# FK PTA General Meeting Minutes
# Nov. 12, 2019
# Flocktown Library

In attendance: Laura Silvia, Stefanie Lourenco, Alicia Contractor, Kieran Rafter, Lisa Groel, Sara Amento, Jessica Love, Alicia Lippay, Kathy Holzer, Christine Szrom, Michele Ruppert, Kimberly Miele, Mike Craver, Diane Hammer, Ashley Collins, Kate Paquette

**7:02 PM Meeting called to order - Welcome & Introductions**

Sara Amento made motion to approve minutes from October meeting, Kieran Rafter second, all in favor, approved

**Treasurer's Report:**

Fun Run at about $5K, going forward for fund raisers should do Harlem Wizards or Fun Run but not both.

$2,675 KidStuff profit, $695 Family Portraits profit

Trick or Trunk, very successful, flyers really helped gain exposure

**Co-President, Kathy Holzer:**

**FK PTA By Laws:**

Put Vice President of Family and Childrens' Programs as Board Position making quorum be 19 votes: (9 Board Positions x 2) + 1=19 votes

Vote to designate Executive Committee to include 2 Co-Presidents, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Vice President of Children and Family Programs, Vice President of Ways and Means, and Vice President of Membership. Vote taken by paper ballot, 15 FKPTA member votes for yes to approve the Executive Board as described for the by-laws.

**Open Chair Positions:**

**Spring Carnival Chair f**or 2020**-**will reach out to other parents who are Spring Carnival Co-chairs, will mention on eblasts

**Mother/Son Event Co-chair** for 2020

**Room Parent Coordinator** for 2020-2021

**Silver Graphics Chair** for 2020-2021

**Ways and Means Chair** for 2020-2021

**Reflections Chair** for 2020-2021

**School Store Chair** will be needed in 1-2 years, could reach out to 2nd grade parents in preparation for next year, Heidi could be lead next year and then have 2 co-chairs

**Harlem Wizards:**

needs more volunteers, will post in more sites to generate more community interest

**Scholastic Book Fair:** coming up soon

**Reflections:**

Received 13 enteries, 3 Kossmann, 10 Flocktown, putting together Judges Panel, need a chair for next year, will reach out to parents of kids who have participated in past, Gallery Night will be Dec. 4 in Flocktown library, will have certificates for all participants and prizes will be given out, kids can talk about their work if they want; may have Graffiti wall in hallway outside music room to have photos of art work, can be a place for comments on the work submitted

**Holiday Shop:**

First week in December, goal of 1100 gifts, tying up loose ends, may not need help wrapping, if help needed will send out email, will get gifts here on her own, relative has trunk to transport gifts, volunteers for week, will have Sign Up Genius, Stef will work on flyer to go out, school store may get switched to Dec. 4

**Assemblies:**

Kit's Interactive Theater  was here with "American Revolution" for 4th and 5th grade and "Pioneer Travel on the Oregon Trail" for 2nd and 3rd grade, was well received

Next program is PreK and 2nd grade "Fundamentals of Physics" from Liberty Science Center, Tanglewood Marionettes, Jan. 13

**Glow Bowling:** Jan. 24, Friday of MLK week, $11/person, food a la carte

**Mr. Craver:**

Assemblies going well, teachers like them especially the "Signatures", had a good message, Centenary production well received by kindergarten and 1st grades, kids had good weather and good time for Fun Run, have 18 players for Harlem Wizards, report cards out 12/9, trimester ends 11/27; "Mindful Parenting" workshop 11/20 paid for by Municipal Alliance of Washington Township; Stuff the Bus was successful, Halloween Parade went well, Veteran's Day had 2 flag raisings, Mrs. Sobel's brother is NASA rocket scientist and came to speak to 5th graders, Mr. Craver and Mr. Winstead do Flocktown Kossmann FaceBook page

7:50 PM Meeting adjourned

Board of Education Candidates:

Kathy Koop

Running for re-election, BOE member for 12 years, is on the 4th term, is BOE president now; was 1st and 3rd grade teacher in Great Meadows and is principal in Madison, is president of the Teacher's Union, completed a Dr. of Education, NJ School Board Association member, is a trainer, also paid for by the NJ School Board Association, is going to School Board Association convention and is presenting; Iowa Lighthouse Study, says all BOE activity should be to support students, helped establish full day kindergarten, supported and expanded Gifted and Talented, STEM, middle school clubs, supported Solar Garden Projects at Cucinella and LVMS, security upgrades, believes in supporting the whole child academic, emotional and psychological support, may help establish a foundation for alternative sources of funding, looking into supporting teachers with grant funding, will be speaking tomorrow on relationship of superintendent and school board in Atlantic City/NJ School Board Association

John Gorman

On Board for 3 years, has 2 children currently in Long Valley schools, has child with IEP, currently works for YMCA, Board needs to be considerate of the needs of children, parents, teachers, school administrators and residents of town that don't have children in school currently

Jessica DeCicco

Has 4 children, 3 currently in Long Valley schools, was a substitute teacher and aide, active in PTO, started attending BOE meetings due to interest in teachers' contract difficulties; is very interested in maintaining quality special education services, is concerned with quality of middle school and preparation for high school, is concerned with transparency at BOE meetings, started live streaming BOE meetings, wants to explore alternate funding options, feels disconnected due to superintendent who is also director of special ed/special services

Comment-Regarding posting of minutes from BOE, commentor feels posting of minutes makes BOE accountable

Kelly DeMayo

Went through Long Valley school system, became involved with BOE when air quality concerns surfaced with Old Farmers Road school, feels area of spending can be improved buy many of our facilities need upgrades, at least 70% of tax dollars go to schools, need to ensure we have a safe, healthy buildings for students and teachers, need prioritized spending, need more transparency with BOE, wants more detailed and accurate board minutes as a matter of open public record, feels there is a need for more creative funding notes, doesn't see a system of checks and balances between board and administrators

Kiera Horutz-Mitchell

Went through Long Valley school system as a student, was involved in Cucinella PTO, is on Long Valley Middle School PTA, has had 2 different experiences with Special Education services especially literacy program, $45 million budget for schools, wants easily accessible budget with direct link

Lisa Wooding

Self described "career volunteer", VP of Board last 5 years, president is from Mendham, feels important to have female presence on Board, right now there are 2 females and 7 males on Board, health care costs are always a concern, West Morris Central has International Baccalaureate program with multiple paths, is committed to maintaining facilities, have not had to put out referendum in many years, family meetings with guidance department start earlier, in the sophomore year; parent newsletter for WMCHS, focus on student wellness, stress management, homework free weekends; earlier start to school year hives 2 weeks extra over previous calendar for testing in May to put us more on par with many parts of the country, ChromeBooks, Board making sure teachers are integrating them into classrooms

Comment-advantages of making Washington Township a K-12 district instead of K-8 plus high school amounting to 2 superintendents, etc.would be advantages to have K-12 district

Clayton Zdroik

Sophomore at Rutgers University, was a student at WMCHS, wants to see improvements in technology, doesn't feel like 1:1 ChromeBooks necessary, wants better computers that can be shared; computer science department needs improvement, wants to advocate for foreign language education improvement

Motion to approve September's minutes, second, all in favor, approved

Budget, Treasurer's Report

-Membership numbers doing very well, at the end of October, will be over projections

-KidStuff about $500 under budget

Proposal was made to amend budget for Children's Assemblies. Kindergarten and 1st grade were not able to go to Signature's Project assembly, would like to bring alternate assembly for $895. The increase will be by $895 from $8505 to $9400. Motion made to approve budget increase, seconded, all in favor, approved.

Spirit Wear-shop open until Nov. 3 and then will be closed for the rest of the school year. Recommendation made to open longer next year, was asked if we could buy stock to sell at orientation, may look into another company, extra product could be donated for Tricky Tray, raffles, etc.

Fun Run-Free sign being made, balloon columns being considered, there are many volunteers, may be able to get fruit donated from Chester Shoprite

Reflections-entries due soon

Harlem Wizards-date to open ticket sales to community was debated, considered waiting until next week to open up to community, maybe hand out flyers at Trick or Trunk or Halloween parade, will try and wait until after Harlem Wizard Assembly to open ticket sales to the public. More volunteers are needed.

Meeting ended approximately 9:30 PM