

Marriotts Ridge High School
PTSA Meeting
September 14, 2009
Marriotts Ridge HS Staff Lounge

Irene Bademosi called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM

In Attendance: Irene Bademosi, Tim Ferrell, Cathy Lein, Laura Muth, Jennifer Burgy, Donna Flemister, Barbara Ohnmacht, Patrick Saunderson, James LeMon, Eric Ebersole, Lori Ferraro, Jane Jones, Kim Bowman, Christina Lein, Nanthini Balakrishnan, Jire Bademosi

Minutes from the August 17 Executive Board Meeting were presented. Motion to approve as written (Ferrell), second (Lein). All in favor. Minutes approved unanimously.

General Meeting: Copies of the proposed 09-10 MRHS PTSA budget were distributed. Motion to approve (Bademosi), second (Burgy). All in favor. Budget approved unanimously.

Minutes from the September 10 General Meeting were presented. Motion to approve as written (Ferraro), second (Jire Bademosi). All in favor. Minutes approved unanimously.

President's Report: Irene Bademosi

- Irene will advertise to the student population that the MRHS PTSA is currently seeking a representative from the 9th and 10th grade classes to report class activities on a monthly basis.
- SGA would like to send a liaison to MRHS PTSA Board Meetings. Action: Jire Bademosi and Tim Ferrell will meet with Ms. Skahill to appoint a SGA Liaison to report to PTSA Board.
- Irene will dialogue with Mr. Saunderson and Tim Ferrell about Student and Family Programs that will be held this year.
- Volunteers who worked the MRHS Boosters stand at the Howard County Fair were thanked.
- Mr. Saunderson was asked to recommend a teacher for the PTA Teacher Award.
- Received an e-mail from a parent at Centennial High School about redistricting. A meeting will be scheduled with the PTA President's of all schools that feed into MRHS.
- Noted that the SAT Prep Class dates had not been updated on the website. Action: Mr. Saunderson will get those dates to Mr. Reg Hahne.
- Would like to continue meeting with Mr. Saunderson on a monthly basis.

First Vice President's Report: Tim Ferrell

- 1st VP commended the presence and report of different academic department chairs at each PTSA meeting. It is further recommended that in addition, teacher rep(s) be present as a consistent liaison between the faculty and PTSA –one/two who would interface in an

ongoing way with teachers regarding PTSA issues and vice-versa. Mr. Saunderson performs this function well as an administrator but a teacher rep would help us excel even more.

- Faculty/school/administrators need to be alert to the errant assumptions that students have prompt and continual access to the internet for their nightly assignments. The fact is that many do not due to extra-curricular schedules as well as electronic failures. Therefore, students need to have access to paper copies so they can redeem their time while on travel at athletic contests, participation in musical rehearsals, etc. Access to photocopy homework assignments (only!) perhaps can be made at the Media Center for 30 minutes after classes dismiss for the day as some teachers do not post assignments by the end of each class. Mr. Saunderson and Mr. Ebersole noted such and assured us that it will be addressed with the faculty.

Second Vice President's Report: Cathy Lein

- Has continued to attend Make Route 32 Safe Meetings. Notified Board about September 17 meeting at Board of Education Building Board Rooms A & B. Organizers are hoping for tremendous community presence.

Treasurer's Report: Laura Muth

- The current income and expense statement was presented to the Board.
- Last year's audit has been received with three comments:
 - Hard copies of checks should be provided. Action: Laura will contact PNC Bank and request copies of checks to be sent with the monthly statement.
 - Don't use gift cards as expressions of thanks or awards. There have been instances of fraud, and they are difficult to track. We would leave ourselves open to potential abuse.
 - Send 1099 forms to individuals who receive more than \$600 from PTSA. Action: Laura will send when appropriate.
- Check for Liability Insurance that covers MRHS PTSA Board was prepared today. Laura will send to MD State PTA ASAP.
- Laura will file the audit and the approved 09-10 MRHS PTSA budget with PTACHC by September 30 deadline.

Principal's Report:

- Back-to-School Night ran smoothly, thanks to the many volunteers who helped make it such a productive evening. Over 1000 people attended.
- The PTSA budget supports students and staff at MRHS. Thank you for choosing to fund those initiatives.
- \$3600 was allocated to Departmental Grants. Of that, \$2400 was used to fund TeacherEase. 50 teachers have already signed on and are using this grade reporting technology.
- The remaining \$1200 will be divided equally among the 12 departments (\$100 for each department).
- Each of the four administrators are personally and individually visiting each English class discussing these things with the students:

- Goal setting for this year and next
- Honor and excellence theme
- School-wide policy review
- Next week is Homecoming Spirit Week
 - Powder Puff Football Wednesday night
 - Pep Rally Friday
 - Pasta Dinner benefiting After Prom Friday night
 - Pancake Breakfast benefiting POMS Saturday morning
 - Parade 11 am Saturday morning
 - Football vs. Glenelg 1:00 Saturday afternoon
 - Homecoming Dance 8-11 pm Saturday night
- Possible topics for guest speakers this year include:
 - Honor and integrity
 - Drinking and driving
 - Diversity and acceptance (Dr. Mikey)
- Giving back to others school-wide initiatives include:
 - Adopt a Road
 - Athletic mentors at Mount View Middle School
 - Green school
- If teacher's assignments are given on the web, a few hard copies will be made available in their classroom.
- An instructional team leader will attend each PTSA meeting.

Staff Report: Eric Ebersole, Mathematics Instructional Team Leader

- Reviewing honor code documents with the students sends the message that staff is genuinely interested in valuing honor.
- Calculus in Motion, and Algebra in Motion are both software programs that were ordered with last year's departmental grant. They are still in use and the Math Department thanks the PTSA board again for their generosity.
- Fathom and Cuda (sp?) are programs that the department would like to order this year. The cost is well over the \$100 remaining in the grant money, but that \$100 would be used to defer the cost.
- Cross-curricular planning has been utilized by the math department for several years. This year the department will also plan vertical curriculum, i.e., what is taught in Algebra I that is relevant to Algebra II?
- Core support will be given to the small number of students (13) who haven't passed the HSA algebra test. Test-taking skills are taught to help the students if they have anxiety about taking must-pass tests.
- Last year the MRHS Math Team came in 3rd place in the County. They are planning on having a better year.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Donna Flemister

- Donna will send a letter to Mrs. Seipp, thanking her for providing the audit. Note: No gift card will be enclosed.
- Two MRHS community parents have passed away in the recent past. Discussion held about how PTSA should respond. Consensus of the Board that each case should be

looked at on an individual basis. Action: Donna will work with Irene to get sympathy cards sent to these two families.

PTCHC Delegate Report: (written by) Laura McDonald, Presented by Barbara Ohnmacht)

• Parent volunteers are being sought to serve on the following Policy Review committees this year:

- Student DNR
 - Employee discipline
 - Student assault and battery on staff
 - Calendar committee
 - Curriculum committee
 - Employee drug use
- A Wellness Representative is being requested from each PTSA.
- May not be a huge issue for high school parents due to the age of the student involved.

Student Representative Report: Kelly Burgy

• Report read into the record by the President. Copy attached.

Committee Reports:

After Prom: Cathy Lein is Chairing Pasta Dinner fundraiser. It will be held Friday, September 25 (Homecoming Eve) in the cafeteria. Ms. Lein has asked many organizations and sports teams to help with ticket sales. Christine Crosby, After Prom Chair, submitted her report in writing, but the President did not have time to read it into the record prior to her departure from the meeting.

Directory: Michelle Richardson asked who has the Directory Forms – response Lori Ferraro. She also asked who was Directory Chair last year – response Karyn Littlejohn.

eScrip: Approximately 70 forms have been received.

Membership: Current membership stands at 709, not including staff. Membership envelopes are still coming in. The PTSA Banner is still missing. No one on the custodial staff or Administration has any idea where it went.

New Business: No new business

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM