

Marriotts Ridge High School
PTSA Meeting
October 12, 2009
Marriotts Ridge HS Staff Lounge

The meeting was called to order at 3:31 PM

In Attendance: : Irene Bademosi, Tim Ferrell, Cathy Lein, Laura Muth, Jennifer Burgy, Barbara Ohnmacht, Patrick Saunderson, Reg Hahne, Lori Ferraro, Christine Crosby, Jire Bademosi, Hong Grace Chen, Nanthini Balakrishnan, Karyn Littlejohn

Minutes: Motion to Approved the Minutes of the September 14 MRHS PTSA Executive Board Meeting as amended (Bademosi). Change in President's Report to include a representative from the 12th grade to the PTSA Exec Board was being sought. Second (Ferrell). All in favor.

Motion to accept a report by Jire Bademosi to give an update about Howard County and Maryland State SGA.

President's Report (Irene Bademosi):

Kelly Riley will serve as 12th grade Representative, and Kelly Burgy will serve as 11th grade Representative to MRHS PTSA Executive Board. 9th and 10th grade representatives still being recruited.

HCPSS thanked MRHS PTSA for \$1000 contribution to the Evening of Excellence Awards Ceremony.

President stresses her desire for students to be more involved in Committee work.

Received an e-mail from a parent in the Waverly Community asking that MRHS notify the Waverly Homeowners Association in advance about future Homecoming Parades so that the Community members can come out and line the parade route, as well as have a heads up about road closings during the parade. Contact information was sent and Mr. Saunderson forwarded that to the SGA sponsor last week.

Met with Mr. Saunderson Friday to review PTSA initiatives and goals for this meeting.

President would like the parents of this community to know that there are multiple resources available to them and she will consider sending an eSchoolNewsletter containing links to the resources available on the PTSA website.

Since the Newsletter Committee Chair has not attended any meetings, Irene would like to recruit a new Chair. If the PTSA is going to publish a November issue, the

deadline is fast approaching. Irene will contact all people who indicated their willingness to assist with Newsletter on the parent volunteer form. If she cannot find a person interested in Chairing we will re-visit issue next month. Board discussed the idea of publishing a short, timely monthly electronic version of the newsletter instead of a printed quarterly wrap-up issue. Consensus that Committee Chair should choose whatever method of communication they felt best suited their schedule and the community.

SAT Prep Committee Chair vacancy. Please talk up this position to your neighbors. Irene will step up advertising seeking a Chair for this position.

Family and Student Programs Chair is Tim Ferrell.

In the last few weeks, President sent condolence letters to three Marriotts Ridge families who lost loved ones. She also bought thank you cards to send to parents who previously served on the MRHS PTSA Executive Board.

Seeking a Chair for the Scholarship Committee. Would like to see language in the scholarship application, stating that the decision of the selection committee was final and could not be appealed, removed. Committee Chair is responsible for collecting completed applications from the PTSA mailbox, cleaning them up to remove any reference about who the applicant is, verifying their membership in the PTSA, and passing the applications on to Mrs. Marjorie Ford.

Early bird registration for the Maryland State PTA Convention ends soon. The convention will be held November 13-14 in Frederick. Irene may attend. MRHS PTSA may send two representatives. If you would like to attend, please contact Irene.

Howard County PTA Council will meet on October 29 at the Faulkner Ridge Center.

Representative Elijah Cummings will hold a seminar, "How to Pay for College" on November 9 from 5:00 until 7:00 PM.

Board re-visited Executive Board the monthly meeting times. After discussion, President's decision is that the November and March meetings will be held at 7:00 PM. In all other months, the meetings will be held at 3:30 PM.

Special Report by Jire Bademosi:

The Howard County SGA is seeking input from parents about their preference for school calendar dates for next year. Two proposed schedules were presented, both include the full week for Spring Break. Option One: School begins for students on August 23 and the last regularly scheduled day (not including make-up days for inclement weather) would be June 10. Option Two: School begins for students on August 30 and the last regularly scheduled day (not including make-up days for inclement weather) would be June 17. Four people present preferred option one; 9

people preferred option two. Most parent present would prefer shortening Spring Break and end school earlier in June. Jire will report these results back to the Howard County Association Student Councils (HCASC) and they will pass this along to the HCPSS Calendar Committee.

There will be a HCASC meeting on October 14. A MRHS parent, Cindy Haller, typically attends on behalf of the PTACHC.

There will be a meeting on October 22 with members of the Board of Education and HCASC members. Topics will include the H1N1 virus and school lunches.

On October 27, the Maryland State SGA Executive Board will hold their monthly meeting and dinner. Policy 2010, the Student Representative to the Board of Education and how they are elected, will be the topic of discussion.

Student Representative Reports:

The **11th grade** report (Kelly Burgy) was read into the record as follows: On Thursday, October 8, volunteers from the SGA Executive Board and General Assembly cleaned up the SGA room. Extra Homecoming decorations were given to Mrs. Ireland (sophomore class sponsor).

Senior class General Assembly members sold senior class tickets and crab feast tickets at lunch during the week of October 5-9.

The SGA held a General Assembly meeting on Tuesday, October 6 during 3rd period. Homecoming feedback was the topic. Feedback sheets were completed and the results of the forms indicate that students were pleased with Homecoming. Members of SGA didn't like Pirate Day, and feel that Wacky Tacky Day is getting old. Overall, the DJ got high remarks, but he faded songs into each other, and didn't play the songs in their entirety.

12th Grade: Kellie Riley. The music at Homecoming faded in and out (re-mixish). Some liked that style, others didn't. Homecoming festivities were well attended and went well. Many students demonstrated lots of school spirit during Spirit Week.

Treasurer's Report (Laura Muth):

\$868 eScrip rebates were received this month, including the annual donation from Giant.

Cutting a check today for Maryland State PTA, 855 members.

Membership for the year is on-target to meet our budget goals.

Staff Report (Reg Hahne, CTE Team Leader):

Group members were introduced and an overview of each staff position was given to the Board.

The MRHS Website was reviewed in-depth. All material for posting on the website should be submitted to Reg Hahne.

FBLA has a contingent of 40 students this year.

Science Olympiad is hosted by Mr. Rosnik.

Stang Software brochure attached. The group writes agreements with client and then students interface with clients. Students create websites and get paid for it. Proceeds go to Stang Software Solutions and are used to buy materials and products to support the program.

Project Lead the Way was introduced.

Membership (Lori Ferraro):

855 members to date. Chair believes that we will surpass last year's number.

Board input sought about contacting folks who haven't renewed their membership this year. Chair will send a blurb to Publicity Chair stating that it is not too late to become a member.

1st Vice President (Tim Ferrell):

No further report, all topics covered by other Board members.

2nd Vice President (Cathy Lein):

Planted flowers outside the front entrance to the school.

Will attend a meeting tomorrow evening for feeder school, parents helping student transitioning to MRHS. Will report back to this Board next month with results of meeting.

Pasta Dinner made almost \$1500. 287 people attended.

Still investigating and researching additional fundraisers to get more money to teachers.

PTACHC Council Representative (Barbara Ohnmacht):

All schools will receive funding from Project Safe After Prom.

Reflections (Jane Jones):

Program has been advertised weekly in eSchool newsletters. "Beauty Is..." is the theme this year.

Corresponding Secretary (Donna Flemister):

Sent a card to Mrs. Seipp, thanking her for providing the audit.

Directory (Michelle Richards):

Directory is in the works. Chair is waiting for approval from Central Office.

Staff Appreciation (Jennifer Burgy):

Luncheon for staff will be held on Monday, November 23 after early dismissal. Theme is comfort food. A pot-luck lunch of soups, breads and salads will be provided by parent volunteers.

Principal's Report (Patrick Sauderson):

Will send an eSchool newsletter requesting any 9th or 10th grade student who is interested in serving as PTSA Representative for their class to contact Mrs. Bademosi. Will also include information about PTSA Exec Board interest in having interested students serve on Committees.

October 14 is PSAT testing day for 10th and 11th grades. All but 9 freshmen will attend the field trip that day to the Air and Space Museum in D.C. Seniors have morning senior events and afternoon classes on a regular schedule with the sophomores and juniors.

Will follow-up with Rhine Landscaping about school beautification project.

Spirit Days and the Homecoming Dance went very well. 1000 tickets for the dance were sold. A few students were a bit over-zealous, particularly with "tagging" and that will be addressed with the students in the future. MRHS didn't have that problem for a few years, but it has cropped up, and will be nipped in the bud.

The first Family and Community Partnership meeting of the year will be held on October 15 at 3:00 PM.

An Honor and Excellence assembly for the students will be held on Tuesday, October 20. Ken Ullman will be the keynote speaker.

The National Honor Society induction will be held on Thursday, October 22. State Senator Allen Kittleman will be the keynote speaker.

The televised broadcast of Marriotts Ridge appearance in, It's Academic, will be at 10:00 AM on Saturday, October 31. MRHS placed 2nd.

New partnerships with businesses in the community include Matt About You and the West Friendship Volunteer Fire Department.

On March 17, 2010 from 7:30 until 9:00 PM, the Board of Education will hold a Coffee and Conversation at MRHS. 40-50 people are expected to attend. PTSA has coordinated efforts of Culinary Students providing baked goods for parent functions

for the past two year. Mr. Saunderson will contact Mrs. Palm and ask if the students will continue to provide this service to the community. Mr. Saunderson will report back to the PTSA board next month if funding is requested from Hospitality line item to purchase ingredients. PTSA will provide bottled water for this event, and baked goods in the event that the students are not able to provide them.

Dr. Michael Fowlin will present two student assemblies during the day on December 15 about Diversity. 7th and 8th grade student from Mount View will join the 9th grade class for one assembly. The 10th, 11th and 12th grade students will attend later in the day.

The Yearbook didn't contain photographs of approximately 24 senior students, hence distribution of the yearbook to students has been delayed . The vendor is in the process of providing options to remedy the situation.

New Business:

A request for a departmental grant was received by the Fine Arts Department for funding in the amount of \$100 to offset the purchase price of a flatbed scanner. Motion to approve the grant (Ferrell), second (Lein). All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:37 PM