

**Thurgood Marshall PTA
Board Meeting Minutes
October 22, 2013 6:30 - 8:00pm**

In attendance (in order of sign-in) - Sharmila Williams, Brindy Bundesmann, Katy Ransom, Scott Engan, Donna Dugan, Annette Sherr, Julia Janak, Tasha Irvine, Casey Sommers, Ben Kim, Wendy Eckert, Christine Helm

Treasurer's Report - Brindy Bundesmann

Brindy passed around the latest report. Some amendments decided on in September are now reflected in the current report. Brindy would like more transparency with more detailed reports of all PTA transactions. One example of this will be to provide granular detail of specific PTA activities such as Pancake Breakfast and Yearbook. As these events take place throughout the year we can represent their income and expenses in the report and provide parents with more detail of where PTA funds are being spent. In general these activities fund themselves with donations and fees and are not revenue generating activities. We are working out carry over expenses from last year. We still have one invoice from the district for last year. We have a healthy defined reserve and a good cushion. We have some flexibility as the year goes on as far as funding any additional school needs that may present themselves. Someone other than Tasha, Sharmila or Brindy needs to audit the monthly treasurer's report. Annette Sherr volunteered. We decided to use an accountant for our EZ 990 with the November 15th deadline.

Fundraising Update - Casey Sommers

43k received thus far! 10k pending. 53k total. This time last year we were at 30k. Casey is very happy with the concentrated efforts rather than a year long push. She would like to reach 100k by Jan 1st. We are at 20% participation. A parent has contacted Casey about offering TM a portion of her proceeds from TM purchases of her pottery. We would like to open up to all parents this offer - if giving dollars is not first choice, providing a portion of proceeds from services offered might be preferred. Also, PCC cards will be advertised again this week. Cheques can be made out to TM - cards will be mailed out to the address on cheque.

Volunteer Report - Wendy Eckert

Fall Dance is being chaired by Shyla Wilcynski. Weekly meetings will take place on Fridays at 2:30. Shyla ran the fall dance at McGilvra and has plenty of great ideas. Other activities such as facepainting will be offered. She is working on the possibility of a hot dog food truck as well. Ralina Joseph has been SO helpful in circulating information. We need to continue to work on getting class reps class lists for circulation rather than having the teacher send the info on as they are already quite burdened. Pancake Breakfast will be chaired by Audrey and Mark once again. Stay tuned for updates and volunteer needs for that great event.

Agenda items for next general meeting - Tasha Irvine

Megan Kaloper will attend our next meeting for a brief presentation and also to answer parent questions. Topics such as what is bullying, how to get a good bedtime routine going etc. may be covered. We will focus on a few key subjects and then open it up for Q and A. We are also working on getting someone to come and discuss Common Core. Amy Lang is potentially coming in January. We are looking for a guest for our March meeting. Let Tasha know if you have ideas.

Electronic Communications Update - Tasha Irvine

Sharepoint is a tough program to work with - it requires a bit more technical expertise to set up than we have at this point. Tasha finds herself very reliant on the parent who linked us to Sharepoint - and we aren't sure we are able to continue unless we have someone (another parent) who is willing to take on this somewhat labor intensive role. Tasha is going to discuss this with the current Sharepoint liaison - she will find out if they are interested/able in continuing to be in that role and if not, we will have to use another program, such as Constant Contact. If someone knows of another Sharepoint contact, please do let Tasha know.

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PEACE Academy Report - Donna Dugan

There is a new teacher in 107, Kathy Newell on medical leave. Several new people have come on staff. The program is at capacity currently. There are 8 kids per classroom - 24 total. It was discussed that an occasional Pup Press PEACE update would be nice. Kimber Kierstead's class is currently working with the PEACE kids - it might be nice to have the 5th grade kids write up a paragraph or two on their experiences. Christine Helm suggested that any info/education on the program is always welcome.

Growth Boundaries Report - Sharmila Williams

Sharmila circulated a draft of a letter to the School Board on behalf of our PTA and the results of a recent survey monkey that was sent to APP families only. We need to solidify our message to the School Board by 10/25 so that we may have a voice in any changes coming our way. Currently, we are opposed to splitting the south end APP program three ways due to limited resources that need to be distributed and without proper engagement of affected populations (ie. SE Seattle and W. Seattle). Further discussions are necessary to determine how those communities feel about a program as our initial APP survey indicates that families do not want to compromise quality and rigor of program, for location. We discussed the importance of reaching out to the entire population of TM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.