

## Franklin-Randall PTO Board Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2016 – 7:30 – 8:30

Randall Elementary School Library Media Center

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Board Members present: Colleen Johnson, Paul O’Flanagan, Kim Anacker, Kristina Espinoza, Lindsay Feitlinger, Tonya Rasmussen, Soraya Willems-Neal, Amy Coad, Melissa Hornung

Administrators present: John Wallace, Sylla Zarov

Others present: Berta Strigel

1. Called to order at 7:40pm
2. February and March meeting minutes approved unanimously. **Motion made by Kim, seconded by Lindsay**
3. Treasurer Update (Colleen on behalf of Chris) – We discussed the idea of paying someone to be the PTO bookkeeper and splitting this task from the role of the Treasurer. Bookkeeper may also be helpful if we were to re-start after-school enrichment programs and had tax and other obligations to pay those teachers. Since it would be a new expense most likely it would be done on a trial basis. It was suggested that the reimbursement request form be re-worked and available online with direct links to specific line items in order to streamline the reimbursement process. We will solicit more thoughts on this topic at the next meeting. Please email Colleen with questions, thoughts or concerns.
4. Fundraising Update, including Rummage Sale plans (Kristina, Lindsay) – While only donations of \$250 or more require a written acknowledgment for tax purposes, it would be useful to keep track of all donations for Carnival and other events for record-keeping purposes. Parking is being organized for the Spring Football game on Saturday April, 23. A few volunteers are still needed for the Rummage Sale. We will not have receipts available for rummage sale donations. Event organizers have reached out to staff at both schools to determine if they have any specific needs that might be met through some of the Rummage sale “leftovers.” Sara and Lindsay are interested in creating a video collage for the newsletter to say thank you to parents for supporting the PTO this year. A consideration would be to not include any footage of students whose parents have requested they not be photographed at school.
5. Review and vote on Policy for Including Community Events\* in PTO Newsletter (see bottom of the minutes)- No new questions were raised. **A motion to pass this new policy was made by Lindsay, seconded by Kristina and approved unanimously by the Board.**
6. Parent Empowerment Group Reports (Tonya) – In March the nurse came to both meetings to talk about the Fitness Challenge. The Latino PEG families filled out various surveys including school climate and class placement surveys. They were informed of opportunities for scholarships at Goodman pool and were able to ask questions about providing classroom snacks. The Hmong PEG will be hosting a cooking class fundraiser at their last meeting on April 20th.

There will be a summer school opportunity (K-5) at Bayview this summer taught by 4 F-R (or F-R affiliated) teachers. Any changes in the current ELL plans will be communicated to families.

7. Other updates –

a. Nominating committee (Colleen, Amy, Melissa)- There are several people interested in the open at-large positions, but the Vice-President position is currently open. The goal would be to find someone who might be willing to transition into the President role after a year, but this is not required to hold the position. Please think of community members who might be willing to serve in this role.

b. International Dinner (Paul)- The event will be held at Randall on Saturday, April 30th in the late afternoon/early evening. Details will come out in this week's newsletter. Paul and Gene are finalizing entertainment and food options.

c. Equity and Inclusion, Health & Wellness, and Franklin Play yard Committee updates made at PTO Membership meeting (Colleen)- No updates on Classroom Inclusion builders. The Hmong cooking class fundraiser will be held at Bayview on Wednesday, April 20 from 5:45-7:30pm. Cost is \$20. Play yard updates were provided during the Membership meeting.

8. Discussion of PTO's role in sharing information and advocating for broader MMSD / public school issues and forums for seeking parent/teacher input on PTO priorities (meeting, survey, etc.) – We will revisit this issue with the new Board and explore the question further. Is the current organizational structure of our PTO preventing us from advocating for our public schools (especially with the challenges schools face due to budget cuts)? We discussed the idea of hosting a “Town Hall Meeting” at the beginning of next school year to provide a more open-ended forum for discussion related to this and other issues facing our schools.

9. Adjourned at 8:35pm

Submitted by Melissa Hornung

**Draft Policy for Including Community Events\* in PTO Newsletter**

*\*defined as an event or news item that is not pertaining directly to the Franklin-Randall PTO, Schools, or does not directly support Franklin-Randall students (i.e. announcements about community groups or events that provide direct support to Franklin-Randall families such as food, clothing, etc. are not covered by this policy)*

Community event announcements can be included at the discretion of the newsletter editors if space allows. In order to be included they must first go through the MMSD approval process to be posted on MMSD's community calendar page. Announcements should be limited to no more than three sentences; web links can be used to provide more information. The Community event announcements should run at the very bottom of the newsletter after all PTO and school news.