

FRIENDSWOOD JUNIOR HIGH PTO MINUTES

Mar 21, 2018

Executive Board: Tawni Slaughter & Jenny Wiest: President; Allison Cravens & Kristi Carpenter: V.P.; Liz Fischer: Treasurer; Aimee Reyes: Secretary

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 am. A sign-in sheet was distributed.

Attending were Tawni Slaughter, Jenny Wiest, Aimee Reyes, Allison Cravens, Albert Cipolla, Liz Fischer, Dene Dexter, Dana Drew, Randy Shriek, Stephanie Harrison

Approval of Minutes: Copies of the minutes from March were distributed for review. A motion was made by Randy S, seconded by Albert Cipolla. Minutes were unanimously passed.

Principal's report

- Mr. Drew went to Indianapolis with band for spring break. Great kids, well behaved and fun to be with them. Band directors did a great job with schedules and kids followed the schedule well. Sounded great! Wasn't a competition, just an opportunity to play. They performed at Butler University and there are 4 clinicians that watch and one comes down after they play, they work with them based on what they play for improvement. Great opportunity for him to go and spend time with the kids.
- Facebook Friendswood Moms and Dads - encouraging parents to post "call the school" on the threads where there is confusion among the parents and events. Communicate with the school and please be our voice.
- School Safety - new things that have been implemented. Changed the entrances. Everyone comes in 4 main doors which eliminates 4 less doors opened in the morning. Band door was being left open so kids could bring instruments - no longer can do this must knock and be let in by teacher or go to the other doors that are open.
 - Officer Lewis is on campus at 8:15 instead of 9am, 5 different times here we have 500 kids in cafeteria and he is here during lunch periods and before school.
 - Safety meetings with district and police to discuss school safety and what we expect from the police. Issue last month had been dealt with quickly and safely. Reiterated to the kids they do not open doors for anyone, even police or teachers. Kids are doing a great job at this.
 - Allison - are there any after school police and is anything being addressed at Centennial park and basketball courts. Mr Drew: The district does not own the the fields other than the fields in the back. Basketball court is an issue because you may have people playing after school and they have close access to the school. This is a concern but is a city issue so was not addressed at meeting. Officer Lewis and Mr. Drew have discussed this and Officer Lewis can have someone here very quick if there is a problem. The park does close at 11pm.
- 6th grade theater arts - original proposal was to replace with teen leadership class. Students would have three choices of electives of art, band, or choir. Any student with art would have one semester of teen leadership. There was opposition at the meeting. The rationale is that many households may be whole, but we still have many household split. Teen leadership is not to make every kid a leader, it's to try to help gain knowledge on dealing with bullying, make good decisions, etc. There is a full curriculum and it is something our kids need. Mr Drew believes his job here is to create opportunities for kids to be successful in life and to have a solid foundation with themselves. When it comes time for them to go to college - how do they respond to everyday issues without parents? These 6th graders can handle this and do well. This was not an overnight decision, it was a decision with counselors and other administrators. Had to figure out a way to get this incorporated and only giving them one day a week of it is not enough for them to hear it and use it.
 - We will not be doing it this way and electives will be the same. 5th grade parents will be getting this notification.
 - Fine arts is a great opportunity but this was never intentional in taking 6th grade out of these opportunities.
 - Based on the numbers choir and band were having, would be able to have half the 6th graders trained in this program. After 3 years this would be a lot of kids and could change the culture. Still will be offered in 7th grade. Teachers are getting certified.
 - Someone learns a skill and uses it to solve a problem in another area. This is what we want this leadership class to be. Take these skills and apply it to life.
 - Jenny - who will be the teacher for 7th grade? Not sure what's going to happen in our district budget-wise yet because of the hurricane and house evaluations. Some teachers that leave we may not be able to replace. Whoever the teacher is will be trained.
- Liz - is there enough teachers qualified to teach the new pre-AP science? Yes, there are three that can teach it.

Treasurer report:

- Doing well with a handful of expenses for this year. Box tops payment of \$190 went to the school. Pi Day was a little over \$500 which benefits the math department.
- Thank you notes were distributed for the grants we purchased. Track kids all signed the thank you notes for the grant to the PE department.

Committee Reports

- **Volunteers:** Will start to get next year's flyer together for Windsong and Bales to go out in Friday folders of incoming 6th graders.
- **Spirit Store:** Should have one in April and avoid STAAR testing dates.
- **Cafeteria Sales:** Done for the year and ahead about \$400 for the year in profit. No sales in May.
- **Hospitality:** Moved luncheon to May 11 during teacher appreciation week. Will be held during lunch period 11:25-1:30. Michelle has it covered.
- **Teacher Birthdays:** Will do last teacher birthdays in conjunction with luncheon. Going well, last month had a donut cake. People are still donating. March will be tomorrow (March 22) with pies being donated and some supplements from Sams. Used only about about \$70 of the budget. Will start looking for sponsors this summer. Liz: Can give donation receipts for those that donate. If we get commitment early enough, we could do a thank you in the directory.
- **Character Counts Committee:** Allison to meet with administration to figure out budget.
- **Website:** No report. Please email Jackie with any newsflashes. Always put in the message line which school you want to be sent to. Newsflashes - check with Jackie if you are on the list. If you used to get them double check if you are on the list.
- **PI Day:** Was great! They raised over \$500 for math department to replace calculators, etc. Whoever takes over the challenge is to get the counselors to take a pie in the face and/or a bucket for Mr. Drew and Officer Lewis. Went off really well. For next year - we will have 20 to 30 more students in Geometry so we should bump up the budget for providing lunch, water, and pies. Maybe we could buy the prizes next year because it is usually a grant for \$300.

New business

- 2018-2019 PTO Committees - see list.
- Add yearbook and a parent to help make copies.

Dates to Remember:

3/30 - No School

Meeting adjourned at 10:23.

Next meeting April 18, 2018, 9:30am

End of Meeting Minutes