

**September 9, 2014**

**Officers’ Reports**

Meeting called to order by PTO Assistant Vice President- Leah Jenski at 9:03am.

17 people were in attendance.

Treasurer’s report was completed by Sandy Addison and presented by Leah.

Motion to approve the budget by Leah.

**Principal Chris Adkins:**  Ferson Creek is 25 years old this year. We will be celebrating our 25th anniversary along with the 100 year birthday of Fran Gustafson, on Monday, September 29th at 9am. It will be a 30 minute get together with Fran and the children of Ferson Creek to sing happy birthday and present a gift. Ferson Creek School is dedicated to Wirth and Frances Gustafson. Mr. Gustafson was a St. Charles High School chemistry teacher, assistant principal and principal, and Mrs. Gustafson was a 20-year PE teacher.

Ferson Creek has additional staff this year. Two teachers were hired and two aides were added to Kindergarten and 2nd grade.

There will be a lot of changes coming in public schools over the course of time. Focus is on building knowledge of executive functioning skills. Also, there is a focus on reading behaviors and thinking within the text and beyond. Critical thinking is key. Work with your teachers if you want to know what reading behaviors your child has and does not have. Usually after 20 school days a teacher may have a better idea of where your child’s reading ability is at.

**Committee Reports**

**WAC:** Forms will be coming home soon for the Write a Check donation. Contact Joy Larsen for any questions.

**Spirit Wear**: Online sales are open now. Your order will be delivered in time for the next Spirit Day.

**AVIC:** The first AVIC schedule is as follows: Monday, October 20th, K is at 9am, 1st is at 10:30am and 2nd is at 12:35pm. Wednesday, October 22nd, 3rd is at 8:50am, 4th is at 10:30am and 5th is at 1pm.

**Art Class Room:** 22 slots were filled for K-5th. There are still 2 slots open for 5th grade. They are on Monday from 10:50-11:50. If interested, please contact Jenny Hunt-Kesner.

**Boo Bash:** Boo Bash will be held on October 25th. There will be a meeting for anyone interested in volunteering during the first week of October. An email blast will come with that information soon. Contact Leah Jenski for additional information.

**Service Learning**: All service learning opportunities will be pitched at our next PTO meeting on October 14th. We are looking for local, national and global charities. The kids will vote on which charity they would like to support this year after all charities have been considered.

**Committee Chair List:** We are still looking for someone to run the Valentine’s Social in February. If no one steps up by October 15th this event will be taken off the PTO calendar. Please contact Shannon Sullivan or Courtney Magnabosco if interested. We also had the Holiday Festival open and those positions were filled by Alison Weasler and Jenny Hunt-Kesner at the meeting – thank you! Other open committee chairs is Pop Tabs and Recycling contact Shannon if interested.

**Organic Farmers:**  We are looking to start a program at Ferson to help with introducing the butterflies back into the environment. Butterflies are down in Illinois by 90%. Mr. Adkins mentioned we would be able to have access to some land around Ferson Creek to plant milkweed (Monarch, Soldier & Queen butterflies only lay their eggs on milkweed, and caterpillars only eat milkweed) to bring them back. We would look to sell the milkweed plants for $3.00 each. This would be a family-type club to get involved in. If you are interested in learning more, please let Leah Jenski know. There will be a blast coming regarding a date /time for future meeting. Also, Farm to School is another gardening club that we are looking into.

**PTO Meeting Minutes:**  The PTO Minutes will now be posted online the Thursday after our initial meeting on Tuesday. You will be able to view all that was discussed per the agenda.

**Karen Johnson**: (Teachers’ Report) The classroom sign-ups (Room Parent/classroom parties, AVIC and teachers’ help worksheets) worked well in the classrooms this year. The teachers like the Spirit Day idea every month. Shannon mentioned that the teacher’s allocations will be out to them soon.

**PTO Monthly Meeting:** The time for our PTO monthly meetings will now be changed to 9:30am.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:15am by Leah.**

**2nd by Courtney.**