

Thurgood Marshall PTA Board Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2013 6:30 - 8:30pm

In attendance - Christine Helm, Sharmila Williams, Katy Ransom, Tasha Irvine, Brindy Bundesmann, Scott Engan, Julia Janak, Casey Sommers, Wendy Eckert, Ben Kim, Donna Dugan

Communications Report - Tasha Irvine

Julia and Tasha have been talking with Julie about moving *Pup Press* to electronic-only form. This change will take place in January. Paper copies will still go to all ALO classrooms as it has been found that several parents in that community are not using e-mail. Julie will also leave a robo-call with parents the week of the switch to let people know that they should be checking their e-mail. Julie thinks the office staff would be able to take over the *Pup Press* copying and distribution as it will be a manageable job now in its reduced size. For clarification, anything school related will be distributed by the office staff and all things PTA related will be handled by parents either through *Pup Press* or on an individual job basis.

Sharepoint is now up and operational - through the new system, we have the option to send to either all or just a selection of classes. There is also a cloud drive where we are storing some basic school documents like AIM or *Pup Press* and we would like to get more stored there over time.

The topic of the TM bull pup logo came up - we are wondering if there is any legal issue with our use of Tina's design and how we go forward both legally and respectfully. We will discuss with Tina and make sure we come up with a workable system for all.

Julia took a class on "family engagement" through the Seattle Council and she is thinking of possibilities for communicating through *Pup Press* various methods through which families can become more involved both with their student and their school. It was decided that we need to form a "community engagement" committee to figure out how to encourage involvement among ALL families at TM as it is still a relatively segregated community within the school.

Treasurer's Report - Brindy Bundesmann

The original budget allocated \$3,000 for a first quarter recess aide with the potential to fund an additional \$6,500 for the remainder of the year if it was determined necessary. Julie has decided to keep the recess aide position and requested the additional funding. She will pay out of building funds and the PTA will reimburse her at the end of the year.

A recent donation to Tutu's of \$5k brings the reserve funds for Tutu's up to \$15k. We need to figure out how to use this money effectively going forward as it is a program with a lot of potential impact both for students and their families. Tutu's Pantry funds are going to fund some classroom snacks throughout the year for those classrooms with kids who do not have snack food throughout the day.

We are at \$3800 in terms of opportunity grants that have been approved - we still have 7k available. It is still very important to remind teachers that the money is available to them should they have a use for it. Christine Helm suggested we send Julie a reminder of the fund's status which she will then put into a weekly reminder to the teachers.

Fundraising Update - Casey Sommers

\$66k committed thus far on our way to our fundraising goal of \$130k. Casey would like to reach our goal by March 1st. We have raised \$7960 of our \$10k challenge match. Casey is going to use the PTA email to send out a note to families this week to encourage participation in hopes of reaching that \$10k goal.

PEACE Report - Donna Dugan

Donna will get us signed up to participate in the Taco Time fundraising program. The booklets of coupons are \$1 each and all proceeds from sales will go to the school. We are working out the details of who will be handling the sales and all the involved logistics.

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Assistant Principal Report - Christine Helm

School Tours will take place on Feb 12th, Feb 26th and March 5th, at 8:45 AM. No sign-up necessary. We have no Open House date as of yet.

SPS has a math adoption committee that is reviewing new math curriculum options (Envision included) and have invited parents to look at the options over Winter Break.

Community Outreach Update - Ben Kim

Nurse Molly Chin and Ben have ordered the emergency backpack replacement supplies. Most of the order should arrive before kids return to school in January but until all materials are recieved, a backpack restock day will not be scheduled. The contents for the packs were purchased through the SPS district warehouse but most were either pick-up from Home Depot or purchased online from Amazon with PTA funds.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.