**PTA Minutes- October 12, 2015**

(Meeting began at 6:31pm)

**Bike for World Campaign:**

A power point was shared about this program. It takes place on November 7, 2015 from 12 – 3 PM. This is a non-profit organization that makes bikes available to third world countries for transportation. You can sign up your child to volunteer for this event. In addition, you can donate $10 to help with package and shipping fees. There will be a flyer sent home with more information. You can also visit <http://www.bikesfortheworld.org>. This information will also be put on Peach Jar.

**Board Reports**

President: reminded people to make sure they are following the proper procedures for copying.

Treasurer: Membership is still coming in. The PTA is buying things for the Holiday Shop.

**School Reports**

**Principal’s Report:**

1. We received another teacher for overcrowding in first and second grade. Melissa Ernst is the new teacher in second grade.
2. Children are allowed to have cell phones in school but they should not be turned on. This includes the bus.
3. Pets are not allowed on school grounds during school hours. This is a county policy.
4. Other Lighthouse School staff came and observed how are kids are working with the devices. They were also looking to see if P21 skills are being used in the classroom.
5. Next Wednesday, there will be other visitors from Baltimore County coming to see instruction in our school.

**Assistant Principal’s Report:**

MAP testing for grades 1-5 will be finished this week. Reading and math scores can be shared at conferences. Parents should know that this is one piece of information and teacher feedback and BCPS One grades are also important data pieces. Parents are encouraged to check BCPS One regularly.

**Event Chair’s Reports**

**Communications**- The procedure for how to get an event posted on Peach Jar was reviewed and is also on the back of the PTA Agenda. All flyers need to be approved by the principal and PTA president. Tanzi Leary also sends email blasts and supplies information for the school newsletter for the PTA section.

**Box Tops** – Contest ends October 23, 2015. The first place class will receive a class party.

**Directory** – The Directory is at the printer. They will hopefully arrive in time to give them out on October 23, 2015.

**Fifth Grade Chair** – They are working with Ms. Crain to host a read – a –thon. A flyer for this event will be going home this week.

**FORT Gives Back** – Jill Dannenfelser met with the student council. They are teaming up to support this group. FORT gives back will help support the food drive and the Hop for Hopkins and other events.

**Halloween Monster Bash-** This is on October 23, 2015. Families set up their cars in the back parking lot and decorate their cars and give out candy. The teachers are in the hallways in the school giving out candy as well. There will also be a DJ for dancing. There should be sign up going out to ask for support setting up, cleaning up, and donating candy to hand out. The PTA could also use extra decorations.

**Holiday Shop** – December 2,3,4. If anyone has any good ideas for men/boys, please let Melissa Puritz know.

**Hospitality** – This committee provided food for The Bus Driver Breakfast. Brooklyn Bagel donated food for this event.

**Membership** – 155 members at this time. We have 262 families in the school at this time.

**Move Night** – The PTA is looking for someone to be in charge of this event. This is an event for parents to come with their children to watch a movie. Popcorn, soda and candy is sold at this event. Usually the kids vote for the movies. At tonight’s meeting Melissa Gofstein offered to run this event.

**Restaurant Night** – Our first Restaurant Night is October 26, 2015 at Chipotle. They give the school 50% of all proceeds. This is a Raven’s away game so take out is a great option! Make sure to mention you are from Fort Garrison Elementary. December 17, 2015 there will be another Restaurant Night at Bagby’s Pizza. For the whole month, donations will go to our school. You can round up or give a donation. The school will get 20% of this total.

**Spirit** – Orders are finished and items should arrive soon. The 3rd Thursday of every month is Spirit Wear Day. Spirit Week is planned for American Education Week – November 16 – 20.

**Yearbook** – The cover contest is occurring now. The first place winner is on the cover, second place on the back and all other entries are inside the yearbook covers.

**Miscellaneous questions/comments:**

1. A parent asked about Artsonia. This is being done by Mrs. Hulse, art teacher.
2. The school now has a Facebook Page. The proposed schedule for next year has been posted to the page. Parents are encouraged to review this. Some PTA members will be meeting with Dr. Dance this week to share their concerns about how early the proposed schedule has students starting in August.
3. Pikesville Coalition will be meeting to discuss issues between the Pikesville area schools. This coalition encourages the community to send their children to the Pikesville area schools.

Meeting ended at 7: 31