

**April 14, 2015**

**Officers’ Reports**

Meeting called to order by PTO President- Shannon at 6:31pm.

15 people were in attendance.

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

FYI…All PTO minutes are posted at [www.fersoncreekpto.com](http://www.fersoncreekpto.com) within 48 hours after each meeting.

**Principal Chris Adkins:**

* The students are done with the PARCC testing for now but the test is done twice a year. The second session of testing will be from April 22-May 17. The 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will have 1 section of literacy and 2 sections of mathematics. There are some links online that Mr. Adkins encourages people to look at for practice assessments.
* Mrs. Kinney will return to school on April 15 for half days only. Mr. Adkins wanted to let everyone know her prognosis is very positive at this time.
* There are six teachers retiring at the end of this school year. (Mrs. Diane Duncan, Mrs. Wendy Kinney, Mrs. Marilyn Staub, Mrs. Carol Virtue, Mrs. Kay Bordenave and Mrs. Karen Kazwell). There will be retirement reception after school in the community room on May 15 from 3:15-4:15pm to celebrate. Also, the school will be contacting the Herald and Chronicle newspapers with the information so the community will be informed as well.
* Ferson Creek will host their Summer Camp program again this summer. Academics (math enrichment, computers, art, etc) will be held in the morning and (soccer, basketball, outdoor games, etc) will take place in the afternoon. The camp is from 8am-5:30pm. The price is $400.00 for the summer. The information is posted online.
* Ferson Creek will be doing roof work over the summer due to leaks, so you may notice workers from time to time.
* Staff changes are being evaluated at this time for 2015-2016. Currently there will be two all day kindergarten with 22 kids each. There will be 3 -sections of 1st grade, 2- sections of 2nd grade, 3- sections of 3rd grade, 4-sections of 4th grade and 4-sections of 5th grade.
* Mrs. DeMien (currently one of our 3rd grade teachers) will be moving to 1st grade next year.



* There will also be a posting for a 3rd and 4th grade teacher as well as a Reading Specialist for the 2015-2016 school year.
* The teachers are working on science standards, revisions to math and the literacy curriculum.
* There are a lot of district wide changes in the future so it is very important to have a representative from our school attending the DPTO meetings.

**Committee Reports**

**Teacher Appreciation**: This event will be on May 4th –May 8th, a flyer will be going home soon. We will have a week of fun to celebrate our teachers. Monday will be bringing in flowers, Tuesday- breakfast will be served, Wednesday-Jimmy Johns will cater lunch, Thursday-AVIC will be creating something special and Friday-Staff Raffle.

A sign up genius was created by Karen Kurbyun to have volunteers donate items and or set up. Please visit our website to find out more information.

**Spring Bingo/Silent Auction:** The Auction team has been working diligently to get a lot of great items to bid for on April 26th. Some of the fabulous items include: Bears tickets, Mid-evil Times tickets, Disney Hopper passes, Spa Packages, kids birthday packages, lunch with your favorite Ferson staff member, lots of great electronics and on and on. Two great raffles- need not be present to win- IPAD Air 2 and an autographed framed Marion Hossa jersey! We have corporate sponsorship for the first time ever. Tommy Hawk, the mascot from the Chicago Black Hawks is making a special guest appearance at our event- bring your camera! He will be giving his own giveaways to the kids. Pre-orders went home last week- Please fill out and send in as soon as possible. The auction will be taking cash, checks, Visa & MasterCard again this year. The auction/bingo will be 5pm-8pm.

**Barnes&Noble Book Fair:**  The Barnes & Noble Book Fair will be held on Friday, May 8th from 4-8pm at Geneva Commons. A percentage of all proceeds from B&N come back to Ferson Creek Elementary. Mrs. Ignoffo (LRC Director) will use the gift card that B&N presents to us after the event to buy library books for the following year. Some of the highlights of this event include: Ferson Creek Orchestra, guest readers (Ferson Teachers!) throughout the evening, craft table, scavenger hunt, m&m’s contest and decorating a cupcake. Look for a flyer in the near future to come home via backpacks.

**Working Parent Network: Presented by: Amy Rodgers Duffin:**  A handout was presented tonight to the PTO from Amy on how the Ferson PTO would benefit from a **Working Parent Committee.** Amy talked about new ideas on how we can engage working parents to participate more in school activities. Help parents network and balance careers and their children’s school

experience. The committee would work by having a chairperson in place and obtaining a group

of parents that would be interested in being a part of this network. Some of the tools that could be used to solicit ideas and input: surveys, conference calls, email and speakers/pod casts. All recommendations would be delivered to Ferson Creek. We will be revisiting this new idea for the 2015-2016 school year.

**Ferson Parent Group:** We are looking for an individual to be a point of contact for parents who would like to help at the school/classroom but cannot because they have a little one at home. The chair person would connect families with similar interests/needs so they could partner to care for at home kids. Please let Shannon Sullivan know if you are interested.

**Karen Johnson**: (Teachers’ Report) Mrs. Johnson will remind the teachers that they need to put together their wish lists for the Barnes & Noble Book Fair.

**Open Board positions 2015-2016:** We have a lot of open board positions available for the 2015-2016 school year. We are still in need of a **treasurer** as a priority at this time. Please consider this position. There is no accounting background needed. Please let Shannon Sullivan know if you’re interested or know of someone that may be interested in this position or any of the open ones we need filled.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm by Shannon Sullivan.**