



**Parent Teacher Association
Executive Board Minutes
Tuesday, September 2nd, 2015 6:30 PM**

In Attendance:

Robin Klueber, President
Bill Gerstel: Vice President and Fundraising Chair
Robin Burchill: Secretary and Communications Chair
Ann Marie Foss, CRC Chair

FMHS PTA Executive Board

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

Committee Chairs

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

Possible Grant

Robin K discussed a grant proposal she's working on to help finance supplies.

New School Schedule and Vote

We discussed the ramifications of the upcoming parent membership vote on the proposed schedule change. Some parents have reservations. The majority of teachers are for it though it was a close vote. Language teachers in general tended to not support the extended class periods since learning a language is better facilitated by shorter classes taking place more regularly.

Budget Issues/Concerns/Proposals

We agreed that it would be helpful for Danielle to provide a clear list of any budgetary need she has that the PTA can help out with. More lead time would especially help.

Orientation Refreshments

Danielle had previously asked the PTA for \$300 to pay for food at the orientation. In the end, she minimized the spread and paid for it with her budget. We proposed that we reimburse her for the costs.

Camp Bernie

At our last Executive Board meeting we discussed helping with the costs to send students to Camp Bernie by matching payment giving by parents. We will need to confirm the amount we considered matching. This would have to added and voted into the budget.

Microphone and PA

Bill will be looking into purchasing a decent microphone to get better audio for events in the auditorium. The cost would be around \$100 for a new mic and less for a used one. A PA would also be useful but the cost for this would have to be voted into the budget.

CRC College Books

Ann Marie proposed creating a library of college information so that students can broaden their scope of colleges. Many great schools go unexplored by students who focus too much on the "top tier" colleges. There is also a helpful guide to the college process she'd like to make available to advisors and student.

Bus Trips to Colleges

We've helped pay for these in the past. Last year there was confusion between the PTA and the Administration regarding how many we'd pay for. We did end up reimbursing Danielle for her expenses but if she knew we were helping out she may have done more trips. (This goes to the communication issues between PTA and Administration.)

Possible Enrichment Program

Drug Free World sent information about a doing a presentation at FMHS. This needs further discussion on logistics.

College Readiness Committee

Ann Marie discussed her idea for providing books for our college guidance councilor and student advisors to expand the number of colleges on students' radar.

Last year's "Pass the Baton" event was a great way to pass on what parents who have been through the process know to those just entering the fray and we'll expand upon that.

Ann Marie relayed the barrage of complaints she received from parents requesting more Regents prep within the school day. The general consensus was that this was not an issue for the CRC. Also, there are varying opinions on how much "test prep" vs. learning should occupy students' days.

We discussed selling guide books to the college process at the FMHS Family Night. Hopefully we will find a way to purchase them whole sale so we can make a small profit but even if we sell them at cost it will be a great service and a way to get parents more aware of the PTA's activities.

We also discussed putting a CRC page on the PTA website as an additional resource for parents.

Spiritwear

We'll also try to set up a table to sell spirit wear at the Family Night. Hopefully we'll get the Square readers working for credit card sales.

Fundraising

Bill expressed interest in creating more community events such as movie or karaoke events along with our casino/auction night. His concern is that there is often a lot of effort that goes into fundraisers with not much return. Community events would hopefully bring more parent interest.

New Executive Board Positions

We discussed creating a position for 9th grade rep as well as a community service chair on our Executive Board. This would entail adding the appropriate language to the Bylaws. Robin B. offered to help create revisions to the bylaws in time to present them at the September meeting so they could be voted in at the October meeting. Since Susan Crowson expressed interest in creating an incoming parent position in the past Robin will work with her on specific language.

Community Service Committee

The idea was proposed to create some kind of incentive to promote public service among our students. Needs more discussion. Also spawned the idea of creating a Community Service Committee and Chair who would serve on the Executive Board.