

Farmland ES PTA Meeting

November 1, 2022, on Zoom

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

Presidents' Report: Janet Russell and Elizabeth Coit reminded everyone that tomorrow is the Chipotle fundraiser – a percentage of the money spent when you mention Farmland PTA or use the special code (see the PTA email) will be donated to our PTA. Next meeting will be the first Tuesday in December – Dec. 6.

Treasurer's Report: Adi Kaner shared that we had 2 successful fundraisers last month: Fall Festival (estimate at least 400 people were there) and book fair (made at least \$4,000).

Secretary's Report: Tracy Miller shared link to the October meeting minutes <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f40237e5f15da0d5def48df/t/636188e7daf8a10051ed0117/1667336423790/October+2022+PTA+meeting+minutes.pdf> and moved to approve the minutes. Adi Kaner and Ms. Davis-Jones seconded. Minutes are approved.

Membership drive is over (thanks to the 182 members) but you can still join at: <https://www.farmland-pta.org/membership>. We will tally the memberships and announce the popsicle party winner soon.

The student/family directory is coming. Look for emails to confirm your directory data and then to download the app where you can search the online directory. If you already opted out of having your info in the directory, it won't be included. The online directory will be available thru the summer into fall until new data is available.

VP Educational Programs Report: Becky Phillips reported that the Geography Bowls packets went out earlier in October. The quizzes and in-school bowl events will take place later in November/early December.

VP Extracurricular Programs Report: Becky Frank reported that Walk to School Day was a success and thanked Jeff Contract for organizing and all the parent volunteers. Thanks also to Michelle Finkel for coordinating the Harmony Hills (sister school) collection drive, and thanks to our school community for all the donations (a carload of items was donated!).

VP Ways and Means Report: Amanda Ombrello reported that the Fall Festival was a success and that spirit wear also sold great during the event. Thanks again to Jen Moone for coordinating and all the volunteers for another great event. Amanda reminded families to start looking for photos for the yearbook – we will have upload instructions soon. We are still looking for a coordinator for the Spring Festival/event – let Amanda know if you want to take that on or learn more.

Teacher Liaison Report: Mrs. Weissenburger thanked families for all the staff appreciation snacks. She thanked the room parent coordinators (Lori Davis and Emily Carney) for their help getting the last few room parents signed up and for helping room parents and teachers coordinate fun fall class parties. She also thanked the PTA for the book fair – always a teacher favorite – and for coordinating the teacher book wish lists.

Farmland Together/DEI Committee Update: Elaine Spero shared that the next committee meeting will be Nov. 9 – reach out to her if you'd like to attend.

Principal's Report: Mrs. Longest thanked the Farmland Together/DEI committee for the beautiful display case presentations they have been putting up every month and for the slides and additional info they provide for morning announcements). She also thanked everyone who worked on and put together the Fall Festival.

She shared the school safety/emergency preparedness protocols from MCPS/state of Maryland. The presentation included info on emergency preparedness drills and communications to parents related to an emergency. A copy of the presentation slides is available here: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1uHOXKmrnmnQnnBPeuO8GACxv0qoVfJLuk_cfvC-qmvdo/edit#slide=id.p

Mrs. Carolann Carpentier, Farmland's Reading Specialist, shared a presentation with information on shifts in the reading curriculum for MCPS. We are now using structured literacy instruction using Really Great Reading and Benchmark materials, curriculums based on newer research on brain development. Parents with questions about this new approach for how teachers teach reading can email her at carolann_regnell@mcpsmd.org. A copy of the presentation slides is available here: <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ZjZrL2wmbwNsFPFp87JNwDRzu8oxyDLE6HkfgahFuSI/edit#slide=id.p>

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Miller, Farmland PTA Secretary