

FRES PTA

PTA Welcome Back Meeting

Tuesday 8/23/2022 at 7pm

Via ZOOM

Meeting Start: Meeting started by Cecily at 703pm

Officers Present: Cecily Goulange, Phil Magovern, Trisha Tetreault, Michelle Ransom

Members Present: Jennifer Catalone, Jennifer Hibbins, Meaghan Martin and Dana Pustinger

Minutes: N/A

General Information: Jennifer Hibbins shared that there will be a School Committee Meeting at 7pm that is open to the public on Wednesday 8/24/2022 at the FRES Library. The meeting will be a closed session for the first half, but the second half will be open to the public.

President's Report: Cecily

1. Welcome
 - a. Very informal - this meeting
 - b. Next meeting will be more formal and earlier notification with an agenda
2. Membership Drive/Role of PTA/3 Prong Approach
 - a. Survey - Cecily will develop
 - i. Suggestion on meeting times and days
 - ii. Goal to increase involvement of FRES families
 - iii. What can the PTA do to better support FRES families
 - iv. Cecily welcomes ideas on survey topics/questions
 - b. Back to School Night
 - i. PTA will host a membership table
 - c. Presence at drop off and pick up
 - i. End of September/Beginning of October
 - ii. Friendly PTA members with membership forms
3. Fall fundraiser -
 - a. Unanimous vote for utilizing Meadow Farms for our Fall Fundraising event
 - b. Dates: 9/19 - 10/7 (tentative)

Treasurer's Report: Trisha

1. VENMO
 - a. Can't use moving forward

- b. Cheddar Up is a suggestion of an alternative platform that is approved by the MA PTA
 - i. Payers typically pay the fee (3.5% and 0.59 flat fee for credit cards and a flat fee of 0.59 for checks)
 - ii. Platform allows for advertising items (such as fundraisers and field day t-shirts)
 - 1. Meaghan Martin feels this would be easier for Field Day t-shirts as an example so parents can pay via the app and eliminate the cash coming into the school and staff.
 - 2. Jennifer C discussed it being used for Cash Calendar.
 - iii. Multiple membership levels:
 - 1. Basic would work for our organization
 - iv. Works with money minder software
 - v. Trish motioned to approve Cheddar Up Free Version and Phil seconds it - unanimous vote to accept.
 - vi. Trish will come back to PTA leadership if there is a need to upgrade the membership of Cheddar Up.
 - c. Chalk the Walk - 8/29
 - i. Trish purchased the chalk
 - ii. Plan for 4p-6p
 - iii. Plan to email the current PTA list and add to the PTA Facebook Page
 - iv. PTA Facebook Page
 - 1. Access to Membership
 - a. Jennifer C will add Michelle, Cecily and Trish to site admins
2. Discussed Give Back Programs:
- a. Currently use Box Tops as well as Amazon Smile
 - i. Box Tops
 - 1. Averaging \$60-90/year on average
 - 2. Minimal work
 - 3. People are still using - keep in place
 - ii. Amazon Smile
 - 1. Revenue more than Box Tops
 - iii. Give Backs
 - 1. Potential to switch
 - 2. Trish will send information out on
 - 3. <https://www.givebacks.com/aboutus>

Vice Presidents' Report - Phil MacGovern:

1. Fall Fundraiser
 - a. Dates approved for 9/9 - 10/7
 - b. Will be using Meadow Farms of Agawam
 - c. There will be catalogs and online ordering
 - d. Everything will be shipped home to the child and long distance supporters can pay a small fee to have mailed to their homes
 - e. PTA thanked Dana for reaching out and recommending this company.

New Business:

1. Trunk or Treat - Otis:
 - a. Jennifer C questioned if PTA wanted to be involved
 - b. PTA leadership agrees to remain involved in the event
 - c. Jennifer C discussed collaborating with Sandisfield Rec Committee with the Otis Rec Committee and will discuss at next Otis Rec Committee Meeting
 - d. Jennifer C to follow up with us once Otis Rec Committee speaks with Sandisfield
2. PTA Meeting location/online versus in person:
 - a. PTA can have access of the school per Tom
 - b. PTA can engage a paraprofessional to assist with childcare per Tom
 - c. PTA plans to have a blend of in person as well as online (Zoom)

Next meeting: TBD - PTA will circle back once survey has been conducted and distribute to the community.

Meeting adjourned: 744pm.