

Thurgood Marshall PTA Board Meeting Minutes

January 10th, 2016, 6:30-8:00pm

In Attendance: Lauri Nakamoto, Cliff Meyer, Zakiya Tyson, Ann McNally, Katie May, Donna Dugan, Merilee Hudson, Karen Pinkard, Jen Ellis, Stacey Joanovic

Minutes - Stacey J.

Stacey received December meeting notes from Karen for the second half of the meeting. December meeting minutes will need approval at next board meeting.

Principal Report – Katie

Budget Shortfall: Katie explained the district budget shortfall and its impact on schools. TM is looking at a worst-case scenario for budgeting and staffing. Katie distributed the district flyer – see attached. We have invited the district to speak about the budget shortfall at the January PTA general meeting

Advanced Learning Testing: Testing scores will be posted to the source February 10th.

MLK Day: This Friday there will be an all school assembly in honour of Martin Luther King Jr. Many classrooms have been preparing presentations.

Inauguration Day: TM is planning a “Hope Walk” to view the artistic paper hands students created for the Youth Uplift challenge.

Social Studies: Katie announced that they will be surveying parents and students about their experiences with the changes to social studies this year.

Real Rodeo: There was a “Keeping it Real” Rodeo the first week back after the holidays. It allowed students to review expectations and included some of the lunch room changes. It went smoothly.

Advocacy Update – Karen and Cliff

The PTA focus day is January 16th. Karen and Cliff led a discussion about how the TM community can advocate for our schools. They shared a flyer by the state PTA that lists their five main priorities this year. They also shared a postcard to easily enable parents to advocate regarding the budget shortfall. It was also suggested that parents advocate via email and phone calls. Lauri and Cliff discussed a resolution to show TM unity to legislatures that they would like to share with the general membership at the January general meeting. In general the resolution would state the TM community is demanding to adequately fund our schools in a timely manner.

Treasurer’s Update – Jen

Nothing new to report.

Events and Volunteer Update – Zakiya

PTA Focus Day: Looking for volunteers to paint staff lounge and the OT/PT rooms (room 103).

School Tours: Karen would like four to six parent volunteers per tour. The upcoming tours are January 26th (morning), February 2nd (morning), February 7th (evening with HCC presentation) and March 8th (morning).

Pancake Breakfast: Rose and Johnny Zhu have volunteered to co-lead the pancake breakfast. There is a sign-up genius for volunteer needs.

Art Walk: Deanne Partlow has volunteered to lead the Art Walk. Ms. Zirngible will let us know her volunteer needs for hanging art work.

Family Game Night: We are still looking for a lead. Zakiya will confirm date with Blue Highway Games.

Communications Update – Cliff

Cliff asked for feedback regarding PTA email distribution. He reported that there have been less PTA email blasts this year because info is in the text of the Pup Press emails transmitted by Katie May on Thursdays. There were however, several emails in December for AGF. Overall, the Board felt like emails distributions were appropriate this year and no changes were necessary.

SpEd Update – Donna

Nothing new to report.

Staff Update – Merilee

Merilee reported that staff has been working hard on building the social studies curriculum.

Meeting adjourned 8:00pm.