th Grader to have a yearbook
 - happiness ads help pay for the expense to help pay for yearbooks for 8th Graders who can't afford it.
 - please help promote yearbook and happiness ads sales.
 - trying to get every child to appear at least 3 times in the yearbook
 - volunteer students - kids get press pass to use their phones to take pictures. Meet Thursday afternoon every other week. Leaning towards having more student writing.
 - Three 8th Grade editors work towards a free yearbook.

President's Council Update: Lucy Webber

- **Security and safety audit done on all the schools.**
 - no glaring errors found at Frelinghuysen
 - suggestions to expand the cameras over the doors for a wider look
 - through the chromebooks have software to monitor language to see if there are any students with any emotional concerns.
- **Superintendent emphasized that every student should feel comfortable with speaking to at least one adult at school.** Every student needs someone to reach out to.
- **Lice policy - children are not excluded from school for lice.**
 - if lice is found in a child, the parent is informed.
 - if 2 or more children in a class are found to have lice, parents of all the children in the class are informed.
- **PARCC test results will be coming in the next 6 weeks -**
 - Superintendent supportive of utilizing tests as tool to obtain data to help direct the curriculum.
 - Computerized test is necessary - kids need to get comfortable with their computer testing skills.

Principal's Update: Joseph Uglialoro

- **Introduction of new house administrator of House 3 (Dragon) - Aixa Garcia**
- **Week of Respect - focusing on Pillars of Respect** - With the help of Guidance and Student Council, events were organized: gratitude graffiti, magnets on lockers, theme days, positive activities to reflect on what it means to be respectful in the community.
- **Kevin Pyle visiting language arts classes** - great program from Cultural Arts
- **6th Grade Social** - very well attended and the kids had a great time.

- **Positive start to school** - teachers are spending a lot of time to make kids feel comfortable and safe
- **Beautification Committee** - making steps to create a space that's more inspirational and less institutional
- **Bees nests in old gym** - classes have been moved due to the issues. Current treatment hasn't been working. Higher intensity treatment is in the works.
- **Concern about a fight in the boys locker room** - despite rumors, it was not racially based. Considering the large number of boys in the locker room, supervision has been increased to 2 male adults. Staff had conversations with the boys to discuss what it means to be a community.

HSA Business

- **Update on Committees: Margaret Monahan for Tanya Seaward**
 - Thank you to Maiken Gehsmann for chairing "Just Write a Check"
 - 7th Grade Social - volunteers needed
 - Snack Bar - volunteers needed for about 45 minutes right after school
 - Thanks to Beth Sparacino, Amy Ghelli, Agnes Espinoza, and Tanya Seaward for chairing clubs. Kids are encouraged to become part of programs after school.
 - Thanks to Dawn Bertha for chairing school pictures for the last 6 years.
 - Thanks to Kirsten Hadley and Michelle Chin for chairing the Magazine sale
 - Thanks Janine Corteil, Vicky Bashant, and Laura LaMontagna for chairing the 6th Grade social. For the future, parent volunteers may need to be inside to provide teachers with additional support.
- **Treasurer's Report: Margaret Monahan for Jenn Smith**
 - Magazine sale - final numbers are still being tallied.
 - Just Write a Check - we're at 40% towards our yearly goal.
 - Thanks to all who participated in these fundraisers.
- **Communications - Patty Haralampoudis and Ellen Hays**
 - Now have 960 emails
 - The website is now translatable into various languages.
 - Social media links are on the HSA website

Additional Business

- The Morris Educational Foundation will present "Growing Up Online" on Tuesday, Oct. 13 at 7:00pm.
- I-Ready is a tool for teachers to assess students individual needs.
- STEM is the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Academy at the Morristown High School. Applications from current 8th Graders are due on Friday, Nov. 13.
- If parents are not able to make conferences, teachers can be emailed directly.
- Parent portal - technical questions can be addressed to Karen Vandenheuvel.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:45am.