

Jamestown Elementary School PTA

Meeting Minutes

Tues., Dec. 1, 2020

7:00 pm

21 Attended Virtually

1) Welcome & Administrative Matters – Shelly Heinrich

- The PTA board and school administration introduced themselves
- The meeting agenda was approved
- The November 2020 meeting minutes were approved

2) Buddy Benches – Caroline Bailey

- Caroline is a 10th grader at Stoneridge. For a Girl Scout Silver project, she created the idea of the Buddy Bench in 2019. Its purpose is for shy children to have a way to show others they want to be included, and give an opportunity for children to include others. One was installed in Spring 2020 on the main playground. The final two benches finally arrived after shipping delays, and Caroline built and installed them this past weekend.

3) Principal's Report – Michelle McCarthy

- APS has begun a “No place for hate” initiative, a framework for inclusive learning for all. The school counselors are spearheading. Ms. Gaeta is looking for parent volunteers to be on the No Place for Hate committee.
- There was a parent question on whether gifted student testing would occur. They are still formulating the plan for testing in the new year.
- Jamestown is again participating in the Randolph Angel Tree. A link to participate will be in the Principal's report.
- Virtual Book Fair has begun. A Books Before Bed virtual read aloud is tomorrow night.
- Library curbside pick up going well, and another date has been added.
- SCA election was successful, and Ms. Gaeta held the first virtual meeting with the officers. Representatives will be voted on from each classroom. They are already working on spirit days and other activities.
- Reminder to help support the children during virtual learning with keeping a schedule and asking for any help needed from the school counselors.

4) Volunteers' & Officers' Reports

- **Internal Relations – Carrie Gray**

- SEPTA chat with Superintendent is December 9 for anyone who wants to join.
- The Virtual Run Club is up and running, with applications due Friday. Thanks to Beth Taylor and Mr. Gawrys
- Thanks to Stephanie Carpenter for work with room parents on holiday gifts and party planning.
- There was a discussion on a possible virtual school play festival. The former director (Chris Wilson) has submitted a proposal for a script-writing course, with several shorter productions videoed on their own, for up to 55 students. He would edit the student videos and host a “premier” night. Funds would be used towards editing, sound and animation. In previous years, funds for the school play were raised through a participation fee and concessions, with the PTA paying approximately \$1,000. This year, there would not be concessions, and the PTA had not set aside money in the budget. Chris would charge \$5,500, which Carrie proposes the PTA pay. She expects to recoup half of those funds from participation fees.
 - Carrie moved for \$5,500 of PTA funds be allocated to the Virtual Play Festival. The motion was approved.

- **External Relations – Trish Madden**

- Randolph Elementary update: the major focus right now is the Angel Tree. It has been a hard time for their community. There are always more ways to help, reach out to Trish if you or your group wants to participate.
- Trish is looking for volunteers to host virtual events such as the Bingo night or a paint night.

- **Communications – Erin Baynham**

- Allison Cassels is working on Jamestown Directory. Please verify the information now.
- The PTA received a refund check for the yearbook delays. Erin is beginning to work on the cover for 2020-2021 yearbook. In addition to emailing pictures for the yearbook (1MB or larger), photos can also be uploaded to:
<https://spaces.hightail.com/uplink/jamestownpta>
- Poetry journal is underway.
- Reach out to Erin if there are any emails needing to be sent out

- **Fundraising – Liz Cummings**

- Book Fair is happening now: Nov 30 - Dec 4. Thank you to the parent volunteers: thank you to Mindy Woofley, Stephanie Carpenter and Ms. Blaine for their leadership with the Book Fair. Get your kids involved by letting them scroll through all the books listed.
- Jamestown Merchandise: Thank you to Rachel Waas for her efforts. All the merchandise has been distributed except for the face masks, which needed to be reprinted.
- Save-the-Date: School Pictures confirmed for Feb 22 & 23, 2021, assuming distance learning is in place. More details to come.

- **Treasurer – Jason Marino**
 - Started the month with \$72,600 in the bank and ended with \$70,300. This does not include approximately \$1,300- \$1,500 revenue from merchandising.
- **President – Shelly Heinrich**
 - APS has proposed the 2021-2022 school year calendar. Voting is next week.
 - Voting is open for the school boundary changes. This is a minor adjustment, with a plan for larger boundary changes in the upcoming years.
 - There is no update on return-to-school timeline

5) **Other Business**

- There was no other business

Meeting adjourned at 7:49 pm.