

## **Farmland ES PTA Meeting**

**October 6, 2022, on Zoom**

Elizabeth Coit called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.  
37 people were in attendance.

**Presidents' Report:** Co-presidents Janet Russell and Elizabeth Coit welcomed everyone to the meeting. They announced the next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 1 on Zoom.

**Secretary's Report:** Tracy Miller shared link to the September meeting minutes (<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f40237e5f15da0d5def48df/t/633f45a52553997438133d74/1665090981881/September+2022+PTA+meeting+minutes.pdf>) and moved to approve the minutes. Adi Kaner seconded. Minutes are approved.

Membership update: Thank you to the 153 people who have joined the PTA so far this year. For everyone else, please take a minute to join online: <https://www.farmland-pta.org/membership>. There is one more week in the membership drive: The class with the most PTA memberships on Oct. 15 will win a popsicle party. [The membership drive deadline was later extended to Oct. 31.]

Volunteer thanks: Thank you to Laurie Ehrlich for volunteering to be the PTA newsletter coordinator. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to be a room parent and to Lori Davis and Emily Carney for being room parent coordinators. Thank you to everyone who donated to the staff appreciation coffee break for this week and to Suzanne Thorpe for being the staff appreciation chair. Thank you to Bonnie Minoff for stepping up to manage our Facebook presence – she has created a new Facebook group so look for the link to that in next week's PTA email. It takes a village, and we appreciate everyone in our village.

Room parents: More information will be going out to room parents in the next couple days about fall classroom parties and other instructions, once all details are finalized with the school.

**Treasurer's Report:** Adi Kaner shared the financial report. Spirit wear, membership, and Sparky Fund donations have been bringing in funds.

**VP Extracurricular Programs Report:** Becky Frank reminded everyone to bring clothes and feminine products to the upcoming Fall Festival so they can be donated to Harmony Hills, our sister school, for families in need. Thanks to Michelle Finkel for coordinating the donations.

Walk to School Day is next week. Thanks to Jeff Contract for coordinating the annual event. We still need a few more volunteers; please sign up on the form in the recent PTA email.

Thanks to after school programs coordinator Linda Dhawan for getting extracurricular activities all set up for the fall.

We are looking for someone to step up and take over the school garden. This is an opportunity for anyone with a green thumb or interest, who can take the school garden in whatever direction they like.

**VP Educational Programs Report:** Becky Phillips shared dates for 4 major educational events.

- Geography Bowl qualifying quizzes will be Nov. 16-18
- Spelling Bee pre-tests will be Dec. 14-16, and the Bee will be on Jan. 8
- STEM Week is tentatively the week of March 6
- International Night is tentatively April 19

Will need some volunteers to help out with all these events. Anyone interested can get in touch with Becky.

**VP Ways and Means Report:** Jen Moone talked about the Fall Festival, happening tomorrow from 5-6:30 behind the school. It will feature pumpkin sales, DJ, pizza, candy, chips, drinks, and bounce houses and is a great time to come out and have fun. Volunteer please!

Crystal Paultre talked about the Book Fair, which will run Oct. 17-21. Flyers should come home with kids next week and teachers should send out information about what day each class will visit. Please volunteer to help. We will have evening hours on Oct. 17 from 4-7 p.m. You can purchase books from teacher wish lists for their classrooms and you can purchase books to donate to Harmony Hills, our sister school. You can send cash for students to purchase books when their class visits, or you can deposit money online into an ewallet (you can roll over unused money from last year if you use the same email address). Email [farmlandbookfair@gmail.com](mailto:farmlandbookfair@gmail.com) with questions.

Amanda Ombrello mentioned that we are still looking for someone to chair the Spring festival event and someone to coordinate the yearbook starting next year (this person can shadow this year's yearbook coordinator, Elaine Spero).

**Farmland Together/DEI Committee Update:** Elaine Spero talked about a program we had last week with parents of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders, where parents were introduced to a new MCPS DEI curriculum. Mrs. Longest is looking into having more parent events like this. Thank you to JiYoung Park, Sang Ha Lee, and SuJung Kim for their beautiful and informative monthly displays in the display case near the Media Center to highlight the diversity in our school community. The Farmland Together committee always welcomes new members to join. Next meeting is Wed. Oct. 12. Email Elaine Spero for more information: [Elaine1733@yahoo.com](mailto:Elaine1733@yahoo.com).

**Principal's Report:** Ms. Davis-Jones reported that September was a great month of getting to know students after the summer. Standardized testing scores can be accessed in ParentVue by end of October. 2<sup>nd</sup> graders enjoyed a field trip to the American History Museum/monuments today. She thanked the PTA for the staff appreciation snacks. She asked for parent volunteers to help administer hearing and vision testing for K, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and all new students in other grades from Oct. 13-20. (This is usually done just for K but it hasn't happened in 3 years

due to the pandemic.) Please sign up to volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e44a4a72da6f8c61-farmland>

MCPS tutoring will start next week for reading and math. Invites will be going out to families who are identified as possibly needing tutoring, but if you aren't invited and are interested in the service, you can let your classroom teacher or Mrs. Satterwhite know. We have almost 20 tutors, working mostly after school from 4:30-5:30. Thank you in advance for the book fair – teachers love it.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Miller, Farmland PTA Secretary