



Meeting Agenda

Date: 2020 07 02

FOS Board

President

Nicole Ducar

Vice President

Rodell Knight

Secretary

Jenny McQueen

Treasurer

Amber Kujath

Board Officers

Patty Guzman

School Representative

Student Representative

1. Call to Order

2. Minutes from last meeting

- Read, Comment + Approve

3. Treasurer's Report

- Review end of fiscal year balance
 - Checking Account balance on June 30, 2020: \$17,463.74
 - Saving Account balance on June 30, 2020: \$ 8,271.61
 - \$25,735.35
- Arrange to switch access to accounts from old board to new board

4. President's Report

- Monthly updates
 - End of 2019-2020 School year update
 - Pauline's report
 - Art Show
 - Homeroom Wars
 - IFly
 - Movies
 - Roller Skating
 - Altitude
- Outstanding agenda items
 - Mascot - competition
- New Business
 - Introduction letter to STEM families of new board
 - Include survey
 - Introduction letter to STEM teachers of new board
 - Include survey
 - Student recognition
 - 2020 graduating class
 - 2020 graduate who is battling cancer – plaque

- What can FOS do to activate middle school?
 - Pay it forward fundraiser in middle school for 8th grade trip?
 - Dance Off or Relay
 - Free Throw pledges
- LSC – Is there a parent or two we can suggest to run for the LSC?
- Brainstorm how FOS can offer to partner with STEM
 - If school opens in September:
 - Stagger drop-off times
 - Close street and do drop-off at Laffin
 - Paint colorful dots on street + sidewalk to maintain social distancing.
 - Order masks to distribute to students
 - School year kick-off + supply cabinet
 - FOS to offer each teacher a gift card to start out the year?
 - FOS to keep a supply cabinet stocked for teachers?
 - Uniform swap
 - If school is remote in September:
 - Can FOS help with ensuring technology is available for all students?
 - Can there be remote social activities that FOS can organize?
- Impact Corner
 - Anti-racism at STEM
 - Is there a forum to offer for free exchange of thoughts?
 - What are other ways we can proffer for engaging students, teachers and parents in conversation about social justice, violence, equality, etc.?
- Middle School Engagement
 - What can we do to better engage with the middle school?
 - Pay-It-Forward Fundraiser for an 8th grade trip.
 - Mentoring program between littles and bigs.

5. Committee Reports

- Events
 - Stories That Connect
 - Film festival (integrated with Writing + Technology classes)
 - Stock car races
 - Book Club
 - Math competitions
- STEM Improvements
 - STEM Flower Power (Gardens + Grounds)
 - Reinstall playground benches?
 - Install painted boards at playground fence.
 - Install new planters at more trees.
 - Raise stepping stones with more gravel.
 - STEMbellishment (Interior Improvements)
 - Organize school storage rooms

- Clean Up Teacher's area
- Moisture issues
- School Supply Cabinet sponsored by FOS
- Grants
- Marketing + Communications + Newsletter
 - Revamp website + social media
 - Revamp monthly newsletter
 - Post Agendas + Minutes

6. Teacher's Report

7. Student's Report

8. Announcements

Next meeting date + location

9. Adjournment



Hello STEM families!

As we fully roll into summer vacation, Friends of STEM is excited to take a few minutes to introduce our new board to you. We begin our two-year tenure amid wild days, filled with uncertainty and unrest. What we do know is that we are firm in our commitment to the STEM community, our diverse student body, and our hard-working teachers and staff.

As the new FOS board begins planning for the 2020-2021 school year, we are asking for your valued input. Not knowing what the next school year will look like yet, we are trying to plan as best we can. We have put together a short survey for parents and guardians of STEM students to complete so we can better understand where STEM families would like to see FOS put our efforts and resources.

Thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to submit your answers to our survey. We so value your input and plan to incorporate your feedback into our planning as much as possible.

As a refresher and for the benefit of families who are new to STEM, we have included the below information on who we are and what we do.

What is Friends of STEM (FOS)?

FOS is a 501(c)3, non-profit organization made up of STEM parents, teachers, and members of the community. We come together for the purpose of supporting STEM Magnet Academy through fundraising, community building and celebrating the diverse experiences found there.

What does Friends of STEM do?

FOS seeks to support the educational, financial, and diverse experiences at STEM Magnet Academy by developing an inclusive and harmonious relationship among school, home, and community. We strive to do this by encouraging and welcoming family involvement through volunteer opportunities and resource support.

How can you become involved with Friends of STEM?

Teamwork makes the dream work! There are many ways to become involved with FOS. In fact, not only do we want your involvement, but we *need* you. We cannot do what we do without you. It is by pooling our efforts that we can meaningfully contribute to the life of our STEM community.

- Attend a Friends of STEM meeting or event. It is a fun way to find out what we are up to *and* meet other involved parents.
- Volunteer your time to an FOS committee or at an event.
(Please remember to submit the proper volunteer applications to the STEM office at the beginning of the school year so you are approved by CPS to volunteer at school events.)
- Sign up for our FOS Newsletter to stay in-the-know and how you can help. (include link)
- Like us on social media. Everyone likes to be liked!
- Support our fundraisers so we can support our school.
- Visit our website at www.friendsofstem.wordpress.com and feed our suggestion box with your awesome ideas for FOS events, activities, or just plain old improvements. We like compliments to grow our spirit. We welcome criticism when it is crafted to help us get better.
- Reach out to FOS via email at friendsofstem@gmail.com
- Provide feedback to FOS by filling out the following short survey:

Survey link: _____

Thank you!
FOS Board

President
Nicole Ducar

Vice President
Rodell Knight

Secretary
Jenny McQueen

Treasurer
Amber Kujath

Board Officers
Patty Guzman

School Representative
Vacant

Student Representative
Vacant



STEM Families Survey

1. How would you prefer to receive information from FOS on meetings, events, and fundraisers?
 - a. Social Media
 - b. Emailed newsletters

- c. Paper newsletters sent home with students
 - d. Carrier pigeon (just kidding, that sounds cruel)
2. What social media do you use to stay informed?
- a. Facebook
 - b. Twitter
 - c. Instagram
 - d. Other (please tell us the “other” or else we will go crazy speculating)
-
3. Would you like to see Classroom Directories made available for each class? For example, all 4th graders would be in one directory made available to all 4th grade parents who sign up and share their information (email and/or cell phone number). It would be completely voluntary and people would be on their honor not to abuse the information.
- a. Yes
 - b. No
4. Would you be willing to donate money or supplies to FOS so we can keep a Classroom Supplies Cabinet stocked? The goal is to have FOS supply classrooms with paper towels, disinfectant wipes, facial tissue, and other communal supplies instead of asking each student to bring them at the beginning of the school year.
- a. Yes
 - b. No
5. What types of FOS organized and run events would you attend? (This is for the future after social distancing restrictions are lifted.) (Check all that apply.)
- a. Parents Night Out/Mom’s Night Out/Dad’s Night Out (adults only)
 - b. Friday evening events at STEM (e.g. Movie Night or something similar)
 - c. Weekend event (e.g. Carnival, sporting competition or Technology Fair, etc.)
 - d. Art Walk in STEM neighborhood
 - e. Dances (Mom/Son, Dad/Daughter, K-2nd, Middle School)
6. On which types of events would you like to see FOS focus? (Check all that apply.)

- a. Community/Class Building
 - b. Social Issues
 - c. Art
 - d. Technology/Engineering
 - e. Cultural + Diversity Celebrations
 - f. 8th grade trip
7. In the event that our students do not go back to the classroom this September, do you have suggestions for what FOS can do to assist our students and teachers navigate remote learning?
8. In the event that our students are back in the classroom this September, do you have suggestions for what FOS can do to assist our students, teachers and staff navigate social distancing requirements for the STEM community?
9. Would you be interested in activities that pair up middle schoolers with younger kids (mentoring type programs)?
- a. Yes
 - b. No
10. Are you interested in getting more involved with FOS?
- a. Yes
 - i. then ask for name, email address, children's name(s) and grades
 - ii. then prompt for some specialized types of volunteer options
 - 1. Help with communications/social media/newsletter
 - 2. Help with events committees
 - 3. Help with school beautification
 - a. Gardens and grounds
 - b. Interior improvements
 - b. No

- i. prompt another question:
 - 1. No as in “Not at All”
 - 2. No as in “Maybe a little every once in a while”
 - a. if this one, ask for name, email address, etc.

11. Would you like to be added to FOS’ newsletter distribution list?

- a. Yes
 - i. then ask for name, email address, children’s name(s) and grades
- b. No

12. We love feedback! Please share any comments you would like us to know:



July 6, 2020

Hello STEM teachers!

As we fully roll into summer vacation, Friends of STEM is excited to take a few minutes to introduce our new board to you. We begin our two-year tenure amid wild days, filled with uncertainty and unrest. What we do know is that we are firm in our commitment to the STEM community, our diverse student body, and our hard-working teachers and staff.

As the new FOS board begins planning for the 2020-2021 school year, we want to let you know how much we greatly value the hard work you do with our kids and on behalf of the school. Not knowing what the next school year will look like yet, we are trying to plan as best we can. We have put together a short survey for STEM teachers to complete so we can better understand what we can do to better partner with you during the upcoming school year. We appreciate your input and will use it to guide our efforts as best as we can.

Thank you in advance for taking a few minutes to submit your answers to our short survey. ([link here](#))

Thank you!
FOS Board

<i>President</i> Nicole Ducar	<i>Vice President</i> Rodell Knight	<i>Secretary</i> Jenny McQueen	<i>Treasurer</i> Amber Kujath
<i>Board Officers</i> Patty Guzman	<i>School Representative</i> Vacant	<i>Student Representative</i> Vacant	



STEM Teacher Survey

1. How would you like to receive information from FOS?
 - Email
 - Face-to-face
 - Paper notices in your school mailbox.
 - Other
2. Would it be helpful to have FOS maintain a Classroom Supplies Cabinet in the school where we can stock communal supplies? The goal is to have FOS supply classrooms with paper towels, disinfectant wipes, facial tissue, and other communal supplies instead of asking each student to bring them at the beginning of the school year. If this is appealing, what supplies would like to see stocked in this type of cabinet?
3. Typically, at the beginning of each school year, how much money could you use to sufficiently supply your classroom with incidental supplies?
4. What types of activities would you like to see FOS organize and run that might align with lessons in your classroom?
 - For instance, for Homeroom Wars it could be paired with ELA and Technology lessons, having students write and record a video of themselves asking for donations. Then they would be taught how to distribute this video.
 - Another example would be organizing a school wide book report contest right after the book fair.
 - Another example is organizing a film festival where kids write, direct and present a short film on a topic they explore in one of their classes.
 - Assist with a schoolwide PBL on social justice.
5. Are you in need of parent volunteers that FOS could organize to assist you in your classroom (for a one-time event or as a recurring event)?
6. We would like to have a teacher representative on our board as liaison between the teaching staff and FOS. Anyone interested? We meet monthly during the school year.
7. FOS would like to discuss the opportunity to do more on our website and/or social media to promote and celebrate the things students are exploring, creating, and achieving in the classroom. Would that be something you would be interested in doing with FOS?

8. FOS welcomes the opportunity to partner with STEM teachers and staff to provide safe avenues for the STEM community to have difficult conversations that current events instigate and inspire. Here are some ideas:
 - Impact Corner
 - This could be a comment board where students or parents could anonymously post “food for thought”. This should have a filter of some sort so as to make it thought-provoking and not a platform for hate speech.
 - Book club
 - Service projects

9. FOS welcomes feedback and suggestions. Please feel free to leave a comment here: