

Fallsmead PTA Meeting Minutes
April 6, 2010

Nominate Slate

- Nominating committee (Lyn Mullinax, Michelle Goodman and Jen Goode) nominated the slate as listed below. The nomination was seconded and passed.
- Nominate Slate for Next Year's Board
 - o Co-President Jamila Bell
 - o Co-President Troy Mitchell
 - o Vice President Lisa Merkin
 - o Secretary Andrea Samborn
 - o Treasurer Margaret Yee
 - o Parliamentarian Diana Rabinowitz
 - o MCCPTA Rep OPEN
 - o Wootton Cluster Rep David Pawlik

Fundraising Update

- Lyn Mullinax presented a short verbal summary of the financial picture facing the PTA as of 3/31/10. We are down in fundraising and have cut costs in many areas, most notably by distributing our Fallsmedium electronically (cost savings of almost \$2,000). The possibility of offering our membership a "just write a check" option for the necessary amount needed per family was discussed.
- It was noted that our last big fundraiser will be the spring fair/silent auction which we need much help for.
- Lyn also shared the results of her polling to see who would keep their PTA responsibilities and what new needs we will have next year with regard to committee chairs. These needs will be communicated to the membership through a sequence of emails.
- New ideas that came out of the discussion include a possible marketing chairperson, and incentives for chairpersons.

After Care Bid Process Update

- Troy Mitchell spoke on behalf of the committee evaluating the bids. He detailed the process as one where the 8 bids submitted are under review. The next steps include choosing the top 3 bidders (based on value) to interview. The incumbent (The City of Rockville) will participate in the interview process regardless of whether they are chosen as one of the 3 bidders.
- The committee of five includes two parents that are happy with the incumbent, two parents that may not be as happy and one administrator.
- Value is being determined by looking at cost factors, flexibility in schedule, programming and opportunities for scholarship for needy families.
- It was noted that it was critical to keep the needs of all families in mind. The City of Rockville has two price options, one for residents inside the city limits and one for residents outside the city limits. Our families that live in the apartments outside the city limits are currently subject to the higher price level.

- The committee is looking at a survey completed by 90 Fallsmead families that shows the preferences.
- The committee will include site visits to see the top 3 bidders in action before making a decision.
- A final decision will not be made before the next PTA meeting, however, the top 3 bidders will have been chose.
- There will be opportunities to be "heard" at the next PTA meeting if you are not on the committee.
- Surprisingly, the City of Rockville is the most expensive of the bids.
- A Final decision will be made by May 15th.
- Another update will be given at the May PTA meeting.

Science Fair Update

- JoLynn attributed the success of the science fair to the increased participation (88 kids) and the high participation of the teachers.
- She also praised the decision to hold the fair in the spring (not the winter) and recommended that this continue next year. It gave them enough time to market the fair.
- JoLynn and Sheara are stepping down this year. It has been 4 years for JoLynn. We will need someone who loves science and kids to fill their shoes.

Spring Fair/Silent Auction

- Jill updated us with the good news that we have collected many donations but can still use more. She is looking for big ticket items, class baskets, etc.
- Jill also requested more participation for the day of the fair – hopefully, someone from each Fallsmead family!

Principals Report

- Mr. Payne graciously spoke after the PTA business was concluded. He gave a State of the School Address and reviewed with the membership present the current status of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) for Fallsmead. This plan addresses leadership, strategic planning, process management, student and faculty focus and performance results.