

Thurgood Marshall PTA Board Meeting Minutes

March 7th, 2017, 6:30-8:00pm

In Attendance: Lauri Nakamoto, Cliff Meyer, Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie, Merilee Hudson, Katie May, Karen Pinkard, Zakiya Tyson, Heather Bauer, Donna Dugan, Stacey Joanovic, Jen Ellis

Minutes - Stacey J.

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

Lauri made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes. Sabrina seconded it. The January meeting minutes were approved via voice vote.

A board meeting was not held in February 2017.

Principal Report – Katie/Sabrina

Professional Training Conference: Sabrina shared her experience at the professional training conference she attended in Tucson, Arizona. At the conference professors and teachers that were a part of the Mexican American studies program shared how they were able to close the achievement gap through the understanding of Aztec culture and history and its use in teaching and identifying with students.

Student Council: Sabrina reported on changes to student council. Students were asked to give examples of leadership qualities examples of leaders in their class. Those students were then chosen to represent their classroom on the student council. The student council will be focusing on doing subcommittee work on ideas that are frequently discussed. Sabrina explained that similar ideas are discussed with each set of student council members. The hope is that if those ideas and goals are presented from the onset and subcommittees are created that students will feel like they've accomplished those goals.

Middle School Math: Sabrina reported that she is organizing a middle school math night for rising 5th grader families. It will be scheduled end of April/ beginning of May.

Budget: Katie reported on the district budget shortfall. She explained that with current numbers we will lose 3 core teachers, 0.5 non-core teaching staff and the 0.5 PE position. She explained that these numbers will result in bigger class sizes and six split classrooms. She also explained that we will have a smaller amount of discretionary money.

President's Report – Karen

2017/2018 Board Members: Karen asked board members to inform her if they are interested in maintaining their position for the next school year. Jen is looking for members for the nominating committee and has several possible volunteers.

General Membership Meetings: Karen reported that Katie will discuss with the general membership the school budget numbers at the March meeting. Our guest speaker at the March meeting will be Sabrina and she will discuss the math home school connection. Karen requested guest speaker suggestion for the May general meeting. Karen will look into hosting a showing of the movie Screenagers. Board discussed option of using the movie screening as a fundraiser with a suggested donation.

Opportunity Grant: Karen announced that the FOCS will be hosting a workshop event on March 28th and they will be requesting funding through an opportunity grant.

Parent Survey: Lauri asked the board if there was interest in a parent survey this year. Typically, surveys are done every two years and last year there was a survey. Board agreed no survey was needed this year.

Annual Giving Fund Update – Heather

Heather announced that the “March Matchness” campaign will be starting this week. Heather reported that there will not be a match for May GiveBig campaign this year. Board discussed alternatives.

Events and Volunteer Update – Zakiya

Zakiya reported that Games Night is March 22 at 6pm and that Kat Barr is leading the event. The PTA will be providing pizza.

There will be a final school tour tomorrow morning. Karen is looking for a couple more volunteers.

Donna - SpEd

Donna reported that the Focus Classroom is welcoming an additional student and an additional IA. Donna also shared that they are fully supported for next year and will maintain their current staffing numbers.

Staff Update – Merilee

Merilee reported that staff is looking forward at the up-coming testing.

Merilee shared that the TM Global Reading Challenge team won and will be participating in the city challenge.

Communications Update – Cliff

Cliff reported that there will be a lot of communication going home shortly (enrichment booklet , district forms, etc).

Treasurer’s Update – Jen

Katie has suggested that to keep non-core staff funded by PTA as usual we would need to increase our budget. Board discussed the budget needs and looked at increasing the AGF.

Meeting adjourned 8:00pm.