

Farmdale FPA Meeting Minutes  
September 21, 2017

Meeting called to order at: 6:32 pm

Minutes from: May 30, 2017

Changes: none

Motion: approved

Treasurer's Report (Whitney Ireland)

- Please see the attached treasurer report to view last year's fiscal year information. We earned extra money last year that will be used for special things for the students this year. Some items we have discussed, shade for the playground and a family fun night with some type of entertainment for all to attend for free. Once decisions are made, they will be announced to families in the district.
- We did cover the cost for the summer library for three days this summer to give students the opportunity to check out books to read.
- The new budget is also shown on the far right hand column for this school year.

Changes: None

Motion: approved

Principal's Input: (Mrs. Pearson)

- The start to school year went smoothly. Sneak a peek went great with students coming in to meet their new teachers. One of the things we are doing new is having open communication. I have been calling new families to welcome them in to Farmdale. I think this is really important, it gives them an opportunity to ask questions and talk to them about things that are going on with their students that they may not reach out and contact us about.
- Another huge initiative, this year is "Be the one." We had our kick off assembly and it was a lot of fun reinforcing it to our current students and introducing it to our new students. The book we are using this year is called "Only One You," and it was read to every class in the school. The theme, of the book, is trying to be the one and recognize you have so many great things about you and why not share that with others to make it a better place. That is what we are trying to highlight here.

- Some things we are really trying to do here this year is helping to empower students to not only help themselves but to also help others. Typically we have sixth graders who do special things throughout the building, for ie. safety patrol, bus leaders and other items. They each filled out an application and I will be choosing those positions shortly. We also want them to give of their talents to others because they are great role models in the building. But also, we want other students to be able to share their talents as well.
- I really believe in getting to know kids and their backgrounds and adult stories so we are able to best meet their needs. Like I said on Back to School night, when you walk through these doors every single staff member wants to embrace your child on their level. Maybe they are not exactly at the level they need on one subject and are above level in another, but that does not mean they are not going to get there, it just means they are not there yet.
- Please if you hear anything within the community from parents that are not happy, communication is the key. So please go to that person directly and if they are not sure how to approach the teacher, please have them call me and we can brainstorm. It is nice to go directly to the teacher but sometimes parents are not sure how to approach it. So they can always use me.
- We are heading in to a busy fall and we are looking forward to it. We are in the process of trying to finalize our read in night plans. The plan is to work through Millersville and have a book illustrator to tie in the arts and do a “Reading is everywhere,” theme. We will pull in resources from our school community, through our high school, and pulling people in from the FCS department and the tech ed department, etc. We want to show kids that reading is everywhere, when I make a recipe that is reading, when you put together an item in the mail that’s reading, when I read the newspaper that’s reading. We want to be creative and think outside of the box because not everyone likes reading but it is an important part of our life and we need to show them that reading is everywhere, not just in the classroom.
- Pssa will change this year and will reduce the number of test sessions by one in ELA and also in math. Before we used to test in four different sessions in ELA and we are going down to three and in math we used to test in three different sessions and now it is going down to two sessions.

Science will remain the same for fourth graders. For me, that is a welcome surprise. Testing and assessments are important, it helps us to know where students are currently. PSSA is a totally different assessment than all the other assessments we give in the district, but again it helps us keep our finger on the pulse of how things are going. PSSA can be stressful and to me that is a huge relief that there is a reduction.

- Our district's goal is to help all student's to be career and college ready and that is the ultimate goal. We want every student to thrive and so from elementary and up, that is what we are striving to achieve; to help everyone feel good about themselves, recognize their strengths, and be contributing members of our local community and society.
- If ever you have any suggestions on ways we can do things differently please let me know. Something I am changing this year is using our eblasts more frequently. I will be sending out monthly newsletters. If you subscribed, you saw the August/September edition. We will soon post the October edition. We are still trying to do the weekly eblasts to let you know what is coming in the week ahead. If you ever think there needs to be more information added to that, let me know. Wendy will be taking over the eblasts and I will be doing the newsletters.
- Car rider line is running a little slower due to staff shortage, also Mr. Bernhardt was out for a few days. Changes are being made and I will check into it and work to help in whatever way possible.
- Please make sure to sign up for the eblasts. It is really important to be able to stay connected.

#### Teacher's Input: (Miss Wysocki)

- I am new to Farmdale, so far I have no new input from the teachers. I will fill you in as I receive more information.
- A week before each board meeting, an email will be sent to teachers to check and see if there are any questions for the board.
- Any financial requests will be through Mrs. Pearson for approval before presented.

#### SPAC Report: (Ed Kreibeck/Leisel Allgyer)

- There has been no meeting yet, the next meeting will be next week.
- If anyone has questions that they want asked email Kristen
- They meet with the superintendent to discuss district wide problems and information.

## Old Business:

### -Sneak a Peek—Scoops Fundraiser (Rachel Clinton)

- Scoops Ice Cream and Grill provided an ice cream truck during Sneak a Peek. Ice cream was sold for \$3 each with sprinkles costing an additional \$1 as a way to help fundraise for the FPA and to give students and parents an opportunity to reconnect and socialize after summer break. The FPA earned \$72.71 from this endeavor and it was very well received by parents and students alike.

### -Volunteer forms (Dana Taylor)

- The volunteer forms were sent home on the first day of school. We are currently compiling lists and they will be provided to chairpersons as their event draws near.
- Chairpersons have already received their parent information and will be contacting parents as their needs occur.

### -Room Parent volunteer paperwork (Sue Forry)

- Room parent volunteer forms were sent home the first week of school. Papers were due back by Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. Huge thanks to Dana Taylor for sorting all the papers.
- I met with Mrs. Pearson to select room parents. Some classrooms had no one volunteer to be room parent, one had no one volunteer to be room parent NOR on the room parent committee. The most that volunteered in one classroom to be room parents was five individuals.
- Room parent papers were sent home on Thursday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. This contained information on the upcoming room parent meeting. Thank you to all individuals who volunteered.
- Room Parents will be asked to contact their committees by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

### -Back to School Night (Kristen Nikolaus)

- An informational table and falcon cart were set up during the “Back to School Night” event to help create dialogue with parents about what we do and answer any questions.

## New Business:

### -Kids Stuff Coupon Books (Beth Rodkey)

- The Kid Stuff book fundraiser was run from September 7<sup>th</sup> until September 21<sup>st</sup>. As of September 17<sup>th</sup>, we have made a \$307.50

profit. At that time, 100 books were returned and two orders filled (3 books total). Final totals will be available upon the close of the fundraiser.

-R&K Sub Sale (Dana Taylor)

- The sale will run from September 14<sup>th</sup> until September 28<sup>th</sup>. Forms will be tallied and turned in to R&K subs by October 5<sup>th</sup>. Delivery will occur on October 17<sup>th</sup> and coincide with Parent/Teacher conferences. This is a great way to feed your family during a busy time. At the completion of the sale, summaries and comparisons to last year's sales will be provided.

- Pellman's Pie Sale (Shelby Seigrist)

- The sale will start on October 5<sup>th</sup> to October 19<sup>th</sup>. The delivery of the pies will be November 16<sup>th</sup> just in time for Thanksgiving.

-Book Fair (Whitney Dover)

- The fall book fair will run from November 6<sup>th</sup> until November 10<sup>th</sup>. The tentative fair hours are as follows: November 7<sup>th</sup>, "Dudes & Donuts," 7:30-8:30 am; November 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-6 pm; November 9<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-3:30 pm and November 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-12 pm. This year's fall themes if the Wild West. The time line for planning will be:
- Three weeks before we will set up the classroom sign up for the book fair.
  - Typically we will need 5 to 6 volunteers for set up/tear down.
  - Two to three volunteers will be needed per time slot during the day unless multiple classes are shopping at the same time, then we will need 3 to 4 volunteers.
  - Evenings during Read in Night or another event will require 4-5 volunteers.
- Three weeks before we will send out the sign up genius for volunteers for this special event.
  - Two volunteers will be needed at each cash register and for floating to help students shop.
  - Two to three volunteers will be needed for the food table.
  - Four volunteers will be needed for childcare in the gym starting at 8 am.
  - Teachers and staff may be interested in volunteering for this event.

- Two to three weeks before, we will send invites to the teachers about the teacher preview event.
- Two to three weeks before, we will send sign up genius for volunteers to request desserts for the teacher preview.
- Natalie and I will both be attending the Scholastic training in October.

-Box Tops (Lisa Miller)

- The deadline to submit box tops is October 20<sup>th</sup>. I will be discussing prize options with Mrs. Pearson in the near future.
- Please ask your co workers and family to help donate as well.
- Please check the expiration date on the box tops before sending them in to the school.

-Bonus Cards (Kristen Nikolaus)

- Bonus cards can be activated starting September 12<sup>th</sup> for Musser's Markets, Giant and Stauffer's of Kissel Hill. Please don't forget to use Amazon Smile for your Amazon purchases as well. Below are the directions for how to sign up for each:

- **Musser's Markets:**

Go to <http://www.musersmarket.com/community-rewards/>

Register your Gold Card number to the benefit of Farmdale.

If you don't have a computer, please stop at the customer service desk and they will link your card number to Farmdale.

- **Giant A+ Rewards:**

Go to [www.giantfoodstores.com](http://www.giantfoodstores.com), register and create an account

Go to the A+ page, found under My Giant Card and follow instructions to designate our school and ID

School Name: Farmdale Elementary School

School ID: #21990

If you have already registered your card, you do not need to register again, just log onto your account and confirm our school's ID.

- **Stauffer's of Kissel Hill:**

If you don't have a Stauffer's Rewards Card,

1. Stop at the Customer Service desk in the store to get one.
2. Create an e-shop account.
3. After logging in to your e-shop account, click on My School Rewards and choose which school you would like to support.

If you have a Stauffer's Rewards card,

1. Create an e-shop account
2. Click on my School Rewards and choose which school you would like to support

What if I have an e-shop account on a partner site? (i.e. Family Owned Markets and Darrenkamp's)

1. Use your existing username and password to log in to e-shop on <http://skh.supermarket.shoptocook.com/on-sale/>
2. Click on My School Rewards and choose which school you would like to support.

- **Amazon Smile:**

To sign up, create an account and choose *Farmdale Faculty Parent Association* as the recipient. Every time you shop through Amazon Smile, a percentage is donated to Farmdale!

Round Table:

- Micael McGovern: The FPA will be offering two scholarships for Farmdale students to apply for during their senior year. Each will be \$500 and it is included in the budget for this year.
- Terri Meyer: I am willing to volunteer more as my work schedule is more flexible. Please let me know what I can do to help.
- Kristen Nikolaus: Since the October meeting date is only two weeks away, our next meeting will be in November.

Meeting adjourned at: 7:34 pm

Next Meeting: November 2, 2017