

**PTA MEETING MINUTES
O.W. HOLMES MIDDLE SCHOOL**

February 10, 2009

Budget Discussion

- Kaye Kory of the FCPS School Board (Mason District representative) provided an update on the county budget and the impacts of proposed budget reductions on the school system. She highlighted increasing enrollment expectations for the 2009-2010 school year and potential changes to class size, student/teacher ratio, school activities, and staffing. She requested parental and community involvement in upcoming public hearings regarding the county budget and indicated that hearing dates will be published on the FCPS website (www.fcps.edu).

Then, Ms. Johnson called the business meeting to order and reviewed the meeting agenda.

Upon motion made and duly seconded, the minutes of the meeting of January 13, 2009, as previously distributed, were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- Mr. Horvath distributed the Treasurer's Report for January 2009 and highlighted receipt of the Mo's fundraising check.

Principal's Report

Mr. Pamas:

- The SLEEP survey is now available for parents, students, teachers and administrators. Teachers will be working with students to explain the SLEEP initiative, without influencing their opinions on the initiative, prior to students taking the survey. The school will also make computers available for parents who are interested in taking the survey, but may not have access to a computer at home.
- 8th graders will be taking the English writing SOLs on March 3rd-5th. Note that 6th and 7th graders will take practice SOLs on those same dates. Additional SOL testing will take place in May – dates to be determined.
- Students will be released at 11:40am on April 1st for Articulation Day.

Faculty/Team Reports

Mr. Czarnecki announced the following dates of interest:

- 2/12 – 7th and 8th grade mini-conference night from 5-7pm
- 2/18 – 6th grade honor roll celebration at 2pm
- 2/20 – 7th and 8th grade honor celebrations
- 2/20 – Deadline for PTA newsletter
- 2/24 – Curriculum night for parents of rising 6th graders
- 2/26 – Curriculum night for parents of 7th and 8th graders
- 3/5 – Police/faculty basketball game

Mr. Czarnecki noted that teachers were working on school supply lists for the 2009-2010 school year in order to meet school kit ordering deadlines.

Mr. Ritter (8th grade):

- Students were very pleased with the Newseum fieldtrip
- Team recognition ceremonies for 2nd quarter honor roll recipients taking place this week
- Teams are preparing for 7th and 8th grade mini-conference nights
- Started remediation TA sessions – designed for in-school supplemental academic assistance -- and will last through May

Ms. Commins (7th grade):

- Selling team t-shirts
- Thanked parents for donations to team incentive program – focusing on rewards for homework completion and on-time attendance

Mr. Patton (6th grade):

- Field trip to American History Museum planned for March – teams will spend roughly 2 to 2-1/2 hours at the museum
- Also planning for future trip to the Planetarium
- Started remediation TA sessions – meeting every other week

Ms. Lofthouse (SCA):

- Offered to volunteer and/or donate items for the faculty/police basketball game in March

Committee Reports

- Newsletter: Ms. Lewis noted the 2/20 deadline for submissions to the newsletter
- Community Service: Ms. Gokturk announced that the community center located at Annandale High School always needs student volunteers – can be used for 8th grade community service hours
- Communications: Ms. Johnson described issues with the email communication process. She noted that email communications are limited to school news and that external groups are not and will not be given the opportunity to use the distribution list for their own purpose. She indicated that the distribution list is not shared with any external groups, despite numerous requests that have recently been received.
- Speakers: Ms. Lunsford noted that the local Score learning center has expressed an interest in providing a program at an upcoming meeting on developing study skills and note-taking.
- Fundraising:
 - Fuddrucker's – Planning another Fuddrucker's night in March – date to be determined
 - Basketball game – Scheduled for March 5th. Flyers will be distributed to students.
 - Bingo – Scheduled for May 8th to coincide with 3rd quarter honor roll assembly. Still looking for a volunteer to organize the event.
 - Walk-a-thon – Scheduled for April 18th. Details will be provided in the PTA newsletter. Expect registration forms to be distributed to students on or around March 26th.
- Health Fair: Scheduled for May 16th. More details will be forthcoming.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.