

Minutes of Parent Teacher Association Meeting

DATE: Friday, September 23, 2016

LOCATION: Auditorium

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM

Minutes from last PTA meeting were approved.

Treasurer Report

A very big thank you to Claude for her dedicated years of service! Lots of applause for all her great work!

Laura and Mark announced that they are available for questions and concerns most days after school in room 101/Jeff's room.

This year's budget is 250K, down from 265K last year. It's a big goal, but it supplies everything – trips, supplies, playground attendants, enrichment programs, educational support, clubs, graduation, and website maintenance.

Last year we missed our fundraising goal by 15K. We welcome all fundraising ideas.

Principal Report

There are regular meeting twice a month with the school construction authority. This is a major construction. They need to caulk the yard and do roofwork. They will be blocking off one side of the yard and gates will be put up so they can leave their materials there when they're not working and keep them out of reach of the kids.

The hope is that the construction will start in mid-October before the bad weather begins. They will do one side of the yard, then shift to the other side, then do the auditorium.

Also, PPAS Principal Keith is having the Black Box theatre redone, so we will lose that part of the hallway in the cafeteria.

A request for the permit to use the Ramon Aponte park has been submitted.

President report

A reminder about school-wide communication: all items need to be sent to Tisa and Kay for approval before they can be sent out. It is the policy of MTW and the DOE regulations that no school directories can be used for businesses, etc.

Update on our Corey Johnson funding request. He gave us money to redo our playground, but that is on hold until the construction is completed. He has more money to give to MTW.

Kay met with Floyd the custodian and asked his 'wish list.' Floyd says the ceilings need paint (union says custodians can only paint 10 feet up a wall), blinds are broken, we need A/C in the gym, we need sinks in the art and science rooms, and upgrades to the teacher bathrooms. All of these items/needs will be presented to Corey Johnson.

A big thank you to everyone in the community for wearing your ID tags!

The Hoe Down is happening on 10/6. We still need volunteers for set-up, clean-up and pizza. There will be a Google sign-up sheet going out shortly. We will have a designated place for the MTW alumni to keep them together.

It is official – 75 Morton Street is zoned District 2 middle school for District 2 neighbors, from west 59th Street down to Morton Street. Next year will be the first incoming 6th Grade. Jaclyn Getz is the new principal. Both Tisa and Kay are familiar with Jaclyn and sing her praises. There are no tours of the school yet because there is no school yet to see. They hope it is a chosen school and would appreciate schools promoting it. Representatives from the school will visit MTW soon to chat with parents. We will send out a notice as soon as we have a date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Playground Committee

We need parents to help get kids from MTW to Ramon Aponte Park during their recess. We are looking for game ideas as well. Parents who wish to help need to go through volunteer training with Tisa.

SLT

SLT had their first meeting on 9/16. There is a possibility of a quality review happening this year.

Fundraising

The committee is striving to share with our community exactly how and what our budget does for MTW.

Still looking for volunteers for computer entry, solicitation, etc.

Our auction is in March. A reminder that half our budget comes from the auction.

Matthew, our Corporate Match/Student Fund Chair, is looking for a co-chair. He mentioned that families can donate any amount and should see if their companies participate in corporate match programs now. Feel free to contact him – his email is on the website.

Sample Sale is this Tuesday, 9/27. They are in desperate need of rolling racks and help to move the merchandise upstairs on Tuesday morning.

Popcorn Wednesday is looking for volunteers. It's quick and easy. Any time you can volunteer would be appreciated.

Don't forget to get your MTW Bucks card. They are \$10/card and can be purchased at the merch table at the Hoe Down.

Class Reps

Next meeting is Thursday, 9/29.

Library

Our library meeting are held on the first Wednesdays of every month. We help Jenny sort and file books whenever there's a spare minute. Our book faire in June is a big event.

Garden Committee

We are very active in planning The Harvest event on 9/27. There will be a sign-up sheet.

Healthy Food Committee

We meet every third Thursday of the month with a DOE appointed person who supplies and manages the food. Everything at MTW is baked, not fried. Breads are multi-grain and there are no anti-biotics in the chicken. It is grass-fed beef. And don't forget the delicious salad bar!

Grant Writing

Our next meeting is on 10/18. We are always looking for people to volunteer and help.

Mentors

Thank you, co-chairs!

Diversity Committee

No news.

Fix-it Committee

If there are any handy people out there, come join.

OLD BUSINESS

No news to report

NEW BUSINESS

Parents have noticed there hasn't been mention of the Lice Committee anymore and they miss it. Class Reps should add info in their newsletter about this. Tea tree oil and rosemary oil are good preventative tactics to ward off lice.

An issue was raised regarding hats and bags being left in piles on the hallway floors outside the art room and gym. It's a fire hazard and not hygienic. Rolling racks were mentioned as a solution, but need to follow up since coat weather is upon us and the piles will only get bigger.

Pete Hawkins asked if the karaoke fund-raising is happening. 😊

A motion to adjourn was made and approved at 10:05am. The next PTA meeting is scheduled for 10/21.