

Middletown High School PTSA
Meeting minutes
October 21st, 2008

The Middletown High School PTSA meeting was held on Tuesday, October 21st, 2008 at 7pm in the media center. LeAnn Moore called the meeting to order and directed our attention to the displayed purposes of the PTA. A quorum was established. Brief introductions were made around the table.

The minutes from the August 26th, 2008 meeting were read and approved for filing. The approved minutes are to be emailed to Beth Fisher to be posted on the website.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Daphne Gabb presented the financial statement ending October 15th, 2008.

Treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit. Daphne reported that she presented the proposed budget at the September 16th MHS PTSA General meeting. In addition she attended PTA Council meeting and training on September 22nd as well as volunteered in the MHS copy room each week.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: LeAnn Moore reported that thank you notes had been received thanking the PTSA for the conference dinners. Currently we the PTSA have 363 members, including 54 staff. Membership goal of a 5% increase as well as MD PTA goal of plus 5 have been met, but there are 5 less staff members this year. It was suggested that a reminder for staff to join be sent. The membership table at conference dinners was successful, more memberships were signed up and many membership cards were given out (there are still more cards to be given out through the students). LeAnn attended the 9/22 County Council meeting where an award of excellence was given out to MHS PTSA for the 2007-08 year, credit for which was given to Nancy Randall. LeAnn encouraged everyone to read the PTA County legislative position statements to be adopted on 10/27, all are encourage to voice their opinion on 10/27 during the floor discussion at the County Council Meeting. Superintendent Chats continue to occur, all are welcome to attend with an open forum for questions. Information on the 'Raising the Sails' advocacy program will be posted on the PTSA bulleting board. LeAnn reported that she will be speaking briefly on family involvement at the Academic Awards Ceremony and she recommended the book 'Family Friendly Schools' by Dr. Steve Constatino. The BOE candidates questionnaire has been emailed to the PTSA board members, this questionnaire is available to read at www.frederickpta.org in order to make an informed voting choice. LeAnn Moore and Kathy McCahey will both be attending PTA State Convention in Frederick on 11/14 and 11/15.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mr. Berno thanked the PTSA on behalf of the staff for the conference dinners.

Homecoming activities all went smoothly and were very positive. Mr. Berno reported that Mark Smith's (last year's Vice Principal) wife had died. A card from the PTSA will be sent as part of the Sunshine Club. The SIT team met and are continuing to revise the SIT team plan and make the targets very clear. On Dec 16th, the SIT team plan will be available to the PTSA. Find out First is available to MHS to use for emergency messages, only the principal is authorized to use this service. Additional Find out First services are available for \$1200 a year (4 other high schools have this service) but since funds for this year were distributed prior to Mr. Berno coming to MHS, there are no funds available for this year for the extra service. The visit from our Denmark guests went well with the visitors attending classrooms and visits to Gettysburg as well as several students who sang at the faculty meeting.

Dates to remember: Underclass awards ceremony 10/24 at 12.45pm, end of term 1 10/31, no school for students 11/3 (for teachers there will be 2 hrs of professional development and 5 hrs of teacher work), schools closed for Election Day 11/4.

STUDENT'S REPORT: The blood drive on 10/21 went well as did the Homecoming Dance (thank you for the volunteer chaperones). The MES Holiday Party in Dec is being planned, more info to come. The email address for the student newspaper will be given to the PTSA.

TEACHER'S REPORT: The teachers thanked the PTSA for the wonderful conference dinners.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Advocacy: Daphne Gabb attended MHS advocacy meeting with LeAnn Moore and Donna Clabaugh on 9/4 as well as the Superintendent's Advisory Council on 9/3. Daphne attended Middletown Advocacy meeting with the 3 PTA president's on 9/3. Daphne met with Joe Dattoli about Middletown campus transportation issues on 9/9 and reported that there are plans to change the MES traffic pattern in 2010 to have buses pick up in the back of the school instead of the front (changes for MMS and MHS are planned for 2011). This plan is to come before the board sometime in Jan and we need to advocate for this change in order to get the school buses off Schoolhouse Drive. Daphne attended and spoke about Middletown advocacy at the BOE public hearing for Educational Facilities Master Plan on 9/10 and attended the Superintendent's Chat on 9/17 as well as Superintendent's Advisory Council on 10/1.

B. Hospitality: Conference dinners went well, help with food and serving was good. CTC will cater the March conference dinners (2 of the senior staff at CTC are seniors at MHS). On 10/24 at the Academic Awards Ceremony, Hospitality will provide cookies, cake and punch with the help of cake donations from Costco, Sam's Club, Sweet Creations and the Jefferson Pastry Shop. Volunteers are needed to help set up and serve at this event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Plans of work:

Membership: \$200 total approved expenses. Motion made & seconded. Motion approved.

Baccalaureate Committee: Budgeted \$250 but asked for \$300. Motion made to approve as presented with a budget of \$300 and seconded. Motion approved (motion made by Daphne Gabb to move \$50 from Music Programs to Baccalaureate Program - motion seconded and approved).

County Council: No financial needs, motion made and seconded. Motion approved.

Welcome/Farewell Committee: Motion to approve this plan of work postponed in order for the financial needs to be clarified.

Secretary: No financial needs, motion made, seconded and approved.

SGA representative: No financial needs made, seconded and approved.

B. MHS PTSA Bulletin Board: The PTSA bulletin board will be very visible in the main hallway and we need to purchase a bulletin board at a cost of \$83. Daphne Gabb made a motion that \$100 be added to the PTA Supplies budgeted line item at the next General Membership Meeting on 11/18, this was seconded and approved.

C. Open Positions:

Ways and Means: open.

Programs: Joyce Donohue is interested in the Programs Committee - LeAnn Moore will meet with Joyce.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. By Laws Committee: Needs to meet in November to start working on them.

B. FCPS 2008-09 Teacher of the Year Awards: Beth Fisher will distribute this information to parents via email so we can nominate.

C. Lori Shirley is looking into various grant applications. Protocol will be followed and more information will be provided if we plan to proceed with any of these grants.

Meeting adjourned 8:35pm