

## Franconia Home and School Meeting Minutes

Date: September 15, 2015

Next H & S Meeting: October 13, 2015

Attending: K. Dommel, C. Hahn, G. Ryan, T. Martinson, S. Boell, L. Gavin, L. Martin, K. Word, S. Parente, C. Benfield, K. Derstein, E. Feldwieser, D. Comperatore, I. Ahart, T. Hennessy, K. Adams

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Kim Dommel

President's Report: Kim Dommel

- Minutes from the May 12, 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion by Liz Martin and seconded by Luciann Gavin.
- We are looking for the following chairperson heads for next year: Spiritwear, Hands Across the District, 5<sup>th</sup> grade celebration and a Treasurer to train.
- New Business – Thanks were given to those who completed the Hands Across the District form required for volunteering and a reminder to complete it if anyone plans to volunteer for more than ten hours for the year. Fingerprinting is new this year and required if volunteering for more than ten hours and if PA residency is less than ten years. If residency is greater than ten years, then a waiver can be completed instead.

Principal's Report: Gail Ryan

- Thanks to the participants of the Summer Book Blasts. There was a good turnout and it was great to see the students over the summer months.
- The new school year is off to a great start with the smoothest first week for everyone.
- There are staff changes this year including Kindergarten teacher/ Title I assistant, Lindsay Creed, two new 1<sup>st</sup> grade teachers, Kelsey Suder and Theresa Hunsicker, a new 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher, Alexandra Roth, a new 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Jennifer Czajkowski,, Title I teaching assistants, Patricia Burns and Ashley Edwards, building substitute Marissa Lewis and Title I Teacher, Laxmi Joshi.
- Kindergarten has 51 students this year rounding out three classes versus four that Franconia had last year. Registrations continue to roll in.
- The new office space is complete and the speech room and Counselor's office have moved into the old office space area.
- Thanks for the back to school breakfast hosted by the hospitality committee and volunteers, especially Liz Martin, Amy Perilli and Ingrid Ahart, and all of the wonderful food. Thanks to the volunteers for first grade lunch week. Thanks to the Back to School picnic volunteers, especially Jen Reath for organizing.
- PSSA scores are in, but they have dropped dramatically everywhere. Franconia did well in the district and will be 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> highest, but the results are still unofficial so this is to be determined.
- The Robotic club has 3 new robots which were presented in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms. This year, all of the students will have an opportunity in the classrooms to work with them, and the club will still meet either in the am, pm or during lunch period – the time is to be determined.
- This year's goals include:

- Franconia's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration – Events are in the process of being discussed and planned.
- Focusing on establishing a spirit of gratitude – Living and celebrating in the moment.
- Help the students develop *Habitudes*, habits and attitudes for a lifetime to serve them well beyond school, i.e. imagination, curiosity, self-awareness, courage, perseverance, adaptability and passion.
- Engage more parents in the school community by making everyone feel included. A committee has been established to address this.
- Have fun!
- Follow Mrs. Ryan on Twitter -- Gail Ryan @FRprincipal for updated school information or pictures. The pictures are also on the School's Web site.

#### Treasurer's Report: Carolyn Hahn

- June was a busy month fiscally. We wrapped up the Race for Education donations and surpassed our goal, bringing in \$25, 440.24. It was the first year we did the Race in the spring versus the fall, which makes it even more successful.
- The budget will be posted monthly as will the revenue from last year.
- The yearbook invoices were paid from last year.
- Teachers were all given \$75 each to use in their classrooms.
- Author fees for the book blast were paid, \$1500.00.
- The Lego Robotics club has \$1, 000 from last year left to spend. There was discussion last year regarding how to spend it as there was uncertainty surrounding the program. Now, the program will definitely continue this year, so spending this can be discussed.
- Final budget numbers for 2014-2015 year: Total year-to-date revenue = \$73,064.83, Total YTD expenses= \$64,505.80
- Our fiscal year began in July, 2015.
- The budget was approved from this year at the last meeting.
- This year is a "play year" meaning the drama club will host a play, so the funds in the drama budget will be used this year.
- The Spanish club, Drama club, Chorus/ Band/ Orchestra, and Robotics club all have their funds for their fundraisers and activities run by the Home and School so they show on our reports.

#### Committee Reports:

- **Box Tops** – Mandy Alderfer/ Liz Martin: Flyers are going home for the first collection contest on September 28<sup>th</sup>. A new contest is being rolled out at the classroom level this year since we raise quite a bit of funds with this. The chairs feel if we put a little more effort into this we may be able to raise even more funds. More information to follow in the flyers.
- **Family Events** – Jen Reath: Back to School Picnic was a success.
- **Fifth grade celebration** – We are looking for a chairperson for this. Cheramie Benfield tentatively volunteered to assist if there is an individual willing to co-chair.
- **Giant A+ Rewards Program** – Megan Olberding: The contest has changed this year and information will be sent home shortly. The new contest runs from September 24<sup>th</sup> through October 9<sup>th</sup>. If you have already signed up to reward Franconia on your card in years past, you

do not need to re-enroll. The contest will depend on the honor system as we no longer are able to input names and card numbers.

- **Hands Across the District** – Blythe Bealer: Final spreadsheets will be distributed accordingly as the forms are rolling in still. A committee head will be needed next year.
- **Holiday Family Event** – Janie Hagan: This is held the first Friday in December. The committee heads are as follows: Aimee Ricci is heading the baked goods sale, Katie Pisoni and Kelli Adams are heading the craft tables, Mickey Hurley is handling Santa, and Jamie Fox and Stacy Bucher are heading the gift shop. Sign up genius will go around in November for volunteer sign ups.
- **Home and School Website** - Kelli Adams: The officers were updated as were current events. The 2015-2016 budget is posted.
- **Homeroom Parent Coordinator** – Stacy Bucher: Most lead parents have been assigned. Four classrooms need a lead parent. There will be a lead parent meeting in early October – date TBD.
- **Hospitality** – Liz Martin and Ingrid Ahart: The back to school teacher breakfast was a success. Thanks to Amy Perilli for all of her help.
- **Kidstuff Coupon Books** – Karen Anderson: Flyers went home and the books can be picked up at Back to School night in the classrooms. Books or orders are due back by September 30<sup>th</sup>.
- **Pretzel Day** – Tina Martinson: First pretzel day is Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, monies are due on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Volunteers are needed and will be contacted through the Hands Across the District forms. We are using the Souderton Philly Pretzel shop this year versus the Quakertown shop from last year as it stopped offering a discount and the Souderton shop is less expensive.
- **Race for Education** – Deb Wizneski and Cheri McGiboney: Race is scheduled for spring 2015. A VeriQuest machine was purchased with some of the earnings from last year and additional funds will be put towards technology upgrades, classroom needs, fieldtrips, family nights, etc.
- **School Directory** – Cheramie Benfield: The directory is near completion, but some forms are still coming in. She will be getting this together shortly to be distributed to those families who elected inclusion.
- **Spanish Club** – Karyn Winters: Registration forms are going out on September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **Spiritwear**- Tamar Hennessy: T-shirts for new students and teachers were ordered and most have been distributed. A second order will need to be placed due to increased student registrations and an order will be placed from back to school night orders. A sample table will be put up for back to school night.
- **Sundae Bar** – Kimberly Ogelsky: Dates are still being determined and Kim will be contacting volunteers shortly from the Hands Across the District responses.
- **Yearbook** – Janie Hagan: Volunteers are needed! Thanks to Stacy Bucher for handling the PDA sales! The majority of tasks can be done at home and other tasks include picture taking in the classroom and at events. Lead homeroom parents are asked to forward the volunteer opportunity along. No-obligation training planned for October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Adams

Home and School Secretary