



# FMS PARENT MEETING

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## Farragut Middle School

### PTSA Parent Meeting Minutes

Held Wednesday, May 20, 2026 8:30 AM EDT

Location: FMS Conference Room

#### I. PTSA Announcements

##### Recap of Socials and Approach for Next Year

- The group reviewed the socials and dances held this year. The consensus was that this year's approach did not work as intended.
- The discussion focused on reviewing each event by grade and moving in a different direction for next year.
  - The idea would be for the school to host an after school social event that the staff/teachers could be part of/lead (Game Nights, etc) and then if parents in each grade wanted to take on a dance event that would be managed by them, then that could be explored with the school

##### Board Slate 2026–27

- The upcoming PTSA Executive Board slate was read aloud. It will be voted on by PTSA members in the coming weeks.

#### II. SEPTA Announcements

- SEPTA Parents Night Out: Thursday, June 11, at 7:30 PM at Uncle Lefty's.
- The event is a casual opportunity for parents to connect with other parents in the community whose children have IEPs and/or 504s, or for parents who are exploring those options.

#### III. Updates

##### Drop-off and Pick-up Safety

- The safety of students at drop-off and pick-up is a major concern due to traffic.
- Administrators are working with the town to look at changes to improve safety.
- Next school year, the bond work will affect the roads around the school.
- Some parents have been dropping off their children in the staff parking lot near the FMS entrance. This poses a major safety concern, as students are not considering car traffic in that area.
- The school is currently operating with a single point of entry and is working internally to move toward a single point of exit as well.

## **Math Enrichment**

- 7<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade accelerated course placements will be announced within the next week.
- Administration is working on creating a 6<sup>th</sup>-grade accelerated course that will be offered in the 2027-28 school year
- The administration continues to develop the K-12 math progression for the district.
- The Math Department Chair position is currently vacant.

## **Next Year's Schedule**

- The school plans to stick with a schedule of 41-minute instructional periods and move from 3-minute to 2-minute transition periods, which the administration acknowledged can be challenging, but is necessary to allow for a return to 30 minutes of academic coaching time.
- Some 8th graders take high school courses; next year's schedule more closely aligns with high school schedules.

## **Technology**

- General Technology Update
  - The district is making some headway on issues of concern
  - The Technology Committee is charged with creating the plan, which has to be submitted to the state.
  - A recent survey of staff was conducted to assess how technology is being used; there is variation across classrooms.
  - A parent committee is submitting a large briefing document to the district, anticipated to be shared the week of 5/25/26
  - Plans for how the school can best approach a reset with students and staff are underway.
- Yonder Pouches
  - Even when not being used as intended, the pouches serve as a deterrent to device use.
  - The monitoring staff watches for student use of devices.
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
  - Student misuse of AI is addressed in the code of conduct.
  - There is concern among some parents about how teachers use AI. Agreement that the execution of the educational material/plan is most important (not necessarily if AI was used for a portion of the plan's creation, etc.)
  - A parent asked whether there is a plan to educate students in critical thinking and other skills related to media and AI use; The media literacy programming covers AI.
  - The tech curriculum has been re-mapped; the tech teacher sits on the district's technology committee.

## **Curriculum**

- Foreign Language
  - The plan for incoming 5th graders' exposure to language is being finalized.
  - As it currently stands, students can still pick Spanish or French in 6th grade.
- Organizational Skills/Executive Functioning
  - Students will still have organizational skills built into the program.
  - AOK (Areas of Knowledge) will incorporate organizational skills.

## **Upcoming Bond Work**

- As part of the discussion on drop-off and pick-up safety, the upcoming bond work was also discussed.
- Part of the school's preparations will include updating emergency protocols because Burke will be out of use.