

## Farmland ES PTA Meeting

June 6, 2023, on Zoom

Elizabeth Coit called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.  
25 people were in attendance.

**Presidents' Report:** Janet Russell and Elizabeth Coit thanked everyone for their support during their time as co-presidents, especially Laurie Ehrlich for being the newsletter coordinator.

**Secretary's Report:** Tracy Miller shared link to the May meeting minutes (<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f40237e5f15da0d5def48df/t/64514007147bda0479fa8c28/1683046407552/March+2023+PTA+meeting+minutes.pdf>) and moved to approve the minutes. Adi Kaner seconded. Minutes are approved.

Tracy shared the link to the updated bylaws (which was also circulated via the PTA email newsletter) and moved for a vote to adopt them. 19 members voted yes, 0 voted no, 0 abstained. New bylaws are approved.

Tracy thanked all the volunteers she worked with this year.

**Treasurer's Report:** Adi Kaner thanked everyone for a great year, especially Janet and Elizabeth. Adi shared the financial report we raised ~\$23,000 dollars. Expenses look to be just under \$13,000 but that is low because there are additional expenses yet to be paid (field day tshirts, teacher reimbursements, etc.) We will be flat (bring in roughly the same as we spend) for the year. Shared a look back at the long list of what the PTA spent money on this year. Highlighted there are 2 more DEI committee events coming up (Josiah Henson Museum day and Popsicle party tomorrow). We do carry over a bit of money each year, which is recommended. Board wants to propose a revision to the current school year budget: Reimburse \$1,600 for teacher lanyards for security as well as staff tshirts, and pay an additional \$3,000 for technology/educational software (we already have \$6,000 in the budget for that). Software comes with license fees not covered by MCPS so the PTA tries to help pay for it.

Mrs. Weissenburger explained that AtoZ Reading is a software program that allows teachers to access different texts at different reading levels, assign fluency exercises, etc. Dreambox is math software - 4-5 lessons per week to reinforce skill sets from class in a fun and engaging way – includes games and earn virtual tokens. These are used as “early finisher” tasks after kids finish a test, for example. Ms. Davis-Jones added that the software can also be accessed at home.

Adi Kaner moved for a vote. Becky Frank seconded. Budget revisions are approved.

Suggestion from a parent to consider adding money to the budget for next year to accommodate an evening science night during STEM Week.

**VP Educational Programs Report:** Becky Phillips echoed thanks to everyone who volunteered and participated.

**VP Extracurricular Programs Report:** Becky Frank echoed thanks to volunteers, including Jeff Contract for Walk to School Day; Adi Kaner, Elaine Spero, and Tracy Miller for Skate night; Lauren Amlin and Julie Lubochinski for Kindergarten Orientation; Linda Dhawan for afterschool activities; Michelle Finkel for community outreach/sister school coordinator. We are looking for new volunteers to coordinate Kindergarten orientation and afterschool activities.

**VP Ways and Means Report:** Amanda Ombrello thanked everyone who volunteered and participated. Shared that the spring fling fundraising event was a great success, and thanked Jen Moone for her help coordinating both big events this year.

**Teacher Liaison Report:** Mrs. Weissenburger thanked everyone for the support of the kids, staff, and community. She expressed appreciation for the incredible variety of programs the PTA provides and loves how our PTA is about helping the whole child – academics but also social-emotional and other supports.

**DEI Committee chair report:** Dorigen Hofmann gave a big thanks to whole group, which has done a ton this year. Thanked Elaine Spero for being her co-chair this year; JiYoung Park and Megha Shaffer for being chairs for next year; JiYoung Park, Sangha Lee, Sujung Kim, and Eundeok Cho for the monthly Celebrating Diversity displays and slides; Grece Tegam and Rachel Lanman for coordinating with the school on No Place for Hate; and Crystal Paultre for being the soon-to-be-elected VP of DEI. Thanks to Mrs. Longest for her support. The Josiah Henson Museum day over Memorial Day weekend was successful (close to 50 ppl attended). The second Museum day is this upcoming Sunday. Hoping to do more with the museum next year. The end-of-year Popsicles at Montrose Park is tomorrow.

**Principal's Report:** Mrs. Longest thanked Janet and Elizabeth for their work the past 2 years and thanked Elaine, Dorigen, and the entire DEI committee for their work. She is looking forward to working with the new board as well.

She shared the anti-racist audit survey results for Farmland – family results and student results – some actions have already been taken. Shared Farmland-level results and will share PPT as well.

There will be a meeting about ELC curriculum changes with rising 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade families.

Parent suggested we encourage parents to volunteer to help supervise at lunch and recess next year.

**Vote to Approve PTA Board Slate for 2023-2024 school year:** The slate put forward by the nominating committee is:

President – Tracy Miller  
Secretary – Becky Frank

Treasurer – Adi Kaner

Vice President of Educational Activities – Jessica Salzwedel

Vice Presidents of Extracurricular Activities – Jen Moone and Jenny Clayton

Vice President of Ways and Means – Amanda Ombrello

Vice President of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) – Crystal Paultre

Walter Johnson Cluster Representative – Jen Cassell

Open positions: 1 additional Walter Johnson Cluster Representative and 2 Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA) Representatives

19 members voted yes, 0 voted no, 0 abstained. Slate of new officers is approved.

Tracy Miller shared the list of open PTA volunteer positions for next year and encouraged anyone interested to email her.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Miller, Farmland PTA Secretary