

Thurgood Marshall PTA Meeting
January 24, 2017
6:30-8:00 PM

Attendees (as listed on sign-in sheets): Kara Jones, JoyAnn Pardo, Lauri Nakamoto, Carolyn Pugh, Kate Madrid, Trinia Washington, Mollie Huppert, Patty Pearson, Bill Brewster, Wilson Hui, Cliff Meyer, Venessa Goldberg, Chuck Ely, Karen Pinkard, Katie May, Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie, Stacey Joanovic

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

Karen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Karen informed everyone of the Levy Cliff affecting our state's schools. Karen encouraged families to advocate for the students in SPS. The PTA made available to everyone postcards to send to legislators to fulfill the promise of amply funding basic education in Washington (see attached). She noted that schools cannot request that families advocate for students.

Karen announced that the PTA met their winter fundraising goals. The next fundraising effort will be in the spring with March Matchness. She noted that families can go to tmlink.org to see how funds are spent.

Karen reviewed the upcoming calendar.

- The Pancake Breakfast and Art Walk will be this coming Saturday, January 28th. There is a suggested donation of \$10. There will be art lining hallways and promises to be a fun event.
- The Equity Action Team meeting will be held March 23rd. All are welcome to join the meeting and help make a difference across the District.
- There is an opening meeting with School Board member Stephen Blanford at the Douglass-Truth Library February 4th.
- The choir concert will be held February 9th.
- National African-American Parent Involvement Day is February 13th.
- There are several school tour dates for new families. Please see agenda for dates.

Lauri made a motion to approve the minutes from the October general membership meeting. Cliff seconded the motion. The minutes were approved via voice vote.

School Report – Katie May, Principal

Katie reported that the last year's 5th grade legacy project, two Little Free Libraries, have been installed and that Ms. Gese's class will be the stewards of the libraries.

Katie spoke about how the Levy Cliff may affect our school and district. She reported that the district is looking at the worst-case scenario and will try to mitigate problems for students. She reported that most likely classroom sizes will be larger and that each building may lose staff. She emphasized TM will try to maintain staff but that unfortunately several of our newly hired teachers from out-of-state are low in seniority. In a couple of weeks, we will have TM enrollment numbers and a better idea of the impacts. Katie encouraged families to share with teachers how much they are appreciated.

Guest Speaker – JoLynn Berge, SPS Assistant Superintendent for Business and Finance

JoLynn presented an overview of the steps the District may need to take to balance the 2017-2018 budget. She reported that there is a projected \$74 million gap (nearly 10% of planned spending) for the 2017-2018 school year. She said that the state has been underfunding compensation for our school district for years and that the “Levy Cliff” will happen, unless state legislators take action. Her presentation gave background information on the McCleary Decision, an overview of the district revenues and expenditures, and what a \$74 million deficit represents. She stated that budget allocation for schools will come out February 28th. JoLynn encouraged families to send feedback, comments and questions to budget@seattleschools.org. Her presentation slides can be found at <http://bit.ly/BergeInfo17>.

Meeting adjourned 8:00pm.