

Thurgood Marshall PTA Board Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2016, 6:30-8:30pm

In Attendance: Heather Bauer, Kimberlee Barber, Daphne Dejanikus, Merilee Hudson, Stacey Joanovic, Ben Kim, Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie, Lauri Nakamoto, Jenny Ott, Karen Pinkard, Annette Sherr, Casey Sommers, Katie May, Brenda Fackler, Jamie Fackler, Sudeshna Shen, Erinn McIntyre, Molly Harris

Minutes -- Lauri

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

Principal's Report – Katie

Katie updated the Board on a number of issues:

Staffing: We have been allocated an additional ½ time PE teacher. Interviews have been completed and we've had good candidates apply.

Bell times: We will be on the Tier 3 bus schedule next year so our school day will run from 9:35 – 3:45.

Kindergarten: In past years, schools could choose whether to have Kindergarten start at the same time as other students or later. However, this year all K students in the district will start on Monday the 12th.

This will allow K teachers and parents to meet one-on-one.

New Families: The “new family letter” will go out next week.

Social Studies: The Seattle School Board Curriculum & Instruction meeting on Monday will discuss TM's desire to have “blended” Social Studies. The TM Board discussed the need for more parent meetings to discuss this issue.

Bulk Ordering for School Supplies - Molly Harris and Erinn McIntyre

Molly and Erinn presented two options for potential bulk ordering of school supplies for Thurgood Marshall. The first option, researched by Molly, involved getting “kits” made that would be delivered in the Fall. Parents could opt to buy a kit or just buy supplies on their own like they do now. Molly noted that we are too late for the kit ordering deadlines for this year. Board had a brief discussion about which factors are most important (cost, convenience, etc.). Erinn outlined the second proposal, which is to just buy all the supplies in bulk and divvy them up for classrooms. Parents who could pay would do so, but there wouldn't be a requirement to pay. Bulk buying savings would cover the non-payees, according to Erinn. There would have to be seed money in the PTA budget for this to happen. Given the late date, Board agreed to table until the Fall. We would need to make a decision between the two options to pursue by late Fall if we want to do some form of bulk buying for 2017-18.

Summer and Next Year Planning -- Karen

Board discussed plans for outreach to new parents over the summer and during the first weeks of school. We have scheduled the summer playdates and also plan to call each new family during the first week of summer. We want a board member at each summer play date so sign-ups are coming. We also plan to have parent ambassadors outside school on the first week of school to answer any parent questions.

Our day of caring this year is on September 23rd.

The date of our first board meeting in August meeting is forthcoming.

Thanks -- Casey

We thanked Daphne and Annette for their years of service on the PTA Board. Casey also passed out superhero accolades to all the members of the PTA.

Art at TM Movie -- Sudeshna

The Board enjoyed a sneak preview of the awesome new movie highlighting Arts at TM, directed by the fabulous Sudeshna Sen.

Meeting adjourned.