

# Thurgood Marshall PTA Board Meeting Minutes

October 10<sup>th</sup> 2017, 6:30-8:00pm

## In Attendance:

Karen Pinkard, co-president, Jennifer Lan –annual fund chair; Ann McNally– volunteer coordinator; Cliff Meyer – communications chair; Katie May – principal; Noelle Mathias– Spec Ed parent rep; Merilee Hudson – staff liaison; Kat Barr – secretary; Kiyomi Morton – treasurer; Kimberlee Barber Woodruff – events co-chair

## Approval of June 2017 meeting minutes

The August meeting minutes were approved via voice vote.

## State of the School – Katie May

Katie updated the board on a number of issues:

*Bullpup Dads group* – Good turn out for the gathering. First volunteers didn't show up – need more prompting and organization to set up expectations.

*Kindergarten* – New class starting on Monday with Jennifer Ward from the Resource Room as teacher.

Need to hire new resource room staff.

*Nursing*: Have not yet hired a full nursing staff. Lacking consistency of care. There is a huge shortage across district. Have one nurse but really need 1.8 to run the program well. This is a cross-district problem.

*Girls on the Run* – No one has stepped forward to be a parent liaison so they might not be able to do it.

Donna can work with that liaison but can't commit to be there every day.

*Wednesday Collaboration Days* – Divided into 4 different types: professional development, technology or grade level planning, PLCs, and 'job alike' where people get together in job positions across the district.

PD for Race and Equity a focus at TM. Staff seems pretty happy about it. There are also more online trainings for teachers around data and analyzing student work.

*Renaming HCC* – Accelerated Curriculum Scholars is working its way through BLT. Sending out notes to the constituents from BLT to solicit feedback.

*Lunch*- Back to open seating. Going well. Lots of parent volunteers. Are there other ways to think about how to arrange lunch? Can we do more shifts to make less bodies moving through at any given time?

Karen sent info to Katie and Cliff. Won't work for this year but perhaps for next year.

*Drama vs PlayWorks* – How would PTA feel about paying PlayWorks to train staff to help with recess instead of drama. African American Advocacy group very interested in this to help to integrate kids more outside of social studies. Recess is difficult and the equipment is old. There is a possibility of looking for a grant to fund it or alternating it every other year with drama. Or, could we do K/2/4 drama and 1/3/5 do PlayWorks?

**Next steps – Put on the general meeting agenda? Can we talk to taproot and/or stone soup theater?**

*Getting dirt for kids to play in* – perhaps Bull Pup Dads? Can we do anything on the state property or does it have to be on the school property? Have to go through self-help. Get the woman who helps with the garden to help out on this. Would be awesome to do in the 'U'. **Katie will ask Self Help about what the school could do.**

*Teacher library grant*- Teachers got new books from the district this year for the new curriculum. They purchased 7 additional F&P assessment kits with this grant \$. One was purchased through opportunity grant money. All the 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> have them. Each teacher now has \$60 left to buy additional books.

*Membership update*: Kimberlee has put all memberships into PTAvenue. We have 182 but last year we had 257. **Should we do a membership drive? We could look at who was a member and isn't anymore. We could put membership forms in the teachers' boxes. Merilee will say something in a staff meeting.**

50 *Back to school supplies* – Molly concerned about all the teachers needing to take advantage of the supply  
51 list requests. She is making it easier to order now until the end of the year and into next year. Each teacher  
52 can become a ‘requisitioner’ through the Thurgood Marshall business account on Amazon. Teachers each  
53 have \$250 remaining this year. **Molly and/or Kiyomi will approve. Molly/Kiyomi should come to a**  
54 **staff meeting to discuss how it works.** We have a \$2000 surplus that teachers can now use to purchase  
55 around \$250 for the rest of the year.

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57 *Choir* – open to 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> on Thursdays. Don’t yet know what the stipend amount will be. Donations have  
58 come in to be around \$700. What are the enrollment numbers?

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60 *T shirt update* – Tara Hook is doing this again. Holding off on redesign for another year. Ken Woodruff  
61 creating online order form. New art teacher will do redesign for next year rather than trying to smoosh it  
62 into this year.

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64 *Treasurers Report* – Not much activity except for enrichment. Haven’t finalized the number of kids  
65 enrolled but have collected \$50K or so, as expected. School supplies \$2K surplus. Molly has enough for  
66 new kindergarten class.

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68 *AGF*- Current giving at 16K. 10K coming in this week – 50 gifts at 26K. A little behind – last year was  
69 around 30K and 75 gifts at this time.

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71 *Teacher report* – New schedule and staff starting, taking a while to get started. Staff is positive and  
72 working hard. Staff is liking new ELA curriculum. Not hearing any big complaints about anything.

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74 *Events* – No updates. Board Game night on Thursday.

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76 *Volunteering* – Conflict mediators; book fair; lunch room; events; game night

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78 *Peace Academy Update* – no concerns

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80 *Equity*: Budget line items: Advocacy, \$400. African American Group, \$500. Grade level events, \$500.  
81 Also opportunity grants availability. Using movie license – can use for any movie inside the building.  
82 Venessa going to legislative assembly.

83  
84 *Communications* – Will publicize board meetings more. Calendar booked at Douglass Truth through  
85 January, so continuing to hold meetings in the library. District advance learning and HCC review moving  
86 forward. There will be a principal coffee around changes to HCC.

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88 *Community Building* – Come up with one idea we can toss out for a way to build community? Movie  
89 night? Other things? Just hang out and have fun. Parent movies? *Angst* or *Thurgood Marshall*.

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91 *General Meeting*: Cora Glass, Kat Serpe, and a District person – Sandy Teakell – will come and discuss  
92 the new ELA curriculum.

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94 Meeting adjourned 8:20 pm.

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