

## **PFSA Community Meeting Tuesday, September 24, 2004**

### **Welcome and Introduction to all!**

#### **Meeting began at 4:05pm**

24 in attendance - Stephanie Deming, Development; Gloria Jones, Interim ED, Denis Kimball and Paige Ossman, Operations Team; 2 LHU Board members attending - Susan English, Kim Elliott

Stephanie opened the meeting and welcomed everyone and Kim Elliot from the LHU board. Invited Kim to talk about what the LHU board is and how they are actively seeking committee members at this time.

- Kim: on board 9 years; talked about LHU board recruitment - governing board of the school; one employee - ED; several committees, looking for people to join and serve in the committees: Finance, Policy; Search Committee; DEI; Communications, et al - read about on website at: <https://sterlingmontessori.org/index.php/page-types/full-width>
- "Would love for more people to be involved and learn about different aspects of Sterling"
- PFSA and LHU board work closely together
- Actively looking for board members
- Look for LHU virtual meetings on the school calendar; links there to join in on meeting: <https://sterlingmontessori.org/index.php/page-types/calendar>
- The monthly meeting are virtual and the Annual meeting in June is held in person.

### **Stephanie discussed the PFSA vision**

- Sterling's PFSA is not a typical hierarchical structure with President, Vice President, et al, but rather committees and chairs that run the events
- PFSA falls under the Development umbrella and is about building community - **Parents, Faculty, Students** (Montessori based methodology) **Association**; Sterling Montessori is a non profit, charter school; no public funding from the county like WCPSS. Rather, funding is based on enrollment numbers at the beginning of each school year. Therefore, efforts have to go into fundraising and development.

### **PFSA Yearly Budget:**

Running budget \$12-15K. This is used throughout the year to cover events PFSA puts on, such as Movie Nights, Garden Days, International Festival et al. Have to remember that these events cost money to provide community and that we want to be able to include as many people in our community with the events, but must look to ways to sustain the cost and manpower for these events to occur.

Need People Power - chairs are point people to run events. Time is just as valuable as money donated and we are appreciative of any type of donation.

Sterling's PFSA is essentially in the hands of the parents and community members. There are traditional events that we have enjoyed having throughout the years but Development is always open to new ideas and such, as long as there is support from the community to make the events happen.

## **FALL CALENDAR OVERVIEW:**

Immediate Fall Events on Calendar:

**Movie Night** - Lisa Hicks, Committee Chair - Movie Night was an amazing success with a HUGE turnout. We were so happy to see as many families attend even with the rainy, damp weather. A "Thank You" to Gloria Jones, Denise Kimball, and Todd Fisher for being on site for the Movie Night and making sure that the event was smooth and safe.

**Picture Days** - Chair Open; Fall Individual Picture Days are coming up October 2 & 3. We have everything set with LifeTouch to be here on those days and have sent out a SignUp Genius requesting parent volunteers to help on these days to make sure that the days go smoothly. There are still a couple slots open that would be helpful to fill:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4FABA62FA1F8C16-51545928-picture#/>

***Would be helpful to have a point person for the days as the committee does not have a chair at the moment. If interested, please email [pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org)***

**Spirit Night** - Join in on Spirit Night by going to Goodberry's October 9th. Enjoy some delicious frozen custard and help support Sterling as well!

Location: Cornerstone Location located at 2325 Davis Drive, Cary, NC 27519

**Garden Day** - October 18th, 2024; Chairs - Kidist Maxwell and Shreesta

Classrooms set aside this day to work on their outdoor spaces and families are invited to join in on this work. Look for wishlists and directions on how to help in your child's classroom to come soon. We will have pumpkins and mums available for sale as well for families.

- **FOR THIS YEAR:** One idea would be to hold a **Bake Sale** for the day to help the annual fund. We would need a coordinator for the Bake Sale alone and if anyone is interested, please contact us at [pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org).

**Giving Tree** - Silvia Michaud, needs another Chair ; November-December

Giving Tree is an incredible mission opportunity that Sterling has held for many years. It is a time of giving to families in need for the winter holidays. Look for more information to come and how to donate or help with this amazing event.

**Fall Fundraising** - Gabriel DePriest and Sarah Krummenacker

Our Fall Fundraiser with Charleston Wrap has been underway since September 16th. This fundraiser runs through September 30th, with a goal of raising \$10,000.

**Holiday Treat Exchange** - Julie Discalfani, Chair; Held in December

This is a great tradition started to treat our teachers and staff with holiday baking and treats from the families. Look for more information to come on how to help with making this treat happen for our staff!

**Teacher Appreciation** - Susan English, Chair

Each month, PFSA tries to let our staff know how much they are appreciated with small tokens of appreciation or events like the Work Day Candy Apple Bar. If you are interested in helping with this or have any ideas, please email [pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org)

**Giving Tuesday** - Stephanie, December 3rd

Development is focusing on ways to advertise in the community to increase giving and donations towards the Annual Fund.

- Looking at small groups to hand out QR codes and forms; giving envelopes
- Making sure community understands why and what Sterling is fundraising for - strategic planning; outdoor revamp; looking for commitment and participation

Want to help - email [pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org)

**Other Committees and Chairs - Looking Forward:**

- **Book Fair** - Chair is OPEN
  - We have partnered with local bookseller, Quail Ridge Books, in Raleigh, in the past years. This has been a virtual event, but open to new partnerships and new ideas.
  - One idea given was possible Game Night for families on the Sports Court, with the Book Fair set up for one night. Families can come play different board games with other families as well as purchase books to support Sterling.
- **Spring Movie Night** - in April
- **Spring Pictures** - again, would love to have a chair person who could be the point person for the day of and for volunteers to help with.
- **International Festival** - Hagar Abdel-Baky, Faith Meeker and Susan English, chairs
  - Annual event held in April each year. Open to the entire Sterling community and an event that is looked towards each year. Takes many volunteers and a lot of planning throughout the year. If you are interested in helping out with planning, please contact [pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org)

**Painless Fundraising** - Ways to fundraise easily. Link to your phone numbers or VIC numbers to Sterling Montessori at stores like Target, HT, etc.

**ParentSquare PFSA group** - Stephanie will create a closed PFSA ParentSquare group as a way for chairs and committee members to reach out when they have a need for help, etc. If anyone is interested in being included in this group, please reach out to us at [pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org)

**Closing Remarks:** Thank you to all that were able to attend. A HUGE thank you to Mr. Mecos for stepping in and helping with childcare. We hope to see as many of you that are able to attend at the next community meeting. Any questions, concerns or ideas - please do not hesitate to reach out to [pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org](mailto:pfsa@sterlingmontessori.org)

Families can also check out the different committee detail pages on our website at: [https://www.sterlingmontessori.org/application/files/7816/9772/3397/PFSA\\_Committee\\_descriptions.pdf](https://www.sterlingmontessori.org/application/files/7816/9772/3397/PFSA_Committee_descriptions.pdf)

Meeting Adjourned at 4:50pm.