

Jamestown Elementary School PTA

Meeting Minutes

Wed., November 3, 2021

7:00 pm

25 people Attended Virtually

- 1) **Welcome & Administrative Matters** – Shelly Heinrich
 - a) The Board and Administration introduced themselves
 - b) The meeting agenda was approval
 - c) The October 2021 meeting minutes were approved

- 2) **Resource Teacher for the Gifted Update**
 - Joanne Price presented on the gifted services program
 - When does the gifted program start: every day! Always evaluating, and always working to challenge children even when not meeting with Ms. Price.
 - The majority of services are offered directly through classroom teachers.
 - The identification process starts in May. Ms. Price will present again later in the year on that referral process.
 - The goal is to explore concepts deeper, not faster.

- 3) **Principal's Report** – Michelle McCarthy
 - Thank you for supporting the Halloween parade and parties!
 - Friday is Walk for the Homeless. Registered students can walk on Friday. Community service drive is collecting adult socks.
 - First grade is doing their first field trip on Friday – the first field trip for the school since March 2020!
 - Arlington County/ APS is offering vaccines for ages 5-11. Jamestown did have two positive cases in Kindergarten this week.
 - Continue to try to eat outside as much as possible.
 - Books Before Bedtime: Tuesday, November 9th.

- 4) **Volunteers' & Officers' Reports**
 - a) Internal Relations – Carrie Gray
 - Carrie and Trish attended a call with our School Board representative last week. Highlights: a lot of concern raised over the high number of religious holidays added to the calendar this year; asked about assessments this year and if they would become standard; there was not much time, if you have additional issues please do raise with school board.
 - Playground equipment: the board hopes to offer a recommendation on replacing the swings during the December meeting
 - A Girl Scout troop is working with several contractors to fix the Gaga pit
 - Science Olympiad and Reflections Contest were successful. Thank you to the volunteers.
 - Working on finalizing the school play option for this year. It is hoped to be partially in person this year. *** We still need volunteer(s) to be the play producer.*** It's a smaller job than in the past, since it's limited to 5th grade students.
 - Coordinating with Room Parents to do an alternative to a party, such as a community service project.

b) External Relations – Trish Madden

- Thank you to Molly and Lindsay for the community service projects! If your children want to get more involved, they invite more participation. Current month project at Jamestown is the sock drive.
- Movie Night postponed to the spring. Last week was rained out, and this week's temperature is too low.

c) Communications – Erin Baynham

- There is a new directory app, more information coming on how to download and update. Info coming on how to advertise in the printed directory.
- Please send Halloween Yearbook photos to yearbook-editor@jamestownpta.org

d) Fundraising – Liz Cummings

- Restaurant Fundraiser for October: raised over \$500
- Also thank you to VCO orthodontics, who donated \$1,000 as part of a promotion for students who signed up for braces
- This month's fundraisers: White House Christmas ornaments sale and November book fair (November 29th – December 3rd), Reminders: Box Tops app, Amazon Smile, Link Grocery Cards

e) Treasurer – Angela Cocker

- End of October balance sheet: \$80,308.30
- We met the 50% membership drive goal. Ms. McCarthy is working with staff to schedule an additional recess for students.

f) President – Shelly Heinrich

- The Virginia PTA has mandated that individual PTAs, such as ours, all adopt the same bylaws. This leads to a few minor changes to what our bylaws used to be:
 - Elections will be in June instead of May
 - Fiscal year start moves to July 1 instead of July 31 – so please do not hold on to receipts!
 - For votes, we need 10 members or 50% of membership, whichever is less
- School Board Meeting updates: Raised substitute teacher salaries/ rates to attract candidates; there are Middle and High school information sessions online; comments open on Monday for the Memorandum of Understanding on the need for School Resource Officers
- We need a new volunteer to attend once a month, virtual CCPTA meetings – our local division of the Virginia PTA – and report.

5) **Adjourned at 8:26 pm**