

Thurgood Marshall PTA General Meeting Minutes October 18th, 2016, 6:30-8:00pm

Attendees (as listed on sign-in sheets): Maria Iturbide, Karen Pinkard, Lynn Warner, Wes Hikida, Sandra Stehling-Sun, Katie May, Jared Hopkins, Joy Pardo, Bill Brewster, Angie Jenkins, Sean Connor, Jen Ellis, Chuck Ely, Wilson Hui, Percy Allen, Briana Wicks, Anne Sheeran, Maddy Arvold, John Madrid, Sumedh Kanetkar, Smitha Pillai, Andrea Radosevich, Cliff Meyer, Kiyomi Morton, Colleen Hopkins, Lisa Schaible, Kat Barr, Katie Atkins, Pam Schwartz, Jennifer Martin, Anne Phyfe Palmer, Briktawite Yimer, Carolyn Pugh, Lauri Nakamoto, Stacey Joanovic

Welcome, Upcoming Calendar, and PTA Business – Karen Pinkard, President

Karen welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefly introduced the Board members. Karen reminded everyone that all PTA information can be found on the web at tmlink.org. Karen also reminded everyone that there is always a need for volunteers in classrooms, around the school and PTA events. She encouraged parents to contact our volunteer chair Kimberlee Barber. She also reviewed upcoming volunteering opportunities including the fall dance and the Scholastic book fair.

Jen Ellis, Treasurer, went through the 2016/2017 budget. See attached handout. She highlighted our fundraising goals for this year, including a goal of \$160K for the Annual Giving Fund, and the primary activities and staffing we support at TM. She noted that new this year there are grade level grants to promote friendships across grade level.

Karen made a motion to approve the minutes from the May general membership meeting. Andrea Radosevich seconded. The minutes were approved.

Lauri presented the TM PTA Standing Rules and two amendments. See attached handout (also online at <http://tmlink.org/about/pta-board-meeting-minutes/>). The Standing Rules are a set of rules that govern the management of the PTA. Two proposals were made to amend Section 10 of the standing rules: 1) to clarify how non-executive Board members are elected by adding specific language, and 2) to update the list of board positions to reflect our current board make up. Lauri motioned to approved the Standing Rules as amended. The rules and amendments were approved via voice vote.

Lauri re-introduced the PCC Scrip Card fundraiser. PCC rechargeable scrip cards may be purchased for \$10 through the Thurgood Marshall PTA at meetings, events and soon online, and are used just like a gift card at PCC, the cooperative food market. PCC will then send our PTA cash equal to 5% of your purchases with the card.

School Report – Katie May, Principal

Katie reported that the first six weeks of school are off to a great start. She said that staff has spent a lot of time bring children into the school and making all children feel welcome. Katie updated the membership on current enrollment of over 550 students, hiring six new staff, and creating two new classrooms in the building that formerly housed the YMCA before- and after-school programs. Katie spoke about a reading tutor program for 2nd and 3rd graders with Garfield students that will meet after school starting October 31. She also reported that we are in our second year with kindergarten and first grade literacy tutors, and that it has made a difference in student readiness. Katie reported that Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie held a coffee chat regarding homework. Katie said that they are creating a survey to send out to families and teachers to better understand opinions regarding homework. The next principal coffee chat will be held next Thursday at 9:15am and all are encouraged to attend.

A new bell times survey is available on the SPS website. The survey is open until October 21st. Cliff Meyer also suggested emailing board members with concerns.

Tomorrow is a Day of Solidarity. Katie reported that the union and district are in support. A blue sheet went home today with more information.

Guest Speaker – Meghan Kaloper, our school counselor

Meghan began her presentation with a background on her role as the school counselor at Thurgood Marshall. Meghan said she provides support in the classroom with preventative work, small group counseling, individual responsive services and the conflict mediator and recess mentor programs. Meghan discussed RULER, an evidence-based approach to social and emotional learning. She explained how children are using the Mood Meter to discuss how they are feeling, are using Meta Moments to figure out how to be their best selves, and using the Blueprint to reflect on feelings and empathy. Links to Meghan's presentation and work can be found at tmlink.org. See attached handouts (online at <http://tmlink.org/about/pta-board-meeting-minutes/>).

Meeting adjourned 8:05pm.