**Haycock PTA Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, October 21st, 2015

Number in attendance – 31 (including 1 teacher)

Classes Represented K – 6; 1st – 7; 2nd – 9; 3rd – 4; 4th – 7; 5th – 7,6th - 7

1. Call to Order – Alison Symons calls the meeting to order at 7:36pm.
2. Alison invited Dr. Fabio Zuluaga, Assistant Superintendent for Region 2, to address the meeting. Dr. Zuluaga is here to officially welcome and introduce our new Principal to the community.
3. Dr. Zuluaga explained that, in the search for a new Principal for Haycock, they were looking for someone with experience in communication, Special Education, and AAP. They found him in Mr. Donnelly. The input from the Haycock community was a great help in the Principal search and Dr. Zuluaga thanked the community. Haycock has a reputation of excellence and deserves the best. There are 40,000 kids in Region 2. Dr. Zuluaga closed his statement by urging the community to contact him for anything he can do to help Haycock.
4. Heather Kimmel – Treasurer’s Report
   1. Heather reported on the status of the **Budget** to date. So far this year the PTA has raised approximately $49,000. This includes donations through the Armchair, Friends of Haycock, matching gifts, Amazon, and other PTA fundraising initiatives. It was mentioned that the Budget is modifiable through out the year to take into account changing needs.
   2. **Amazon.com** - We have already made $700 shopping at Amazon! Link is available from hotsheet and website
   3. **Armchair** - $38,360 in the budget, as of the last reconciliation. As of today we have $41,224, so we have reached our goal of 40 in Forty! The PTA thank the Haycock community for their generosity.
   4. ‘**Friends of Haycock**’ is doing well.
   5. Don’t forget about **Matching Gifts**. This has raised $1,060 so far.
   6. Though we currently have a good amount in the bank, we do have two major goals: the Armchair and the Playground. Once we give to the playground this reserve will run down significantly.

***The Playground - General discussion***

Though we have applied for a grant from MCF for $30K, Caryn Ginsberg informed the meeting that 90% of MCF’s grants are usually less than $500. But then right in the middle of the meeting, she received confirmation from MCF that they will grant us $20,000! MCF would like publicity for this grant. Everyone agreed!

Since we did not receive the full $30K that we asked MCF for, the question now is how much would the PTA be willing and able to put towards the playground, given what we currently have available in our Treasury, and the consensus of the community as to whether we ought to fund the full playground *now* or partially fund with the option to add additional pieces at a later time.

It was explained that there are various considerations favoring funding the full playground design now, such as increased costs of the playground equipment and installation if we were to add some of the smaller pieces later on.

In terms of options for vendors and types of equipment (a.k.a. ‘events’), Erica Reilly, the Assistant Principal, explained that FCPS has many restrictions and requirements and so there are not a lot of options for the community anyhow. FCPS chooses events based on what has typically been picked for other FCPS’ Elementary Schools. There are requirements / guidelines that FCPS follows for choosing the type of events based on safety, age appropriateness, durability, maintenance, variety, accessibility, and more. One of the swings will be updated to have a harness to be ADA compliant.

Some parents had inquired whether we could swap out some of the smaller events for sensory type events because there seem to be a lot of climbing and upper body-focused events in the design. Since Haycock ES has a large number of special needs students it would be preferable to have some events that are suited to their needs as well. It was agreed that the PTA Board and the school will look into this matter and see what the possibilities are.

Another factor that has eased some fundraising pressure on the PTA is the fact that the school has decided to do a Boosterthon in March. This event should be capable of raising enough funds for the school to meet their Technology needs if not more. This would then free up the PTA funds and fundraising efforts for other things, such as the playground.

Erica suggested that, if possible, the PTA should put $45,000 towards the playground in order to ensure that any unforeseen costs are comfortably covered such as shipping, installation, or price increases from the vendors. Heather confirmed that the PTA can put $45,000 towards the playground and still have adequate savings left to cover operational costs and support to the school in the next few months.

Karen Leiser motioned to allocate $45,000 from the PTA’s funds to finance the new playground and Kate O’Donnell second the motion. Everyone at the meeting voted to approve the motion.

In terms of available green / field space after the new playground is constructed, this will be where the current (old) playground is now plus the space where all the construction equipment sits behind the chain link fences. The gazebo will remain where it is. The quads will be moved in from the Kiss n’ Ride car park a little, but will likely remain there for some time given the student population at Haycock.

It was asked whether the staff had some preference for funding support from the PTA. Is the new playground a priority for the staff, or some other items such as the stage in the Pod or the new courtyard? The staff has not been asked what their priorities might be.

1. Katie Pisocky – Secretary’s report
   1. June and September Minutes motion to approve. Kate O’Donnell motioned to approve the June Minutes and Debbie Callsen second the motion. All voted to approve. Amy Kales motioned to approve the September Minutes and Neetha Rao second the motion. All voted to approve.
2. Alison Seddon – General VP’s report
   1. Thank you for joining the PTA!
   2. Directories are in proof mode and should be coming by the end of the month. They will be sent home with the youngest child if you have more than 1 child at Haycock.
   3. A to Z directory is ready if you are a member.
   4. As of the PTA Meeting, we still need room parents for the following classes: Kelly, Sullivan, Andrews, and Luks.
   5. You can use Armchair tax receipts for matching gifts.
3. Kate O’Donnell – VP of Social Events’ report
   1. Thanks to Jen Heatherly, and all the other volunteers, for all the work on the **Costume Ball**. We sold 337 tickets in total. Parent and student volunteers did great!
   2. **Movie Night** is this Friday at 7:15pm on LMS’ field! If it’s too cold or raining, it will be moved into Longfellow’s gym.
   3. **Skate Night** is December 5th at Fairfax Ice Arena.
4. Alicia Hoadley – VP of Curriculum Enhancement’s report
   1. **Science Olympiad** will be starting. The 6th grade should have the information already. 3rd - 5th grade is different.
   2. **Odyssey of the Mind**. Teams are forming now. This is a parent-involved activity and we will need one coach per 7 students.
   3. We’re starting a **Cyber Patriot** program. This will focus on internet safety, social media awareness, and virus malware protection. They only start to teach hacking in 7th grade! Will talk to the tech teachers.
5. Monica Kumar – VP of Fundraising’s report
   1. We raised $300 from the **Chuck E Cheese** fundraiser.
   2. **Restaurant Nights - Wasabi** at Tyson’s Mall will be November 9th – 11th. This restaurant is owned by a Haycock family. 20% of the proceeds will be donated to the PTA. You just have to mention to the wait staff that you are with Haycock ES. There will be other restaurant nights coming up later in the year.
   3. **Square 1 Art** and **Innisbrook Online Gift Wrap** fundraisers are also coming up soon.
6. John Kosco – VP of Community Affairs’ report
   1. **Autism Awareness** 5K at Prince William Fairgrounds is on October 24th if anyone is interested.
   2. ‘**Stop Hunger Now**’ meal packaging is on October 31st. The Haycock community will be doing the 8 - 10:30 am time slot.
   3. We collected 80 Halloween costumes for the costume drive.
   4. Fairfax Board of Supervisors (BoS) and School Board Candidates’ Meet and Greet happened.
7. The PTA is in the process of trying to organize a **budget presentation** in order to help inform those in the community who are interested to learn more about the budget issues affecting FCPS. Kim Harris and Louise Epstein will be the presenters. We will aim to do it before the election on November 3rd.
8. Principal Donnelly addresses the PTA Meeting

Thank all for coming! He is trying to visit all the classrooms as much as possible. The staff is continually working to improve arrival and dismissal. Haycock has a great staff. He and Erica visited the 5th graders at Camp Highroad where he did do the zip line! Please email or stop by to talk to him at anytime. He has an open door policy.

1. Erica Reilly – Assistant Principal’s report

**Renovation Update**

The new section that’s to be the administrative office is almost complete and they will be moving in soon. Thereafter the existing office will be renovated. This will be the last part of the school to be renovated. During this move things may be slow or do not work as usual such as the PA system and phone lines. It will be a little rough for a week or so. Please be patient with the school in this transition period! Full completion is still estimated to be January 1st, but Erica thinks it’s more likely to be March. We are still planning for a limited ASA program to return in the spring semester.

1. Kara Licalsi has volunteered to Chair the **60th Anniversary** celebration estimated to be in April.
2. Karen Leiser motioned to adjourn the meeting and Tara Tanner second.