

**Folly Quarter Middle School
PTA Executive Board Meeting
November 8, 2007**

Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and acknowledged to be accurate.

President – Janet Rohner

- The PTA will provide food for the next PTA meeting in December. Donna Flemister will coordinate.
- There will not be a Treasurer report at this meeting due to computer problems.
- Report cards will be distributed on November 13th.
- Dana Potts has gotten the directory to the printer. It will be ready after Thanksgiving.
- Mr. Batson did a reading from his new book at the book fair. The PTA should have notified other schools (DOES and TRES) so that their students could have attended the reading as well. The book fair was not as successful this year as previous years. Sales totaled \$5,279.42. A second book fair will be held in the spring.
- Membership – 432 members so far which is better than last year at this time. Karen Drake will be sending a friendly reminder to those who have not become members as yet.
- A second email on the Brick Garden has gone out through ESchoolNewsletter.

First Vice President - Jennifer Hays

- The Falcon Day scheduled for November 16th has been cancelled. It will take place in the spring.
- December 7th – Falcon Night
- December 21st – Falcon Day
- February 2008 – shortened Falcon Day
- A discussion took place regarding involving students in the planning and execution of the Falcon Day/Night events, specifically with regard to ideas for activities and decorating for the events. Dr. Perkins will need to approve student involvement. Jennifer will also check with Melody Scaldara and the grade coordinators about how to implement student involvement.
- Slam n' Jam T-shirts arrived.

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Delegate – Venu Iyengar (delivered by Jennifer Hays)

- Venu presented a motion for the Howard County PTA to adopt the Homewood School and ARL for the purposes of Staff Appreciation. The motion was deferred for clarification. Jennifer will check with Venu on this issue to determine if the council had any specific items they want clarified. It was stated at the meeting that if the PTACHC were to adopt these schools, each PTA in the county should provide an additional \$60 to fund this effort.
- In the interim, a list was emailed to all school PTAs as to the needs for Homewood and ARL.
- In December and January the PTACHC will be having a book drive for gently-used adult books. Karen Mobley will clarify what this means and coordinate this activity.

Principal – Dr. Perkins (delivered by Ms. Szalecki)

- FQMS completed it's first quarter assessments on November 1. The administration of the assessments went smoothly, and as a result, attendance was excellent and scores were higher than before. The second quarter assessments will be held in January.
- Parent/Teacher conferences are coming on November 19-21. Information about the Pick-A-Time conference scheduling system should be available in the weekly newsletter and in the ESchoolNewsletter.
- American Education Week is November 12-16. Parents are welcome to visit during the week.
- The next Coffee and Conversation is scheduled for Thursday, November 15th at 9:00am. The topic is "Getting the most from your Parent/Teacher conference." All are welcome.

Staff Reports

- Mrs. Szalecki provided a list of Dates to Remember:
 - o 11/9 – 7th Grade Medieval Times Field Trip
 - o 11/9 – 8th Grade Slam and Jam – Block 4
 - o 11/13 – Report Cards issued
 - o 12/7 – Principal's Straight A Breakfast
 - o 12/10 – 7th Grade Cultural Arts Assembly – "Good Queen Bess"
 - o 12/11 – Honor Roll Ice Cream

Committee Reports

- **Community Outreach - Karen Mobley**
 - o The coat drive ended and five large bags of coats were collected.
 - o Karen is looking into the possibility of having speakers from Grass Roots or a homeless organization to educate the students on these issues.

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Following the assembly, a collection drive could take place. Items needed include: food, can openers, personal care items, gift cards, etc. Karen will contact Dr. Perkins regarding a date/subject for an assembly to be followed by a collection drive.

- Other proposed ideas include:
 - Possible meetings for parents on community issues, similar to “Coffee and Conversation” meetings, to develop a sense of community.
 - Committee to assist FQMS families who are hit by hardship, though a question was raised as to whether this type of thing happens naturally. Karen will also discuss the possibility for this activity with Dr. Perkins.
- **Magazine Drive – Karen Kelly**
 - Proceeds were \$39,400 with profits of \$15,760. this is not as much as last year but we did not have to pay for prizes this year.
 - QSP (the vendor) wants to finalize for next year. Karen will schedule this.
 - QSP will be asked to remove the mailing coupons next year as these were confusing for many students/parents.
 - The committee is discussing ways to get the 8th grade more involved next year, possibly some kind of prize as an incentive.
 - Communication needs to be better next year.
- **After School Programs – Susan Joseph**
 - The committee brought in three new programs this year:
 - Golf - this was cancelled due to lack of participants
 - Drama Program, “High School Musical” – planning to have a show on January 7th. Location is to be determined. The local high schools are not available. The community center does not have a stage/lights.
 - Kids Art- fashion design class. There was a kick-off event at the beginning of this activity with a ribbon-cutting.
 - The committee is looking at possible classes for boys (cartooning was suggested) and will try golf again in the spring.
 - Other possibilities are cheerleading in the spring and a magic class.
- **Cultural Arts – Heidi Trout (via email)**
 - Gayle Danley Residency – last day 11/9 with Slam n’ Jam. Approximately 20-25 students will perform. Prizes will be awarded to the top three performances as per panel of judges. Participation certificates will be provided for all students performing. 8th Grade t-shirts will be distributed to students during the event. (A question was raised regarding prizes. At the last meeting, it was discussed and decided that recognition prizes would be given to all participants, not prizes for competition. Jennifer will ask why this changed.)
 - Thank you to Melody Scaldara and the 8th grade activities committee for organizing snack and drink donations.
 - “Good Queen Bess” is scheduled for December 10th for the 7th grade. It is a living history presentation depicting Queen Elizabeth.

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- **8th Grade Committee – Melody Scaldara (via email)**
 - o Dr. Perkins and the grade level coordinators met briefly to establish the rules of operation.
 - o Celia Dahan and Tracy Wynns (co-chairs with Melody) will meet with Ms. Marusich on 11/6 to discuss the year.
 - o Slam n’ Jam – water bottles and pre-packaged snacks will be provided. Ms. Marusich ordered the shirts and will need help labeling them.
- **Reflection – Chris Geibel (via email)**
 - o All students should have received information about the contest (through a flyer, ESchoolNewsletter and morning announcements). The theme is “I can make a difference.” Entries are accepted in six categories: Literature, Musical Composition, Photography, Visual Arts, Dance, and Film/Video. The deadline for entry is December 10.
 - o A reminder of the deadline will be sent out late November.
 - o All school winners must be submitted to the county PTA by December 31, 2007.

Closing

- Dana Potts is still waiting for some people to provide information on their committees for the newsletter. She has also updated the website. People should let her know if anything should be added.
- Donna Flemister will coordinate refreshments for American Education Week.
- A proposal was sent to the FQMS PTA to join the Glenelg/Glenwood Safety Committee. The purpose of the committee is to address safety issues affecting children in the community. The next meeting is November 28th at 1pm at Glenelg High School. It is believed that Dr. Perkins will attend. Possibly Karen Mobley should attend for the PTA.
- The memory book is handled by the school. A teacher and IA coordinate this activity (Amy Korman and Shae Bader).
- Adjourned at 8:55pm.