

## **DRAFT -- Thurgood Marshall PTA, Board Meeting Minutes**

October 6, 2015, 6:30-8:30pm

**In Attendance:** Kimberlee Barber-Woodruff, Jen Ellis, Brenda Fackler, Jamie Fackler, Stacey Joanovic, Ben Kim, Cliff Meyer, Lauri Nakamoto, Karen Pinkard, Casey Sommers, Annette Sherr, Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie

### **Principal Report -- Sabrina**

*School environment:* We're focused on making our students comfortable with their routine. We made sure every student got a tour of the school while discussing expectations and using REAL language. We're working on making recess soccer a better experience for everyone and we're trying to make the lunchroom calmer. Student council will be starting shortly with Ms. Hudson.

*School Equity Team:* Many teachers and IAs attended the meeting with the district representatives. Ian put together a plan for the future. In the short term, team is planning a "mix it up at lunch day" on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Technology:* The technology committee has set four meeting dates between now and December 17<sup>th</sup>. We plan to add parents to the committee as well.

*Staffing:* Our October 1<sup>st</sup> enrollment number was in line with expectations, so we will not lose any staff. We have a substitute teacher in Rm114, but we're working to get her certification to be the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> "additional teacher".

### **Minutes -- Lauri**

Annette made a motion to approve the September minutes. Karen seconded it. The minutes were approved via voice vote.

### **Special Ed Advisory Committee Update -- Annette**

Committee is focused on three items: 1) IDEA act is pushing inclusion, but state of WA is not certificating enough SpEd teachers, 2) mental health services in school, focused on getting data on counselors and how they're paid (PTA or district), and 3) creating a handbook for SpEd parents so it's clear what parents should do when something happens.

### **Bullpup Parents Report -- Karen**

Our Facebook page has exploded in growth since the start of school and currently has 184 parent members. Karen was at the flagpole the first week of school and answered many parent questions. The new parent tour held during the first week was successful and she recommended that we continue it in future years.

### **Co-Presidents Report – Casey & Jamie**

*Pillars:* We finished the drainage project. The PTA Board voted to approve the opportunity grant to pay for the materials for the project.

*Tech Committee Update:* Main focus is to get thirty laptops for 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> classes. Also want

professional development to ensure improvement in teaching and learning. Board had a short discussion re: moving forward quickly on applying for a grant before it's too late for this year. *Enrichment Update:* Enrichment is overwhelmed and there have been scheduling and notification issues this Fall. Board discussed how to make this process less work for the volunteers. There is an online registration system that we're looking into to try to alleviate the registration burden. Many schools have outsourced after school classes to Seattle Parks & Rec. We know that something has to change as it currently takes a wonder-person to pull this off. Board also discussed PT Avenue application that we're using for PTA member database. We don't believe it will work for enrichment payment, unfortunately. Jen, Cliff, Percy, & Brian will have a recommendation for changes by November Board meeting. *Schools First Levy:* This levy happens every three years and they are asking for a donation. The Board approved a \$500 donation.

### **September Events and Volunteering Update -- Brenda & Kimberlee**

Brenda is putting together a revised event checklist for all the event leads. She also wants to put together a list of non-english speakers who want to help with making events more welcoming for everyone. Kimberlee is still trying to get a full team of parent class representatives.

### **Annual Giving Fund Report -- Stacey**

Fifty-five families donated using the first day packet forms. Jenny is preparing letters to go out to parents who may be interested in being part of a match pool this year. Team is also getting marketing ready for first match event in November. Jen will send Stacey leads on potential volunteers to help with the November mailing.

### **Treasurer Report -- Jen**

Nothing outstanding to report regarding the budget. Jen is using PT Avenue for the financials since we need to use it for the membership database. We plan to use it this year and see if there are other ways to use this application in the future.

### **Community Report -- Ben**

John Muir does a weekly principal coffee from 8:20-8:50. Board had a short discussion about other PTAs and what they do to build community. We hope to communicate and share ideas with other schools.

We are planning to distribute TM T-shirts for all students, designed by Cora Glass. There will be a form sent to all for voluntary payment to help defer expenses. There will also be other TM branded items for purchase as well.

Meeting adjourned.