

NFE PTO General Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2020

Opening Introductions

Bill Ryder - School Committee Member
Tim Adams - President
Chelle Mortimer - Co-President
Liza Masterson - Co-President
Becky Fish - Co- Vice President
Whitney Marshall - Co- Vice President
Dave Medeiros - Treasurer
Cathleen Edwards - Co- Secretary
Katie Evans - Co-Secretary
Kellan O’Leary - Parent
Alyssa Hike-Harris - Parent
Lisa (*last name*)- Parent
Kelly Berger - Parent

Review of Past Minutes

- Need to review at the next meeting

- Review of Falmouth Public Schools Mission Statement/ Core Values by Bill Ryder
 - With the survey they started to put together some ideas amongst the school board
 - He is here to share the Mission statement to get feedback
 - Purpose - why do we exist as a school district: to empower kids
 - Set our sights to the highest purpose/ kid-oriented
 - Vision: what we value and why
 - Core Values: used responses from the survey
 - Soliciting input - any comments now or later could be communicated via Tim to the School Board
 - Importance of the concept of “empowerment” and “wellness”
 - Liza - “what is the plan for communicating these with the community?” - Dr. Duerr does a lot a community outreach; it will go online once it passes; it is read at each School Committee meeting; the community will pick it up through Dr. Duerr’s outreach; the Enterprise attends the SC mtgs and they may be able to publish; should be voted on in March/April

- Maybe teachers could share it with students as well
 - Mr. Adams - how would we look to see these things tangibly?; how could we measure these things?
 - The way the state has us look at it now: what is the “picture”/ vision of a graduate
- Maybe we could tie the MIssion Statement/Core Values to the Back to School Picnic - first school event of the year
 - Make it age appropriate, share it with students, display it at the event
 - If anyone has any additional feedback, we will get it to Tim in the next few days

Principal’s Report

- Thank you to the SC for their support with the mural project
- The artist worked really well with the kids to capture their creativity and the space looks great

Vice-Presidents’ Report

- Nothing new
- Katie Fawcet is looking for volunteers for the Book Swap - but think that she is all set now - she got a few volunteers, she will let us know if we need any more volunteers
- Friday 3/27 is the Book Swap
- The bin is out in the foyer; chapter books for 3-4th great are needed in particular

Treasurer’s Report

- Total in account is about \$65,000
- We made \$18,324 from the Boosterthon
- Our budget for fundraising for this year was 31,000 and we’ve currently raised appox. 29,000 (this year). We still have several fundraising events remaining in the year, so we expect to exceed our fundraising goal. We have paid the Boosterthon and Island Queen deposits for next year.

Cupcake Charlie’s

- We discussed moving the date of the Cupcake Charlie’s fundraiser so that it doesn’t overlap with Boosterthon, we thought about moving it to May for Mother’s Day; keeping in mind that the fundraising portion is the week before the delivery, the Art Show is in late April; tying it to Valentine’s may have made a

positive difference; next year the Boosterthon is January 6 through January 20th. Next year, Valentine's Day is on a Sunday of vacation

- March is the lightest month for other fundraisers and events - We will reach out to Cupcake Charlie's to see if we can schedule for next year for March
- Kelly Berger will be organizing this for next year

Budget/Fundraising

- Becca's Playground - DPW came and they looked at everything - said the metal was okay, the ladder pieces were repaired and we are all set. No more needs to be done. We can now look at other projects.
- Do we want to think about clearing and connecting to the field?; The leaching field for the water plant is there, but Mr. Adams said we could speak to the town about that
 - Could we put a gaga pit up there?
 - We would need equipment for the older grades there
 - What would be the next step about clearing the field?
 - Would need to ask the town about property lines
 - There would be ADA considerations as well
 - Mr. Adams will look into and see what is possible
 - That field isn't used as much by the town as it was previously
 - Question to Mr. Ryder: Hope that the district would take more ownership toward playground improvements versus projects being funded by the PTO?
 - Mr. Adams - connects to the "wellness" statement portion of the MISSION Statement
 - The basketball courts have been a huge addition to the community and very well used
 - Mr. Ryder will look into this issue
 - FRR gave us \$40,000 for the scoreboard and \$500,000 for the new track; maybe we could communicate with them regarding these projects
 - Mr. Adams - looking at these types of projects proactively - and look ahead to future needs and projecting what will need to be repaired or replaced as facilities age-out
 - Mr. Ryder - capital budget is \$1,000,000 from the town - after that we have to go Town Meeting
 - Mr. Adams - a project like Becca's may be that we replace one element at a time and chip away at it over time

Book Swap

- Could this be done earlier in the year?
- Put the bin out earlier in the year - or have an ongoing bin throughout the year?
 - We would need someone to do some gate-keeping on this if it was in the foyer throughout the year
 - We can reach out to Katie and see what her thoughts are
 - Flyer could go out right before the holidays - and a constant reminder in the newsletter

Capital Project

- We discussed some ideas: standing stations, audio sets for the teachers, enrichment ideas that Becky circulated
 - Becky's research regarding enrichment ideas: very important to involve teachers, students, parents, and members of the community in choosing the programming
 - Survey responses indicated that Enrichment experiences/ programming were desired
 - A good place to start would be to make a list of all of the Enrichment activities/ programs we already do so that parents would be aware of everything that is already happening - send that out and then reach out to parents and ask if any parents might be able to share their talents, etc. with the school
 - Dave - circulate list of ideas and see if we can someone to champion one of these ideas
 - Teachers would need to be involved in the decision-making process in determining Enrichment programming needs
 - Cathleen - Junior Achievement was very popular program in the past, it is run through VIPS, but they don't always have enough volunteers to run it so it has come and gone throughout the years. 3rd grade was usually the best fit; but they do have a K-12 curriculum
 - Becky - will put together email to teachers with ideas and asking for ideas for Enrichment
- For this year's Capital Project - we need to price out the standing stations and audio sets
 - Mr. Adams has some information regarding this
 - The cost is less than \$1,000 for the art/ music teachers' technology project - for a shared board

- We could apply for the Woods Hole grant for the audio/technology project
- Standing stations are \$300 each, it would be nice if each classroom had one, they have whiteboards on them and more than one student can stand at each one, we would need 17. So the total cost would be \$5100
 - It would be beneficial for each classroom to have one. They would be available to all kids. We need teacher input on which variation would be best for each grade level/ classroom.
 - Some teachers have used the FEF grant for flexible seating
 - Cathleen and Tim will do more research and communication with teachers on which kinds to purchase - they will look at standing stations and FM stations (Tim will also get a quote for the boards for Art/Music, it was thought to put it on a cart and share it between the two classroom, cart was the idea because of the need for an electrician to wire it for both classrooms)
- **Motion made, 2nded and approved to make the flexible furniture (standing stations) our capital project**
- Turf - if we don't get the FRR grant this year then we should wait on it, the district may be ready to do in the near future
- If we do another gaga pit, we should go with the surfacing - we get good use out of the gaga pit that we have; maybe that's where we start with the expansion
 - \$1500 for the pit and \$3500 for the surfacing
 - We could get the labor/assembly donated from parents
- What would have the best shot at getting FEF grant money for? I.e.: the standing stations/ flexible seating, technology project for art/music, or the FM stations (meeting student individual needs)
 - FM sets: All of our classrooms have a speaker where the projectors are (?)
 - The kids also get to use them when they present
 - Should we find out how Morse Pond got theirs? Katie E. will reach to Karen Karson at MP to find out
 - Who decides who gets to use the flexible furniture? -- *discussion*

FRR Grant

- All set and ready for Mr. Adams' signature
- We are doing our own direct submission so we should find out directly from them
- We will reach out to them before the end of the summer

FRR - Captain's meeting for volunteers

- Last year we manned an info table and the VIP tent
- We have also done the kids fun run info table
- May 6th kick off meeting - Captain Meeting is at 6:00 on May 6, Lisa will go with Alyssa to the kick off meeting

Shed Equipment

- Liza will connect with Tim about doing the equipment check the weekend after next

Casa Vallarta

- Liza will make the flyer needed
- An email needs to go out the Friday before to "Save the Date"

Tim Adams

- 4/3
- Kellan will organize
- A flyer will go home giving choices for pottery painting and explaining details
- There will also be a bake sale at the event
- Kellan will need a cash bank from Dave

Spirit Wear

- Shannon is going to set up the spirit wear in the case so that it will be displayed during the Color Me Mine
- We will be able to order during the Color Me Mine night? Will check with Shannon

Yearbook

- Update on yearbooks went out to families on Friday, 2/14. There were 3 attachments.
- Order forms go out late March
- Dedications & baby pictures submissions by parents of 4th graders will be due by 4/10
- **We will send a hard copy home as well - will need this printed and sent home**
- Could we do a checklist to see who has submitted dedications and baby pictures? To make sure that no one is left off
- Kelly Berger will come in to help with copying

Derby

- Jen met with the Cape Club and she will get the website and flyer going for next week
- The parking lot is currently torn up for the water treatment plant - should find out what the timeframe for the construction is. Kellan will check in with Jen to see if they've discussed the construction impact on parking, etc.

4th Grade Breakfast 6/12

- Whitney is chairing
- Will reach out to Amy again regarding the slideshow; if she is unavailable, Whitney will need help with this project. Mr. Adams can also speak with Mrs. Bergeron about helping with this. Amy has the pictures from past years (past yearbooks). Also, staff members could review it to make sure all kids have been represented equally.

Ice Cream Social

- Liza and Whitney are co-chairing; they have several volunteers
- Alyssa: Letters requesting donations for baskets - Kellan will reach out to Toby and Dana; Tim will reach out to a Boston Bruins connection; Chelle can help with the letters, sometimes there are online forms; letters would need to be on NFE PTO letterhead; Alyssa will send her the wording and links, other ideas: Great Wolf Lodge, SeaCrest pool pass (but don't want to double-ask since they usually donate a room for the night for the Derby auction), Cape Codder, the bakery, Lisa from Delicious Deserts might donate a "baking experience" for children, Falmouth Ice Arena for a private hour on the little rink

Movie Night

- Confirm date of 5/29 cross-checking district calendar and confirming with Jen Chagnon