



Friends School of Wilmington
Parent Association Meeting Minutes
Date: 11/01/2023
Location: Longleaf Center
Time: 8:00 - 9:00 am
Minute Recorder: Chelsea Bradshaw
Number of Attendees: Approximately 17 parents

8:00 - 8:15 am Coffee & Tea Social

8:15 - 9:00 am Meeting

Welcome offered by Sarah

Moment of Silence

Short Introductions Around the Room

- Parents introduced themselves and names and grades of their students

Reflections on Drew Smith's Parents New-to-Quakerism Workshop

- Parents shared their reflections and feedback on the workshop including overall positive impression of the workshop and parents reported enjoying learning about Quaker history, where other Friends schools are located, the emphasis on listening for understanding, leaning into conflict and approaching others with optimism.
- [Watch HERE](#)

Wednesday Weeders

- Maria McHale shared details of the Wednesday Weeders and invited other parents to join.
- Remaining dates for 2023: Nov 8, Nov 29, Dec 13 from 8-9:30am each day
- Group is led by Karen Linehan and tasks include weeding, mulching. Effort is made to limit the use of herbicides on campus, so regular weeding is helpful to enhance the school gardens.
- Parents are encouraged to bring gloves for each event and let Karen know if you'd like to participate.
- Karen will send out an email prior to each Wednesday Weeder meet-up to provide the plan and any other necessary tools needed.

Toy Swap

- Chelsea provided an overview of the upcoming Toy Swap details.



- Event will be led by Jeanette Philips and is scheduled for Dec. 4 from 3-5pm at the Longleaf Center
- Items to be collected include gently used toys, books, bikes, instruments, sports equipment and clothing (including FSW MLK shirts).
- Families are invited to drop off these items during pick-up on Dec 1, Sunday Dec 3 afternoon (times TBD) or during drop-off on Dec. 4.
- Any leftover items after the swap will be donated to Global Connections (refugee resettlement non-profit organization).

Middle School Social Event

Rebecca Joh shared preliminary plans for a middle school dance in Feb 2024:

- Will be held in the music/PE rooms
- Working with kids to pick a theme and what items may be needed for decorations
- Rebecca is working with Amy McGlenn and Kaylie
- Group would like to hire a DJ (will consider fundraising and/or donation possibilities)

Parent Workshops

- My Body Belongs to Me – upcoming workshop planned for Jan 2024 by Kara Johnson and Landis Holman (applicable for all parents)
- Internet Safety – upcoming workshop planned for Feb 2024 by Bryan Stephany (targeted for middle school and upper elementary school parents)
- Sarah encouraged parent feedback on what other workshops are of interest to parents and what time of day is best.
- [Take the survey HERE](#)

Other PA Events/Volunteer Opportunities

- Chelsea shared that an off-campus parent volunteer event is targeted for the first quarter of 2024.
- Sarah and Chelsea encouraged parents to continue to check-in with FriendsMail for other upcoming events (e.g., Nov Moonick and nature hikes) and volunteer opportunities (e.g. Night of Peace and MLK program).

Giving Tuesday

- Allyson shared details of Giving Tuesday (Nov 28)
- Theme is “Lifelong learners, lifelong leaders, lifelong friends”
- Event will be virtual and historically has been the largest fundraising event of the school year
- Donations on Giving Tuesday will be used to support the Annual Fund, which covers the gap between tuition and actual operating expenses for the school.
- Parents are asked to help make calls to thank donors (Sign-Up genius to be shared in FriendsMail) and share donation information on social media and family members.



Tony's Update

- School store reminder to make purchases by Nov 6 to help increase FSW's visibility in the community
- Heather started as the 1st grade assistant teacher today.
- FSW is advertising for the 4th grade full-time teaching position as the long-term substitute, Jessica, will be moving out of state later in the year. This position is targeted to be filled by Dec. 1 and a number of applications have already been received.
- General discussion on FSW making statements about world events. Tony reiterated FSW being a welcoming community and encouraged parents to speak with him about any concerns.
- The FSW Board meets monthly and link to minutes will be put in FriendsMail. Board membership is through nominations by board governance committee.
- Trivia Night was a success and we hope to do this again. Decision was made not to offer childcare because alcohol was served.

Meeting Adjourned

- PA meetings will be on the second Wednesdays moving forward to avoid conflicting with Board meetings on the first Wednesdays of each month. Next PA meeting: Dec. 13 at 7pm (virtual)