

Board Attendees:

Alyssa Adeyemi, Liz Gibbons, Amy Furgason, & Shanon Griffith

Cherry Run Representatives:

Mark Bibbee, Dawn Harmon, Amy Beck

Members:

Anne Neuman, Aileen Heberer, Kim Hintos, Kim Painter, Edward Reynado, Kay Emerson, Keisha Harris, Edom Aureke

Meeting Minutes:

Call to Order:

- Thank you for all the work on the Reflections meeting tonight
 - Special thank you to Liz Gibbons and Emily Becker
 - 29 Entries for the pilot year – great turnout

Principal Update by Mark Bibbee

- Reflections had been done previously but was let go due to lack of interest – glad to see it back.
- Fall Festival: great night and lots of positive feedback.
- Great recent assemblies: thank you to the PTA
- Conferences:
 - If you have not talked with your teacher, please reach out to them.
 - The school is current evaluating different methods for scheduling conferences so please give feedback to your teachers on what works best
 - Conferences this year will focus more on students' strengths and weaknesses / less about grades
 - Universal Screener will be discussed at your conference.
 - This is a robust tool that could generate 27 pages worth of reports.
 - In your conference you will review the summaries, which can be rather long, but will provide your student's scores and placement information.
 - Your teacher will be able to explain the columns: 1st, 2nd, 3rd – which relate to which test the child is taking and when – it implies expected improvement over time
 - Universal Screener is quicker than previous tests and student driven - broken out by categories to give more details of where a student is. If a student falls below the 40th percentile, then the student will take the regular DRA.

- The test is given three times a year in reading and math and takes about an hour.
 - M. Bibbee has worked through the test himself.
 - It is not graded and does not qualify a student for special services, but will provide lesson ideas and enrichment opportunities.
 - The test eliminates some of the guess work and provides great data, which will help our teachers determine if their intervention strategies are effective.
 - If you have questions even after your conference, please feel free to contact M. Bibbee.
- Paperless Report Cards:
 - FFX County is trying to move paper free, and report cards this quarter will be available to view on Saturday online through the parent vue. This will be the standard moving forward.
 - We will continue to send home paper copies for the first two quarters, and then it will be assumed that you are looking at it online unless you “opt in” to having paper.
 - We will send home letters next year about class placement but that will be the last year for paper copies of this as well – class placement will be available online only going forward.
- Construction:
 - M. Bibbee made a recent update to the Cherry Run Facebook page and just took pictures today which will be posted tomorrow.
 - AC units are up, bathrooms framed in, big bay window area cleared
 - The schedule is improving, now only 4 weeks behind.
 - We are eager to move to the next stage to make the school a safer place and get the blacktop back (currently bus routes do impact recess at times)
 - We will no longer have color coded pods. Instead, Cherry Run will hold a hallway naming contest.
 - K. Hintos: Why is there no ramp coming up from Koziara?
 - That is not considered a primary entrance so FFX County is not required to provide a ramp to meet ADA requirements.
 - Originally, there was a switchback ramp as part of the design but it was removed.
 - M. Bibbee noticed and asked questions about it, and the school was told this was not a legal requirement and therefore would not be modified.
 - If, as parents, this is important then you are free to speak to the construction company directly.
 - It would be valuable to have examples of students or parents who need the handicapped ramp.

1st VP Report

- Thank you to everyone who came out to the Festival – over 400 people. It was a huge success.
- Five Guys Restaurant night made just over \$500.00
- There are two Ledos Restaurant nights coming up: more details coming
- 11/10 Donuts with Dad is being organized and more information will come home soon
 - Are Dads coming into the classrooms this year? – Yes
 - Will we split the groups in the gym for capacity? – Yes
 - Are we providing supervision? – No
 - Students are under their parents’ supervision until school begins.
 - Is it possible to have a student / parent game?
 - Space Constraints could be a major issue
 - No space around for viewing around gym
 - D. Harmon worked on a project to make cards for Walter Reed and will do that again this year if other grades would like to participate.
 - Preschool:
 - We would like to include the preschool parents, but we know it is hard for them to attend because of the later start time.
 - We are working on this and we welcome any feedback and ideas
 - Do we have someone in charge of sending pictures to Fairfax County?
 - Yes, our contact is Maryanne Gatton – parents can submit pictures directly to her or through the school
 - We have been featured in the FFX news a few times in the past.
 - 200 schools are featured and they do try to span it out.
 - Connection newspaper is also a good way to get information to the community – can also reach families without students in the school.
 - If we want to do a color guard this year, Sue can reach out to the boy scouts within CR.
 - Why do we call it Donuts with Dad?
 - This name was picked because there was a Mother’s Day event later in the year.
 - We could consider renaming so it includes other veterans.
 - Donuts with your VIP was suggested.
 - Before we rename and make more inclusive, we need to consider space constraints.
- April is the month of the military child and our school is about 40% military. The PTA should put this on their radar for potential activities.

2nd VP Report

- Bulletin Boards should be changed out – would like to include some of the Reflections entries.
 - Pictures of students should not be posted in online sharing sites without parent permission.

- However, it is ok to hang pictures of the Reflections event on the bulletin board since it is inside the school.

Treasurer Report

- There is a printed copy of where we are with the budget for review (please note it is always slightly behind due to check clearing, etc)
- Our membership numbers are higher than projected for the year – Special Thank you to K. Hintos.
- We raised more \$ from spirit wear this year than originally projected – thank you to K. Harris.
- Extra Funds:
 - Please start thinking about where we should place the extra funds – we will discuss it as a group in the November meeting.
 - M. Bibbee – would like to see the field trips funding come back first since that impacts the parents.
- Proposal to Change the Budget:
 - Originally had the Fall Festival listed as a budget neutral event.
 - Due to the larger than expected number of PTA families, we paid more for entry discounts.
 - The budget line item is now a \$400.00 expense:
 - K. Harris moved
 - K. Hintos seconded
- Need to clear our four major items to stay in good standing.
 - Submit names of Board Members - complete
 - Pay Dues - complete
 - Submit Last Year's Budget - complete
 - Taxes – in progress
- Sponsors:
 - Are we interested in asking for sponsors for the PTA?
 - If we receive the money to the PTA, then we need to report it on our taxes.
 - Spartans has donated to the school in the past.
 - 7/11 (off Burke Lake Road) has donated over \$3,000 in money and over \$9,000 in food. Please remember to patron this business.
 - Starbucks at Huntsman donated coffee to our events. Please patron this business location as well.
- How do teachers build up their library?
 - The book fair is very helpful – donations by parents
 - Donations from families who are moving
 - Use a Giving Tree to contact parents.
 - The PTA can also put a reminder in the newsletter to donate books to our classrooms.

President's Report

- Don't forget about the pumpkin patch this week – each kid gets a treat and is entered into a raffle for the end of the week.
- If we need extra raffle items – ask M. Bibbee to get old Lake Braddock spirit wear.
- Clubs
 - Yoga just finished
 - Guitar is going well
 - Legos is coming
 - Yoga II – 11/8 start
 - May have a new method for signing up using signup genius – will tentatively come out on Monday.
 - Will hold the spots for the kids who didn't get into the last session.
 - Size is limited due to the space constraints and displacing SAC.
- Assemblies:
 - Recently hosted FrankenSTEM and The Sky is Falling
 - We may contact Spinny Johnson – Harlem Globetrotter who has performed in the past
 - K. Painter is working with the grade levels to evaluate options
 - Gift Cards:
 - Off to a slow start
 - We should send out a reminder again
 - Make sure people understand we are not asking them to sell gift cards
 - Do we participate in Amazon Smile?
 - Yes, but it isn't a money maker.
 - We would make much more money off of an Amazon gift card purchase
 - We have made \$1100 in Box Tops
 - Next submissions in February
 - Families would like another box top sheet
- Membership Update:
 - Up this year – doing very well.
 - We have had much stronger Staff support this year
 - Many people are happy to have it online
- Spirit Wear Update:
 - Thank you to the families – so glad we had family support
 - We have extra to use in a goodie bag at PTA events.
- Silent Auction Update:
 - The event is moving to March instead of May
 - Dates not finalized
- Special Education Update:
 - The committee has new ideas about an inclusion week.
 - Would love more ideas from the group.
- Thank you to everyone!

- Next Meeting 11/15/17 – location TBD