DRAFT -- Thurgood Marshall PTA General Meeting Minutes  
March 22, 2016, 6:30pm-8:15pm


Welcome, Upcoming Calendar, and PTA Business – Casey Sommers, Co-President
Casey welcomed everyone to the meeting and briefly reviewed the upcoming PTA events at TM. (See attached agenda for event list). She noted that there is a solid group of parents coming back to the PTA Board next year and we're looking for some new people to get involved. Open positions include Peace Academy Liaison, Events chair, Communications team member, Enrichment team member, and Annual Giving Fund team members. Please contact any of the current PTA board members directly or through tmlink.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Heather Bauer, Annual Giving Fund co-chair, updated everyone on our fundraising progress. The March Matchness promotion is going on right now, and we're near our goal for this promotion. Heather reminded everyone of the goods and services at TM that are funded through PTA dollars and encouraged parents to participate in the Annual Giving Fund if they haven’t already.

Kenna Hart made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 12, 2016 general membership meeting. Bridget Lamp seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

TM Technology Update -- Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie
Sabrina gave the membership some background on the TM Technology Committee that was tasked with determining how to spend the TM Technology Levy Funds. This committee is made up of teachers, parents and administrators. The work began last year with Jim Dunnigan's Technology Assessment project and some teacher professional development. The committee has come up with a technology vision for TM and specific funding recommendations. Recommendations include 1) funding laptop carts for 4th and 5th grade students, 2) laptops and desktop computers for general education classrooms to be used for interventions and stations, and 3) teacher professional development. Sabrina noted that there is currently more demand than devices during the school day, and having laptops in the upper grades will free up the current iPad carts for the younger students.

Kathy began by outlining her background and how she came to be a parent educator. She led the group in an interactive discussion which included a wide variety of technology-driven concerns, the current research on screen use and brain development, steps that can be taken by parents to prevent and mitigate technology risks, and a framework for collaborative problem solving. See attached handouts for more detail or go to her website at www.PricelessParenting.com

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.