

PTA MEETING MINUTES

Franklin Avenue Elementary

Date/Time 10/6/2020 7:00 P.M. | *Meeting called to order by* Alice Tom

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Approval of Minutes

Kerry Moakley and Jennifer McCarthy approved the June 2020 minutes.

III. Principal's Report – Dr. Talleyrand

- Great start to year. Proud of teachers, staff and students.
- Students have adapted quickly to different protocols (i.e. handwashing, mask wearing, and social distancing)
- Arrival and Dismissal Rules and protocols. Arrival begins at 8:45 a.m. Dismissal for walkers is at 3:00 p.m. Dismissal for bussers is at 3:15 p.m.
- COVID Protocols: Every day, parents/guardians should be receiving a text and email to fill out the COVID screener. **Screener needs to be done by 8 am. If screener is not completed before 8 AM, students will be rescreened.**
- If a child is presenting with one symptom, please keep the child home. Call Mrs. Burke, the school nurse, to report absence. Please take child to the doctor and have a COVID test (regular or a rapid molecular test only; antigen test is NOT accepted). Student can return 2-3 days after COVID test results are received, or you can keep them at home for 10 days without the COVID test.
- Virtual Back to School Night – Thursday, October 8. Look out for email from Dr. Talleyrand and teachers.
- Halloween – It is important to have some traditions. Halloween Spirit Week will run from 10/26-10/30. The plan is for two Halloween celebrations:
 - Tuesday 10/27 – Grade 3 & 4 Hybrid AA students
 - Friday, 10/30 – Grade 3 & 4 Hybrid BB, Kindergarten, Grade 1 and 2 students.
 - Students can wear appropriate Halloween-themed clothing (e.g., orange, black, and/or Halloween printed) all week long. Hats and/or costumes are prohibited.
 - Classroom celebrations will include a craft, snack and beverage provided by the FA PTA.
- Send photos of your child (ren) wearing their costumes to the PTA gmail by Friday, 10/23 and a PowerPoint presentation will be put together for the kids to enjoy a “virtual costume parade” in class.

- If you can, consider donating a non-perishable food item. There will be a donation box in the main lobby for students to place donated food items. All food collected will be donated directly to local Pearl River families in need.

IV. Teachers' Report

- Kindergarten: fairytales; math: sorting, number bonds
- 1st grade: writing pattern books; letter formation and sound, making 10s, number bonds
- 2nd grade: introducing and reinforcing new red words
- 3rd grade: personal narratives
- 4th grade; writing narrative story; reading poetry

V. Treasurer's Report

- Budget is pretty lean.
- Limited fundraising opportunities due to COVID-19 social distancing restrictions.
- PTA paid for CB Yardgrams' Welcome Back Franklin Avenue Stars and Welcome Back Breakfast for Staff from Dean's Coffee Company.
- In-school events (i.e. assemblies and after school clubs) are postponed until the Spring.
- Some fundraising activities will include, but not limited to, are:
 - Spiritwear Sale: running thru 10/25; With T-shirts, hoodies, PJ pants and more, purchases can be shipped directly to you (for a small fee) or will be shipped to school and distributed to your student(s) to bring home.
 - Restaurant Night Out Fundraisers: The Saloon 10/8; Blu Mango (10/27-31); Luigi O'Grady's (11/2-6; Dom's To Go (11/24)
 - Photography by Gennaro: Family Portrait Sessions – 10/18, 10/24 and 10/25
 - When shopping on Amazon consider shopping in support of the Franklin Avenue PTA with Amazon Smile. The free extension allows you to shop while Amazon gives back to your favorite non-profit organizations. Log-in to your secured account each time via Amazon Smile, choose PTA New York Congress 004-243 Franklin Avenue School PTA as your charity. A portion of your purchase will be donated to the FA PTA.
 - Holiday Flower Sale: Amaryllis Growing Kits are on sale now through November 30th. Perfect for holiday gift giving. **All online orders are due no later than Monday, November 30th** for timely holiday delivery. Each online delivery ships directly to your preferred shipping address.

VI. Committee Reports

- **Picture Day:** Each Class Picture will be digitally enhanced. Individual photos will be placed in a thumbnail format with a photo of the teacher and TA.
- Volunteers needed for **Social and Wellness Committee**. Please reach out to PTA if you are interested in joining.

- **Yearbooks:** They have arrived and will be distributed to students still attending Franklin with curbside pickup scheduled for former students (current 5th graders) and full-time remote learners.
- **School Kits:** Some items needed to be replaced.
- **Scholastic Online Book Fair** – Summer sale made \$369 in Scholastic bucks. The next online Book Fair will be in February.
- Cheddar link is still open for PR Pirates Reusable Shopping Bags.
- Class dues for teacher gifts will be done through Cheddar Up. Link is now open.
- **Class Parent vs. Class Communication Liaisons:** Need one parent per class to directly communicate with parents/guardians in the class via a group chat app (What's App) about what's going on in school, important updates, community events, PTA meetings.
- PTA Membership is open to all caregivers, faculty and staff. Open enrollment ends at the end of October, so please join. We are trying to reach 150 members.
- All Box Tops submissions are due no later than October 29 for the Nov. 1 collection.

VII. New Business

- **Fall Spiritwear Sale** – (Chair is Christine Perone; Sale runs from October 5 through October 25)
- **Back To School Night** – October 8th. The Saloon is hosting a Family Meal fundraiser in support of the Franklin Avenue PTA.
- **Outdoor Classroom Proposal** – The goal is to create an Outdoor Classroom for all students and all subjects that will provide an environment to help students and staff foster a connection and appreciation for nature, outdoor learning and play.
 - Need sub-committee members (i.e. electrician, grant research and writing, contractors). If interested, please reach out to PTA (franklinavepta@gmail.com).
- The NYS Plastic Bag Ban is back in effect. If you are in need of reusable shopping bags, please consider purchasing one from Franklin Avenue. **All proceeds from the sale of the bags will go toward the fundraising for the planning and construction of our outdoor classroom.**

The next PTA meeting will be held virtually on **Wednesday, November 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** via Zoom.

The PTA Executive Board for 2019-2020:

- PTA President: Alice Tom
- Co-Vice Presidents: Laura Donnelly and Christy Goldsmith
- Treasurer: Jami Nolan
- Co-Recording Secretaries: Rose Croke and Christy MacMaster

- Corresponding Secretary: Jennifer McCarthy

Call to Adjourn 8:25 p.m. - Meeting Adjourned

Minutes taken by Recording Secretary: Rose Croke