

Forest Park PTA General Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 6, 2024
Meeting held at Forest Park Elementary Cafeteria

2023-2024 PTA Executive Board:

Courtney Black- President
Madeline Moore - President-Elect
Erin Long - Treasurer
Lacey Watts - Treasurer-Elect (absent)
Anna Shelley - Secretary
Mollie Campbell – Education (absent)
Sarah Duke - Buildings and Grounds (absent)
Grace Fleeman – Outreach (absent)
Kami Coleman- Communication (absent)
Julianna Garner- Hospitality
Sydney Ross- Welcoming

Courtney Black welcomed group and called the meeting to order at 8:05 am. C. Black reported on the successful Implementation of Accelerated Reader in the classrooms.

Old Business, Anna Shelley:

- A. Shelley made a motion to approve the October minutes; Erin Long approved, Leah Payne seconded approval of minutes.

Treasurer Report, Erin Long:

- E. Long mentioned the added expenses to budget for paying Robotics, Chess, and violin sponsors
- Ticket sales for Parties in the Park expected to come in and add to the income

Principal Report, Mrs. Ketcher:

- Mrs. Ketcher mentioned Valentine’s Day parties to be held on Wednesday, February 14. Students should not bring sweet treats for birthday or holiday celebrations, etc. due to student dietary restrictions and state law. Students MAY bring treats (please “okay” with teacher first) to pass out to classmates at the end of the day (pencils, erasers, stickers, etc.).

New Business, Courtney Black:

- **Nominating Committee** to be created based on nominations taken from website form and forms distributed in PTA meeting. These nominations will be creating a committee to nominate President- elect, Treasurer- elect, and Secretary for 2024-2025 school year.
- **Student Council doing Valentine’s Day Candygrams, Libby Finch; \$1 each** and to be delivered to students on Valentine’s Day, all collected donations from candygrams

purchased will go to a charity decided on by the Student Council. Booth to purchase candygrams will be located at front of the school before and after school this Friday, February 9.

Roots Garden, Courtney Black:

- Garden will resume March and April after a short pause. Heather Amaro has stepped back from official role of garden teacher. She will now be participating in a volunteer capacity. Teachers will sign-up for garden visits one week in March and April (working on a week for May). Courtney and Madeline Moore are currently searching for someone to fill the role of garden teacher for the next school year. Please let Courtney know of any questions or suggestions for next year.

Building/Grounds, Courtney Black for Sarah Duke:

- Working on obtaining soil and redoing the back garden beds. S. Duke is also working with Heather to support her during the weeks that she will be teaching in March and April.

Spirit Shop, Betsy Blankenship:

- Betsy has a preorder out for FP rain jackets that will arrive beginning of March for \$35 each. Available in student and adult sizes.

Parties in the Park, Karson Wilson:

- K. Wilson said the goal is to drive up attendance for the actual party. VIP and general admission tickets available. VIP passes will have first access to signing up for parties, teachers will come for free; fun band to play while auction is going on
- 18 parties will be available; 13 kid parties
- Still seeking raffle and auction items
- Any parties that do not sell out will be available for purchase after the event on PTA website
- You MUST sign-up AND pay via QR code to lock in party purchase this year

Welcoming, Sydney Ross:

- Kindergarten families will receive school placements soon; tours continue at Forest Park

Education, Courtney Black for Mollie Campbell:

- Teacher wish-lists from grants have been fulfilled
- Tuesday Chess Club will be soon opened up to third grade students; Mr. Hansen wants to encourage third and fourth grade girls to participate

Black History Month, Courtney Black:

- Ms. Rouse doing a wonderful job putting together morning news appearances by students; winner of the best presentation will receive a class pizza party
- Ms. Colbert offering Soul Food Friday on Fridays for the month of February

Hospitality, Julianna Garner:

- Teacher Meetings occur first Monday of the month every month; this is a great opportunity to bring snack donations for our teachers and staff

Communications, Courtney Black for Kami Coleman:

- Please send Kami pictures that you want to be featured on FP Instagram page

Yearbook, Courtney Black for Jenn Moquin:

- Yearbook ad sales end tomorrow, Wednesday, February 7; \$35 to purchase yearbook and sales close in the next couple of weeks; check with Courtney Black to see if you have already purchased a copy
- Please send in pictures to fpyearbook2324@gmail.com

Outreach, Courtney Black for Grace Fleeman:

- Grace is collecting FP approved fall outerwear for students; please drop donations off to Grace Fleeman's first grade classroom

Introduction of Special Guests, Courtney Black:

- **Principal Powell from Pulaski Heights Middle School-** Principal Powell has been principal at PHMS since 2016. School Safety is of utmost importance at PHMS; the school has the lowest reported disciplinary infractions. Principal Powell strives for PHMS to be a safe and excellent school as it is one of the highest performing middle schools in LRSD. PHMS allows students to take advanced math and science classes starting in sixth grade (three semesters of content in two semesters); students can work to earn high school credits; positive collaborative culture in the school between administration, teachers, and parents; low turnover rate for teachers and staff; contact Principal Powell for potential shadow days and tours for the school; extra-curricular opportunities exist (Choir, Band, Orchestra, Quiz Bowl, Chess Team, EAST lab teams, various sports); goal is to create a well-rounded and kind student by the time they leave PHMS

Courtney Black adjourned the meeting at 8:37 am.

Minutes submitted by:

Anna Shelley, PTA Secretary

Minutes approved by:

Courtney Black, PTA President