

September PTO Meeting Minutes  
6 p.m. September 9, 2025

Phil from Apex stopped by the meeting to share about their school leadership programs. They are connected with other schools in the area and also help with fundraising efforts and would like to help FCE too if possible.

I. Treasurer's Report - Hannah

- A. 2025-2026 budget revision Hannah shared that the budget was slightly revised to reflect the changes of raising money through the sponsorship drive rather than for separate events, so the Sponsorship Drive line increased to \$7000 and the Fall Carnival line was reduced to \$1000 since there will be no sponsorships going into the Carnival category only money coming out. That event is currently in the negative because we already had to pay the Bounce House deposit to reserve them for the event.

II. Old Business

- A. Membership Drive We raised \$4416 this year which is slightly less than last year, but still over budget. We chose two K-2 winners for "Principal for the Day" because there were two big fundraisers (Robert Morgan and Remy Hinkle) and one in 3-5 (Jonathan Hearnese). This reward will likely occur after Fall Break because they will have to coordinate to find a day that works for all three teachers to have those students missing. Mr. Tucker was the class winner and will be turned into an ice cream sundae at some point.
- B. Sponsorship Drive Goal was \$7000, we raised \$8800. This is not fully reflected on the treasurer's report because we are waiting on a few more payments to come in, but we have pledges for that amount. We can still accept future sponsorships, but the option to be included on the school shirt has passed. Any sponsorships moving forward will be named Community Donations.
- C. Grounds Day Our second grounds day was a small group, but successful. Most people from the volunteer group had kids that went to FCE and are now grown adults. We learned there is a full greenhouse of supplies that belong to PTO that we were unaware of. The second volunteer group came back for an additional day on their own to do more work. Hallie asked if we need to do another grounds day before Fall Festival to freshen things up and pull weeds before the event. We will look at this when it gets closer to determine the need.
- D. Open House Nothing was mentioned about Open House.
- E. Boo Hoo Breakfast Wrenhouse Bakery donated 4 dozen delicious bakery items. Unfortunately, it was a very small turnout. There were only around 10 families that came. The leftovers went to the staff. It was asked if it might be

better to do it outside to encourage more participation. We will consider this for next year.

- F. **Cruze Farm Teacher Appreciation** Cruze Farm donated 60 scoops. Lindsay picked them up and set everything up in the teacher freeze to take as desired. This seemed well-received by the teachers.

### III. New Business

- A. **Coupons Books** (on sale now through 9/24) Dr. Cottrell shared that there are again both KCS incentives and FCE incentives. The Principals will work on the roof and kids will have Fun Friday on Halloween as a school reward if we meet our goal.
- B. **September 17th - Half Day** - 11:15am dismissal
- C. **September 23rd - Skatetown Night** - 5:30-7:30pm \$7 admission per person includes skate rental. Class with the highest attendance will receive a treat.
- D. **Merch** Kristen created a lot of new designs this year. Pre-orders are open through Friday. We hope to distribute orders before Fall Festival and will have a table with some extras to sell at the event. The design for the free staff/student shirt was shared and will get those ordered and distributed as soon as possible as the 1st graders have a field trip already in October. All new staff members got to choose a t-shirt that PTO covered.
- E. **Teacher Appreciation** Next Wednesday "Out of this world theme" - some Little Debbie items, a free smoothie voucher in a cup for each teacher. There will also be a giveaway to win 4 One-Knox Soccer tickets for a game during Fall Break. October will be a popcorn bar for the staff.
- F. **K-2 Playground** We received a quote from the Playworld rep for the see saw and a shade structure. However, the placement that was suggested for the shade structure is not ideal, so we aren't sure if we should add that or not. Cassie met with another company about a canopy-type shade structure, but was told by KCS that they could not be used as they are not an approved vendor. Cassie will continue to work on this and hopes to get an order finalized in the near future.
- G. **Pep Assemblies** These have been cancelled for this school year after feedback from the teachers that they are too loud and that some kids get overwhelmed and it also makes them too wild after. It was asked what we will do to turn Mr. Tucker into an ice cream sundae. This is still to be determined. It's possible it could be recorded and shared on morning announcements.

- H. October 1st - Walk to School Day We will have a table with snacks and mini waters. Kim has done this in the past, so we will check if she wants to set up again. PTO can purchase the snacks. We will just need someone to man the table and welcome walkers as they arrive at school that day.
- I. October 6th - 10th: Fall Break
- J. October 17th - Fall Festival This will run very similarly to Carnival. There will be bounce house and teachers will run activities. We have decided to do pizza this year instead of hotdogs as the hot dogs are pretty labor intensive and we don't have enough volunteers for this. Melissa Cox is trying to help us get better pizza pricing. She found better deals from Snappy Tomato and Marcos. There are a lot of volunteer slots still open. We need a lot of support for this event to make it all happen. FC Church, Faith Promise, Kidsplace, FC Pres, and TVA have all agreed to help with the event. Tennessee Orthopedic Clinic may be willing to sponsor the cake walk. Lindsay is discussing this with them.
- K. Calendar Updates The below dates didn't make it on the Master Calendar shared last meeting, but have been confirmed. Family Book Fair Night and the Art Show will fall on the same evening.
  - 1. Book Fair: March 18 - 27
    - a) Family Shopping Night March 26th 3:15-6pm
  - 2. Art Show: March 26th 5-6pm
  - 3. Field Day - May 8th
- II. Principal Remarks: Dr. Cottrell shared that the district received some federal funding and we are lucky to receive it this year. It is being called Title 1 funds even though we are not technically a Title 1 school. It is a pretty significant amount of money and it is still being decided how to best spend it. Jackie and Kim will be meeting with Dr. Cottrell on October 13th to discuss possibilities for two events that will occur with this. Dr. Cottrell is hoping to combine the first event with the Fall Carnival, but plans are still in the works for both.

Teachers in attendance didn't have much to add, but were thankful for everything PTO does.

\*\* Next PTO meeting Tuesday, October 14th at FCE in the Library at 6pm.