

Parent Group Meeting Minutes

11/12/2025 6pm-7pm

Virtual Session

Attendance:

Chandani Warnasooriya, Kelly Oh, Marcy Mooney, Rob Hathaway, Ciara Defreze, Rebecca Lepel, Faith Eng, Nicholas Marou, Rose DeFreze

Board Updates:

Kimberly DeLardge- Board of Education- was not present at the meeting, liaison between school and board. Board Liaison for schools will no longer be attending any of the Parent Group meetings.

District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) update:

Rose DeFreze provided an update on the recent DPAC meeting. DPAC Meetings are open to all district parents and caregivers. The meeting was mainly focused on the phone ban in schools. Parent input and concerns were discussed.

Principal/ Assistant Principal Report:

Mrs. Mooney thanked all the families who volunteered and donated candy for the Trunk or Treat event. Even with the last-minute changes, it went very well, and more than 400 children attended. She also spoke about the recent Math and Literacy event, which was designed to give Fyle parents an overview of the Eureka Math program and the CKLA literacy program used in the school.

Mrs. Mooney also raised the idea of spreading some school events into the spring, as many of them currently take place in the fall. She reminded families that parent-teacher conferences will take place during the week of Thanksgiving break. During the conference, parents can sit down with teachers to review the literacy and math reports to gain a better understanding of where their child are academically.

Mrs. Mooney also mentioned that the Culture Fair will be held next Wednesday, November 17th, from 6-7 p.m. This event is usually very well attended. There will be many stations showcasing cultures, traditions, and foods from different countries around

the world, as well as a fashion parade where students can display their traditional clothing.

Finally, she noted that the school's sing-along event will take place in December.

Dr. Hathaway mentioned that several members of the Rush-Henrietta Board of Education will be visiting Fyle. During their visit, they will discuss highlights of the school's programs (such as CKLA) and share board updates. Students will lead tours around the school and visit classrooms with the board members.

Budget Report:

Chandani Warnasooriya provided the budget update on behalf of the FPG Treasurer; Donna Heintz.

\$8687.67- expenses so far this year (back to school picnic, t-shirts, teachers welcome back lunch, Fall book fair, Math night, Trunk-or treat, Recess Items/bins)

\$3460.24 – Earnings from the Book Fair

\$7222.57- remaining budget

We previously had not allocated any funds in the budget for the Math and Literacy Night. Therefore, we discussed proposing a new budget line for this event in May for the next academic year.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Operation Kindness

Rebecca Lepel, the current chair, presented information about the Operation Kindness fundraiser, which will take place in March 2026. It is the only fundraising event that Fyle holds, and this will be its fourth year. Raise Craze is the platform used to collect donations and track statistics such as the number of emails sent, states reached, and funds raised by individuals and classrooms.

In addition to the fundraiser, we will also host Operation Kindness Night, where students participate in various activities that highlight and celebrate acts of kindness. Several organizations will attend, including the Seneca Park Zoo (for the Baboon Bag activity), the Child Advocacy Center, and others. Importantly, parents participate alongside the students; seeing adults' model kindness can have a powerful impact on our Fyle Cubs.

Rebecca shared concerns about the lack of sponsorships this year and discussed possible solutions. We talked about creating an Operation Kindness Committee with

several parent volunteers so the chair can receive more help with planning, finding sponsors, and coordinating activities. Rebecca also mentioned her Facebook post seeking sponsorships for classroom prizes for both students and teachers, which we believe will help increase parent involvement.

Mrs. Mooney reminded everyone that any information we would like to share with families can be sent to her for inclusion in her eNews.

We also discussed whether having a PTO table at the Culture Fair would be helpful, but it seems it may not be productive since parents and children are typically busy visiting the cultural displays.

Dr. Hathaway suggested promoting the fundraiser during the Sing-Along Day, as it draws many parents.

Other Topics

Recess Items: Faith Eng created a survey for teachers to gather input on what recess items they felt would be most useful for students. Based on their responses, she compiled a list of items to purchase. Instead of buying from multiple stores, we created an Amazon wish list to make it easier to reorder items as they wear out over time. So far, we have purchased most of the items and storage bins, with supplies organized by grade level.

We still need to purchase a few additional winter play items, such as snowball makers, brick molds, small shovels, and a few more sleds (we have bought several already, but may need a few more). Mrs. Mooney noted that these items will be especially valuable since many students live in apartment complexes and may not have space to play in the snow.

Nicholas Marou asked whether we would accept donations of gently used items. We discussed sharing a post in January asking for gently used winter play items, which parents could drop off at the Fyle main office.

Children Book Author Visit: Stephen Shaskan, will be coming next year, and this is a planned event by the district. **Side note:** Kelly was mentioning, a local author; Maria Pirrami (Author of “Listen to the Trees”); could be a possible candidate for the Parent As Reading Partner (PARP) event, as she is doing book readings on local events.

Celebrating the success of Teachers/staff: Jeaninne Cruz, a member of the Fyle front office staff, proposed an idea to celebrate the successes of teachers and staff at the end of each semester by surprising them with small treats. Since we had many

events during the first quarter, we suggested doing this midway through the year instead. We will discuss this further at our next meeting on January 7th.

Collaborate with other school PTOs: There is ongoing discussion about whether parent groups from all schools in the RHCS D can work together and share resources. We expect to hear more details and a proposed plan soon.

Future PTO meetings: A question was raised about whether future meetings will be held in person or virtually. Mrs. Mooney mentioned that the PTO committee can decide on this.

The Meeting was adjourned.

(Prepared by Chandani Warnasooriya, on behalf of FPG Secretary; Megan Yates)