



Executive Board Meeting Minutes November 22, 2015

**In Attendance: Robin Klueber, Bill Gerstel, Susan Graef,
Kristen Joo, Ann Marie Foss, Maria Hartman**

FMHS PTA Executive Board

Robin Klueber - President
Bill Gerstel – Vice President
Susan Graef – Co Treasurer
Kristin Joo - Co Treasure
Susan Ashland Crowson – Co-Secretary
Robin Burchill- Co-Secretary

Camp Bernie Update

Funds will be collected from parents through the end of November. So far Danielle has approximately \$4,800. Robin K will get the final numbers at her next meeting with Danielle. The PTAs 2 to 1 matching contribution will not exceed \$8000 since the total cost of going to Camp Bernie is around \$12,000.

Committee Chairs

Robin Burchill, Communications
Ann Marie Foss, College Readiness
Bill Gerstel, Fundraising

C30 Progress

3 candidates were interviewed by the C30 group. Robin K. (one of the parent members along with Susan Crowson and Pape Diedhiou, several student and teachers) says all the candidates are very strong. The results of these interviews will be sent to the DOE superintendent's office for more consideration and a recommendation will be sent to Danielle Salzberg.

Scanners/Security

It is impossible to gage the overall feelings of FMHS parents regarding the scanners so the PTA EB has decided not to take a stand or spend more energy pursuing this issue. Concerned parents are encouraged to organize and run their own committee if they wish to pursue it.

There were several security issues this week – Two 15 year olds called in a bomb scare, a situation in a chemistry class necessitated an evacuation and there was a security drill.

Treasurer's Report/Budget Concerns

Family Giving Fund Drive

Donations from our recent parent conference push totaled 1565.50 and came from 71 donors. Earlier pay pal donations from September 1st through November 11 totaled \$1520 from 8 donors plus there were check or cash donations from 4 more families. Our total number of participants at this point is 83. To get 25% participation we need just over 90 families so we're pretty close to our goal.

Robin B. has been compiling addresses for thank you notes to be sent out soon. Ann Marie suggested including a donation form with the thank yous along with

some encouragement for families to donate more, especially for those who gave \$1 - \$5.

Senior Activities

Danielle Gates asked for financial help from the PTA for the prom and other senior activities. There is a \$2500 line item for senior activities in the budget so this shouldn't be a problem.

Teacher Request

Danielle Gates also requested money to purchase audio recording equipment for her class to create podcasts. The EB approved \$250 to get her started and the additional amount will be voted on at the next PTA meeting.

After School Homework Help

We will also continue to discuss paying teachers to stay after school for homework help. Teachers will need to be paid \$40/hour. We will still need to work out the details of how many teachers we'll need for how many hours a week. There was also discussion of hiring a college student or some one else from the outside. Bill will go to the next SLT meeting to discuss further.

Our bank account balance is around \$30,000 but there are still expenses we know will come out of that totaling as much as \$15,000. (Camp Bernie expenses along will be close to \$8000.)

Outstanding Check

Danielle Salzberg has yet to cash the check for the FMHS signage she received at the end of the year. Robin K will remind her.

Spiritwear

There are only a few orders that have yet to be delivered.

Fundraising

Robo-Calls

There are still plans to make calls to encourage more Family Giving donations.

Barnes & Noble – So far we have 14 volunteers. Irene Klugman will have her students at the store reading some of their work throughout the day. Alfie and Malachy McCourt will read (6pm), Julian and Bengie will discuss "Ghetto Brothers" (7pm) and hopefully more students will read later in the evening. Bill is looking for a left handed acoustic guitar for Bengie to play.

Bill suggests creating more events so that we can have face time with families sighting the success of approaching parents at the parent teacher conferences. He also suggested offering community service to students who help out at such events as an incentive for them to participate.

CRC Updates

Information Sessions For Parents

We have dates for Financial Aid Night – January 11 and College Night – February 23rd which will be publicized in the next news so people can save the dates.

The CRC will also help plan more college trips.

The Ibad Prep class will start January 29th. It is a 10 week program with 4 practice tests and personalized analysis of the results. It will cost \$450 which is a good price.