

**Franklin Special School District**  
**Parent Teacher Organization**  
**October 4, 2016 ~ 6 p.m.**  
**Hosted by Freedom Middle School**

**Officers in attendance:** President - Jennifer Morrison; Vice-President - Brandi McCutchan; Secretary - Debra Myrick; Treasure - Cindy Searce  
Representatives from member schools in attendance: Franklin Elementary, Johnson Elementary, Liberty Elementary, Moore Elementary, Freedom Intermediate, Freedom Middle, Poplar Grove Elementary, Poplar Grove Middle.  
Also Present: Dr. Snowden, Director of Schools

**Call To Order & Introductions**

The meeting of the Franklin Special School District (FSSD) PTO was held in the Library at Freedom Middle School. The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Morrison at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting**

The minutes from the July 22, 2016 meeting were reviewed. MSC to approve.

**Topics & Questions for Dr. Snowden & Team lead by Ashley West (JES)**

Dr. Snowden first thanked everyone for their work on the Membership drive and all their volunteer hours. There were two topics on the agenda: Technology Planning and Differentiated Learning.

**Technology Planning:**

Dr. Snowden highlighted the following items related to Technology planning.

- Replace teacher laptops every 4 years.
- Replace computer labs every 6-7 years.
- Add memory and upgrades to extend use of computers
- Upgrade carts for 5-8<sup>th</sup> grade every 4 years
- Carts will change as the district shifts to using chrome books for some schools
- The wireless network has been upgrade.
- Upgrade network routers
- FSSD is largely an Apple district. However, chrome books and iPads are used in grades 5th-8th. One goal is to have a 1:1 ratio of computer to student at FMS and FIS beginning in November.
- A long-term goal is to move to a 1:1 ratio in the elementary schools.
- The district has 2 versions of chrome books: Asis and Dell. There is no preferred vendor. The district seeks the lowest bid. FSSD can piggyback off of other districts to obtain the lowest purchase price.
- Funding technology: most years FSSD has money for technology. The district/school board is always looking at the replacement schedule and planning accordingly. FSSD receives eRate funding. <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/universal-service-program-schools-and-libraries-e-rate>

**Differentiated Learning:**

Dr. Snowden is proud of the progress in the district. FSSD employees a Gifted certified teacher in every school. The use of this teacher is site based in order to meet the needs of the students at the respective school. The fact that several elementary schools have higher enrollment than others was mentioned and whether those schools should have an additional accelerated learning teacher. Dr. Snowden explained that principals evaluate the needs of the school and should a principal see the need for an additional accelerated learning teacher, the principal would make a request to Dr. Snowden.

Dr. Snowden opened the floor to additional questions. Dr. Snowden was asked to talk about the growth of the district, zoning and special zoning for new developments. The district would consider special zoning for new developments. The district strives to maintain the diversity, both racial and economically, in the schools. AFA growth, the question was asked how the district plans for growth and funding improvements/additions to schools and if the board could/would consider a 'new construction tax' similar the Williamson County construction tax which will be used to build new schools. Dr. Snowden stated The City of Franklin is considering a construction tax and that he and the board are in communication with Mayor Anderson regarding growth and funding.

**FSSD School Board Activity Update by Ashley West (R. Ashley McCoy, A.P absent)**

- Board Members: Alicia Barker, Robert Blair and Kevin Townsel were re-elected and sworn in by Justice Connie Clark.

- The 6 administrator interns spoke about their experience shadowing the principals. The internship is a year-long program. They started in January 2016 and will finish their internship in December. They had to have a current administrative license and at least 3 years of teaching experience in FSSD.
- The Board Members nominated the same officers and position and elected to keep the same positions. Tim Stillings- President, Robert Blair- Vice Chair, Robin Newman- Treasurer and Alicia Barker- Secretary.
- An FSSD Supper Feeding program is being looked at for the students that are in after school programs. A grant is being applied for to offer the students a "heavy" snack, to be eaten on site, before they go home.

#### **Membership Drive Update & Treasurer's Report** (Cindy Searce, Treasurer)

Thank you, everyone, especially the FSSD teachers, for a successful membership drive. The Drive made more money this year. Every school will get more money for teacher appreciation or another event as determined by the PTO and Principal. See attached reports for amounts awarded. This was the first year to include the option to give a leadership gift and for decal dollars. The goal was 60% participation and a majority of schools achieved the goal. Every school increased participation. FSSD Decals were offered this year and the FSSD PTO saw value in highlighting the district and also to building community.

The 2017 Membership drive will be discussed at the FSSD PTO meeting scheduled for April 2016 to discuss the sale of school specific decals and other ideas on increasing participation and funds raised.

#### **Treasurer's report.** (Cindy Searce, Treasurer) See the attached report.

Membership drive funds do not have to be used for teacher/staff appreciation but the understanding is that there are no funds for teacher/staff appreciation at the school level. If you don't need all of the money for appreciation, schools can vote to spend on another need.

MSC to approve the treasurer's report.

#### **PTO Leading Practices Discussion** (FES & Moore)

**Topic:** PTO generated funds practices and procedures

***What are your practices for administering fundraising and management of PTO generated funds? How do you decide how much the PTO needs to raise? How do you decide how that money is spent? Who manages the accounting/budgeting for PTO raised dollars?***

#### **FES** (Clark, McWaters, Kidd, Jones)

FES looks at the previous year and sets goals accordingly. Teachers and staff must complete a 'project form' to the Shared Leadership Team. In May, the SLT uses these forms to rank the projects to fund in the next school year. Examples of projects funded: Education City, risers for the music department, books.

The SLP meets monthly. Dr. Esslinger drafts the agenda, shares current FES happening, AP shares about testing, PTO shares upcoming activities/planning. Distribution of extra funds are voted by the SLT during the year.

Do all FSSD schools have SLTs? Popular Grove has a Building Leadership Team and a principal advisory team that includes parents and teachers. Liberty has a Building Leadership Team.

#### **Moore** (Hamilton, Burdine)

Moore Elementary has an advisory committee that operates like FES's SLP. This committee requests that teachers discuss as a team their team needs and to submit those needs to the AC. The AC will then prioritize and vote.


#### **Discussion, Consideration & Input**

Mrs. Morrison expressed thanks to the hosts, Principal Jefferson and Asst. Principals, Amanda Muniz and Adam Demonbreun. Appreciation was also expressed to all school representatives for their dedication of time and input.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the FSSD PTO is January 10, 2017 at 6 p.m. at Liberty Elementary School.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.



Debra Myrick, Secretary



FSSD Executive PTO  
 Treasurer's Detail Report 9-30-16

|                         |          |   |        |
|-------------------------|----------|---|--------|
| Bank Balance 7/01/2016  | 3182.85  | Explanations  |        |
| Deposits                | 21416    |   |        |
| Interest Earned         | 0.02     |   | 31-Jul |
|                         | 0.03     |   | 30-Aug |
|                         | 0.15     |   | 30-Sep |
| Total Interest Earned   | 0.2      |   |        |
| Bank Fees Returned      | 773      |   |        |
| Bank Credit             | 30       |   | 27-Sep |
| TOTAL Credits           | 25402.05 |   |        |
| Expenses                |          | Ck #1672 That's Printing for 2 year supply of envelopes, Teacher Collection |        |
|                         | 405      | Envelopes and Deposit Envelopes   |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck # 1673 StartUp Funds   |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck #1674 StartUp Funds  |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck # 1675 StartUp Funds   |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck#1676 StartUp Funds   |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck #1677 StartUp Funds  |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck #1678 StartUp Funds  |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck #1679 StartUp Funds  |        |
|                         | 250      | Ck # 1680 StartUp Funds   |        |
|                         | 370      | Ck #1681 370 Decals   |        |
| Total Expenses          | 2775     |   |        |
| Bank Fees               |          |   |        |
|                         | 25       | Advantage Monthly Maint Fee 7-29  |        |
|                         | 25       | Advantage Monthly Maint Fee 8-30  |        |
|                         | 3        | Check Image Fee 7-29  |        |
|                         | 3        | Check Image Fee 8-30  |        |
|                         | 3        | Check Image Fee 9-30  |        |
|                         | 10       | Returned Check  |        |
|                         | 12       | Returned Check Fee  |        |
|                         | 736      | Posted Correction   |        |
| Total Bank Fees         | 817      |   |        |
| Total Expenses and Fees | 3592     |   |        |
| Bank Balance to Date    | 21810.05 | Corresponds to bank balance 10-1-2016                                       |        |