**Meeting Minutes**

Floris PTA General Body Meeting

*Date | Time* 11-15-2023 | 6:30pm |Floris Elementary Cafeteria

# In Attendance: Gail Heidt, Barb Terino, Kat Clifford, Holly Walker, Rob Gibbs, Lisa Barnes, Anissa Redy, Vikram Redy, Amy May, Rekha Channachetti, Krishnaveni M, Aluie Diaz, Jessie Pierce, Hilda Manuella, Tiffani Emami-Locke, Kerin Hamel (via Zoom), Scott Saldana, Mike Stabler, Vannary Thach-Song, Prianka Beaulieu, Katie Sullivan,

* **Welcome**: (Kerin Hamel, PTA President) via Zoom
  + Call Meeting to Order: 6:34 PM
  + Thanks for everyone who helped with Bingo Night
  + January and February meetings will be virtual
    - February will have Principal Stokes from Rachel Carson speak about middle school
  + Introduce Principal Walker
* **Principal’s Welcome**: (Holly Walker, Principal)
  + Harvest Parade and Bingo Night - heard lots of positives
  + A lot of excitement and buzz about Spirit Ball
  + Would like to get the message out that the PTA board are all volunteers
  + Please send a note or an email to give thanks to staff and teachers to show appreciation
  + Winter is coming, please watch the FCPS website for school closings [www.fcps.edu](http://www.fcps.edu)
  + FCPS has not put anything out about traditional snow days or virtual snow days
  + Movement breaks for excitement for physical activity
  + Having winter parties coming up - they are not Christmas, Hanukkah, etc. - no one holiday is more important than another - we honor all the holidays, so please remember to use winter themes: snowmen, snowflakes, winter olympics
* Mr. Gibbs: Nikhil has finished his benches
* **Walk in My Shoes**: (Tiffany Emami-Locke)
  + Teaches our children empathy about others who may have autism, dyslexia, food allergies,
  + Margaret Burns is hosting training sessions to help volunteers run stations
  + Volunteers needed, please email [shdekramer@fcps.edu](mailto:shdekramer@fcps.edu) or let Tiffany, Ms. Walker or Mr. Gibbs know
    - 4th grade - 2:10-3:55 on Dec. 7th
    - 5th grade - 11:40-1:25 on Dec. 6th
    - 6th grade - 1:35-3:05 on Dec. 5th
* **Food Donation Program**: (Katie Sullivan, Communications Secretary)
  + New program that we’d like to bring back to Floris
  + Would need to buy a refrigerator for the cafeteria, many items from lunch are thrown out, but instead can be put in the refrigerator to donate to Embry-Rucker
  + Ms. Walker and Mr. Gibbs have given the go ahead
  + Working with Ms. DeKramer and the Green Team to make sure kids eat their lunch first and then teach them to donate
  + The program stopped because the refrigerator broke
  + Down the line, each grade level will donate food items and have a assembly line to make snack packs or lunches for the shelter
  + Children may not know that there are hungry children right down the street
  + Teaching them to be a global citizen which is a portrait of a graduate
  + Refrigerator + Delivery will cost about $700
  + Tiffany Emami-Locke made a motion to purchase a refrigerator that would not exceed the budget of $1000
  + Motion seconded by Michael Stabler
  + Those for: 21
  + Those against: 0
* **Spirit Ball:** (Jessie Pierce, Katie Sullivan)
  + Friday, Nov. 17th, 6:30 PM, Floris Cafeteria and Gym
  + 550 people
  + DJ is doing it for free
  + SIlent Auction (Kat Clifford)
    - Teachers and Staff have volunteered experiences
      * Pizza party
      * Hot chocolate
      * Crafting with a cricut
      * Tea party with Madame Alexander dolls
      * Guest anchor on the show
      * Colonial breakfast
      * Eat lunch with the principal
    - More that we bid, the more money we get
  + Photo booth that can print strips right
  + Spirit items for sale
  + Pizza and bake sale by SCA and 6th grade
  + Bring cash
  + Not charging an entry fee, but asking for donations for the PTA
* **Parent-Teacher Liaison**
  + Thanks to the PTA, teachers are enjoying the treats and that they are gluten-free!!
* **School Enrichment Programs:** (Michael Stabler, VP of School Affairs)
  + Spelling Bee: Fairfax County cut off is March 7th
    - In person, spelling bee this year: Feb. 12-16th
    - Getting study materials read and registration
  + Final 5K for Girls on the Run
    - Saturday at 7 AM
    - Looking for a coach for the spring season
  + Reflections:
    - Floris doubled the number of admissions they submitted this year
    - They will be sent to the county level
* **Upcoming Fundraisers:**
  + Chipotle Spirit Night (Franklin Farm), Dec. 6th
* **Best Runners:** Swapna Chilmakuru
  + $670 donation presented to the PTA
* **Closing**: (Kerin Hamel)
  + Next PTA meeting: Wednesday, Jan. 17th @ 6:30PM, via Zoom
  + Meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM