

Thurgood Marshall PTA Board Meeting Minutes

August 30, 2017, 6:30-8:00pm

In Attendance:

Karen Pinkard, co-president, Ann McNally– volunteer coordinator; Jennifer Lan – Annual Giving Fund chair; Stacey Joanovic – vice president; Jen Ellis – co-president; Venessa Goldberg – legislative chair & Equity Teams liaison; Cliff Meyer – communications chair; Katie May – principal; Noelle Mathias– Spec Ed parent rep; Quisa Wright – events co-chair; Merilee Hudson – staff liaison; Kat Barr – secretary; Kiyomi Morton – treasurer

Approval of June 2017 meeting minutes – Stacey J.

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

State of the School – Katie M.

Katie updated the board on a number of issues:

School year readiness: PTA breakfast was great. New custodian is on board and doing a great job. There is a new ELA curriculum and in-service days devoted to the Center for the Collaborative Classroom. There is a new reading assessment tool that families probably won't notice. There is also a new data system that helps staff be more accurate. Blended social studies will continue, along with blended art, music and physical education, as possible.

Class configurations: There will be quite a few splits. In Scholars - 2/3, 3/4 and two 4/5 classrooms; HCC 2/3 and 3/4. Math intervention teacher will assist in the Scholars splits. The hope is also to have four literacy tutors as well. Most classes are large – kindergartens are both at 27. Lots of fluctuation. Hope is that we will get one more kindergarten teacher. YMCA before/after care capacity has doubled to 60 kids. HCC 2/3 is now all 2nd-grade boys and all 3rd-grade girls.

School Supplies update – Karen

Molly Harris rocked this project and all the supplies are in. Volunteers will sort and deliver on Tuesday. Spreadsheet has been set up to share with any other school that wants to copy the protocol. Can go online and pay the \$40 or choose a donation to cover the cost for families who can't pay.

PTA timeline review – Jen

Packet stuffing/school supplies on Tuesday; need volunteer family ambassadors; parent tea will be in library not cafeteria; all dates for potlucks are covered; if you volunteer on picture day you get a free packet; need to confirm date for vision screening. Picnic dates might be adjusted based on holidays.

Class Rep Expectations – Karen

The Board discussed clarifying class rep expectations. There is a need to create a job description for class reps, including in-class parties, volunteer opportunities, class ambassadors, and developing an Amazon wish list for each grade level.

PTA grants – Jen

The Board discussed how to ensure that the money in the PTA budget is spent by the end of the year. It was suggested that a wish list be compiled at the school and the board could vote to fund it at the end of the year if money is left over.

Community building – Board

The Board discussed the potential of adding some more content to Community Night. Perhaps performances or music. The Board will contact the Equity Teams to help with this. Last year, the community didn't spend any money for grade level events. The Gen Ed equity group wants to take on the grade level event planning in concert with the class reps. A progressive dinner was also suggested.

Movie License – Karen

The board voted to purchase a license to show movies. Merilee made a motion to approve and Katherine seconded.

Opportunity Grant – Jen

A grant was submitted to purchase for teachers an additional set of reading-assessment materials. Everyone at the meeting approved the purchase.

PR for Board Meetings - Board

The board discussed how to make Board Meetings more accessible. Some ideas: Foster more communication with Equity Teams on how the Board can be more transparent. Consider meeting outside of the school, at a community center or Douglass-Truth Library. Karen will check on this.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 pm.