

Meeting Minutes
Maryvale Elementary School PTA – Board Meeting
December 1, 2009
Maryvale E.S. Media Center, 7.00pm

PTA Board Members

Present: Audra Herzog (President), Norma Amado, Mara Lynch, Akoss Schuppius, Aissa Sires, Jackie Suzich.

Absent: Sanja Modric, Anne Simcox.

November 2009 minutes were approved without changes.

Board Vacancies

Esther Alessio is considering assuming the vacant position of MCCPTA Delegate #2. A parent new to Maryvale has expressed interest in becoming VP Fundraising.

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report

\$200 of overage from International Night to be moved to help the school cover the cost of meals for Reading Night. \$40 overage from Ice Cream Social to be moved to provide snacks for the Barnes & Noble fundraiser.

Membership Report

Membership Chair Rick Moser was unavailable to give this report. Other board members indicate that additional memberships have been generated by the directory and teacher grant notices that require PTA membership; additional funds are due to MDPTA and MCCPTA. Currently 156 members. Twenty-nine members are school staff/teachers.

Programs Report

Health Fair had an extremely low turnout – will be combined with a larger event such as Spring Fling next time. Next is the Volleyball event. Kid's Night Out will be replaced by MSA event for Grades 3 – 5 only.

Fundraisers Report

Position is currently vacant – individual items reported by J. Suzich. To date, restaurant nights have come in well above target financially. Will next try to book Hard Times Café, Fuddruckers, Noodles & Co. (Rockville and/or Gaithersburg locations). Austin Grill will not be book due to fundraiser rules change which would greatly increase risk for minimal fundraising with no potential reward. Martin's fundraiser earned less than projected, and was high hassle to administer. Kidstuff Books fundraiser earned less than projected - \$600 check cut to Kidstuff could result in a small loss.

Volunteer Coordinator's Report

Anne Simcox was unavailable to give this report.

MCCPTA Delegates Report

MCCPTA is in process of nominating new board. Current MCCPTA President is likely to become MDPTA President. State Delegate Anne Kaiser (D – 14th District) would like to have an MCCPTA representative attend monthly budget meetings in Annapolis to keep MCCPTA current on school funding issues there. Significant concerns about MCPS math curriculum – students pushed to learn material up to two years above grade level, but moving so quickly that mastery of prior elements is not achieved. Discussed organizing a new math committee, as previous one failed due to lack of broad based membership and discouraging any dissent. There will be some restructuring of MCCPTA representation by clusters. Concern that MCCPTA needs to remain neutral in current difficulties between the County and the teachers union. Extreme concern about school violence, particularly privacy rules that prevent school officials from communicating effectively with police about gang-related activity in middle and high schools.

Other Topics

Playground Benches

Order is ready, check needs to be cut. Funds to come from 2008 – 2009 surplus.

Book Fair

Fall Book Fair appears to be under projected fundraising goal, but still awaiting final numbers. Spring Book Fair which usually breaks even may show a small profit due to larger than usual inventory of French books already owned by the PTA.

Principal's Discretionary Fund (PDF)

Principal Kimber will receive the full \$2,500 for 2009-2010, to be drawn against by POs, check requests and invoices for reimbursement. Any funds unused at the end of the year revert to the PTA. School provided documentation for most of the \$1,700+ previously undocumented spending for 2008 – 2009. Board reviewed MDPTA guidelines for local PTA spending, and was concerned with some prior spending of the PDF, such as school supplies and professional memberships, which will be disallowed going forward. Spending rules will be redrafted and tightened for 2010 – 2011 forward. Some items such as staff professional development will be covered in areas other than the PDF.

PTA Communications

A. Herzog will investigate complaints that the weekly Connect Ed message is cutting off before completion to some phones.

Kidstuff Fundraiser

365 books are still outstanding that need to be returned to Kidstuff. A. Herzog will follow-up on Connect Ed and potentially via student binders to collect as many as possible.

School Fundraisers

The Maryvale Administration plans two fundraisers this year: Joe Kirby Pizza during Super Bowl and Yankee Candle during yearbook orders.

Maryvale T-shirts

Current receivables will allow the PTA to purchase shirts for new Kindergarteners whose parents did not order shirts without additional cost to PTA. PTA and Principal Kimber need to determine whether school wishes to cover the cost for shirts for CAPP/Headstart/PreK students whose parents did not order as well – if so this charge will hit the PDF. Discussion of whether to increase purchase to 300 shirts to take advantage of lower price breaks and maintain stock so no order is needed next year. All payments to date have been provided to J. Suzich for deposit. Order will go to printer within ten days.

Principals Meeting

December meeting between Principal Kimber and PTA has been cancelled, and will need to be rescheduled.

General Meeting Babysitter

Continuing need for a babysitter for the children of attendees to the PTA General Meetings. Individual must be at least 18 years of age and preferably known to someone in PTA leadership.

School Assemblies

Science assembly for grades 1 – 3 on December 10th to be paid for by PTA. Five PTA members attended the Cultural Arts Performance to view available assemblies. Based on their feedback, M. Cummings-Rocke will book assemblies for the remainder of the year.

PTA Board 2010- 2011

Plan is to introduce new Board at April general meeting, with vote at May general meeting.

Future Meeting Dates

The next Board Meeting will take place March 2nd. General meetings are scheduled February 2nd, April 14th and May 4th.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9.05pm.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Mara Lynch.