

Middletown High School PTSA
Meeting minutes
December 15th, 2008

The Middletown High School PTSA meeting was held on Monday, December 15th, 2008 at 7:30pm at the Braddock Inn. LeAnn Moore called the meeting to order and directed our attention to the displayed purposes of the PTA. A quorum was established. The minutes from the October 21st, 2008 PTSA meeting were read and a motion was made and seconded to approve them as presented. There was no discussion and the minutes were 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 November reconciliation statement and the financial statement ending December 15th, 2008. There was no discussion and a motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. The Treasurer's report was approved and filed for audit.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Mr. Berno reported that the Dr. Martin Luther King county celebration will take place on January 15th, 2009 at 7:00pm at Thomas Johnson High School. The SIT team plan has been sent and is waiting for approval. The SIT team plan will be available online after its approval. Mr. Berno also reported that in January, budget discussions will take place in preparation for next year. Recommendations will be made to the BOE, who will then make decisions in order to make ends meet. All discussions will be public knowledge and up for public discussion.

TEACHER'S REPORT: Teacher representative had nothing to report.

STUDENT'S REPORT: There was no SGA representative present.

**MHS PTSA Officers met briefly to approve Dottie Dalphon to be chairperson for the PTSA e-newsletter and Joyce Donohue to be chairperson for Programs.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

A. On November 25th LeAnn Moore met with MHS Principal, Mr. Berno. They discussed website changes, drug and alcohol education prior to prom, a possible take your parent to school day or parent career night, the need for a 3 month calendar between MES, MMS and MHS regarding activity scheduling especially Back-To-School events (MHS is hiring a secretary to better coordinate school activities, the appearance of MHS especially the cafeteria (how can the walls add to education and communication) and the FCPS Alcohol and Drug Policy regarding student athletes.

B. On November 25th LeAnn met with Beth Fisher and Dottie Dalphon regarding the e-newsletter and website. Beth and LeAnn, along with Joyce Donohue will evaluate the website and determine how it should be organized before presenting this to the PTSA. Paula Brodell is interested in becoming the website manager for Beth once the website is up and running.

C. A card was sent from the MHS PTSA To Katie Wilson's family expressing our sympathy and support.

D. On November 30th LeAnn met with Joyce Donohue to discuss programs for the remainder of the school year.

E. On December 8th, LeAnn met with Daphne Gabb and Kathy McCahey to prepare the MHS PTSA Bylaws for the Board of Directors review and approval.

F. LeAnn filed necessary Facilities Use forms for PTSA meetings and the Teacher Conference dinner on March 2nd, 2009.

G. LeAnn talked with Lynnea Richards (Wolfsville Elementary Principal) and discussed the Middletown Feeder Improvement team goal of parent involvement for the at-risk student. The feeder team is looking for feedback from all the feeder PTA's and PTSA Presidents.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Reflections: Agnesanne Danehey reported that a total of 19 Students from MHS participated in the Reflections Program this year, 11 of which went on to the County level. Thank You letters, along with Starbucks gift certificates are being sent to the judges. At this time we are in the process of trying to coordinate schedules to award the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place MHS winners as well as have a picture taken for the Citizen. MHS submitted their council pieces prior to the Dec 12th deadline and judging is expected to begin as early as Dec 15th until Jan 5th. Council level received a total of 256 entries in all areas and three entries from each category in each division will advance to the State level of the PTA contest (those submissions will be made by Jan 23rd).

B. Programs: No report.

C. Ways and Means: Brenda Rota reported that as of Dec 14th, 2008 the Write-A-Check campaign had earned a total of \$4,515.00.

D. Membership: Brenda Rota reported that as of Dec 14th, 2008 the MHS PTSA had 370 members which is an increase of 45 members over last year. A total of 57 teacher/staff have joined the MHS PTSA so far this year. Last year's teacher/ staff count was 59. This represents a decrease to date. The second teacher reminder letter and an email from Nancy Vom Lehn generated 3 more teacher/staff members. The final batch of membership cards will be distributed this week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Plans of Work:

1. Welcome Program: Plan of Work was read with financial need of \$50 to cover copying, postage and envelopes. A motion was made by Daphne Gabb to accept the Plan of Work allocating \$50 from Misc. Programs to be used for this year and to be a separate line item next year. This was seconded and the Plan of Work was approved.

2. Ways and Means: Plan of Work was read with financial needs of \$160 to cover the cost of copies, paper and ink. A motion was made by Daphne Gabb to accept the Plan of Work as presented. This was seconded and the Plan of Work was approved.

3. Vice President: Plan of Work was read with no financial needs. A motion was made by Daphne Gabb to accept the Plan of Work as presented. This was seconded and the Plan of Work was approved.

B. Bulletin Board: The MHS PTSA bulletin board is still not in yet but we are looking for someone to assume the management and updating of this board when it is installed.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Bylaw review and approval: There are 3 changes in the Bylaws that need to be approved.

1. Article VI, section 2, b "annual" changed to "last", "in the month" of changed to "of the school year".
2. Article VI, section 3, c add "last" before "general meeting", "in" changed to "of the school year".
3. Article XI, section 3 "held in" changed to "the last general membership meeting of the school year".

These changes need to go to a General Membership Meeting for approval. A motion was made by the Bylaws Committee to approve the updated Bylaws and to take the changes to the next General Membership meeting. There was no discussion and no second necessary. The Bylaw changes were approved to be brought to the January 22nd, 2009 General Membership meeting for approval. A copy of the bylaws and the changes will be posted on the MHS Community Bulletin Board prior to the General Meeting for PTSA member review.

B. PTSA meeting dates changes:

1. Jan 13th, 2009 meeting has been changed to January 22nd, 2009. Mr. Bowman will discuss work study, internships, mentoring and student service learning.

2. February 17th, 2009 meeting has been changed to February 24th, 2009. There will be a presentation from the MD Motor Vehicle Administration regarding the Provisional Driver's License Program. This presentation will be advertised in the MHS January newsletter and on the MHS website (a good talk for sophomore parents).

C. Consent Agenda: Kathy McCahey will be sending out an email to officers and committee chairpersons 1 week prior to a MHS PTSA meeting to request items for the Consent Agenda. Consent Agenda items are those that require no discussion, have no questions, they are purely updates on committee activity. You can reply to Kathy with Consent Agenda items or to LeAnn Moore if your item needs discussion and needs to be placed on the meeting agenda. Items for the Consent Agenda will be compiled by Kathy onto 1 document and emailed out to everyone prior to the PTSA meeting.

D. MHS Auditorium Sound System: Courtenay Dietrich and Lori Shirley will work with MHS to review this topic and to look a grant writing for this project.

E. Cafeteria Bulletin Board: Mike Joy requested \$201.56 from the PTSA to cover the cost of a bulletin board in the cafeteria to be used for student display and information. Mr. Berno recommended that the PTSA not pay for this request and he felt that this sort of thing should be run through the school and maintained by the school, not the PTSA.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Raising the Sails Program: Deadline to register for this free program is Dec 19th, 2008.

B. Last Superintendent Chat: This will take place with Dr. Linda Burgee on Jan. 13th, 2009 at Linganore High at Oakdale from 7-8:30pm (snow date Feb. 10th, 2009 at Hayward Rd).

C. County Council Meeting: Monday, January 26th from 7:00-9:00pm at Monocacy Middle School.

D. National PTA packet: A packet is coming in the mail from National PTA to help promote membership increases in the month of January.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40pm