

MPHS PTSO General Board Meeting

September 27th, 2019 9:00am

In attendance: Sarah Ryan, Catherine Hensley, Beth Moss, Katharine Bolt, George Climer, Isabel Bader, Kathryn Griffin, Kaylee Lundberg, Lily Rowland, Charlie Robinson, Christine Brenner, Lisa Harrell, Diana Jones, Stephanie Cline, Julie Ahdieh, Mandy Rencher, Alison Dalton, Mark Bosco, Margaret Marshall

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting (April 11, 2019) - Motion approved.

3. Principal Report

- a. School Updates/Staffing Changes - Currently there are 204 teachers and 258 teachers and professionals combined. We are almost 100% fully staffed. Mr Bosco is still looking for extensions teacher. Also, Sarah Burns (math teacher) is out on maternity leave. There is an interim plan in place and the school is working for an improved solution.
- b. Enrollment - The projection was 3,600 and we currently have 3,601.
- c. AVID - (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is a college readiness program designed to help students develop the skills they need to be successful in college. The program places special emphasis on growing writing, critical thinking, teamwork, organization, and reading skills. This year there will be a specific focus on writing, and a writing guide has been created for the whole school to use across all subject areas.
- d. Teaching with Love and Logic- Peets Guice, Kim Folk, Michelle Richards, and Kristin Hodges are all certified trainers, and all staff will be given training
- e. We are adding a 4th Helios system. Currently they are in front office, SET, LA. The new one will be added to the patio / SC door.
- f. The patio outside art gallery will be redone probably by next summer. This is a CMS project.
- g. There is a joint MPHS and PTSO project to replace auditorium lighting. Three phases of upgrades will be completed this year, and we have money allocated for the work to be done.
- h. Question about repairs to auditorium seating - Mr. Bosco explained that you can repair and replace the broken seating. There are semantics about what you can replace without getting into code issues. Mark Bosco will check on this
- i. 100 Gardens and MPHS Greenhouse - 100 Gardens upkeep our greenhouse and facility and helps us with produce and stock. Our produce is being sold to MPCC, and the money comes back to help sustain and grow the program. ELL learners, Culinary Arts, and others are involved.

- j. PTSO is buying a 20-foot container to house MP equipment to help with storage challenges
- k. Mr. Bosco expressed gratitude for the 411 video. It is being shared with new students along with student handbook
- l. Punch Alert Information- This is a security app that allows real-time response to any safety issues. They can share announcements and tips quickly, and it provides a 2-way street for immediate communication. It is also being used to distribute bus alerts for students. Students are being encouraged to install Punch Alert through "Stall It" in bathrooms and in announcements;
- m. This year the counselors have a scheduling app that students can use to sign up for appointments.

4. Margaret Marshall - School Board

- a. Sales Tax Referendum on November Ballot - Mrs. Marshall shared information about the sales tax referendum that will be on the November 5 ballot. The tax would add a quarter-cent to the county's 7.25% sales tax with all money going toward funding the arts and parks. The arts money will be community-based and child-focused working to bring back field trips among other things. Mrs. Marshall shared that this would be great for our kids and have a big impact for schools and children. The PTSO cannot endorse it, but we can put information in Mustang Express. The information on the ballot is very sparse and doesn't explain the purpose of the referendum.
- b. State Budget- Governor Roy Cooper vetoed state budget. The NC House of Representatives pushed through an override of his veto. Now the state senate will need to concur with the house in order for the override to take effect. There are big changes that could come from this budget so it is holding up the CMS School Board for this year's planning.
<https://www.publicschoolsfirstnc.org/know-the-issues/education-budget/>
- c. Mrs. Marshall shared that there is a big focus on curriculum roll-out for elementary schools
- d. South County Issues - They are taking a pause on making a decision. It is a large conversation which needs to be global to be specific.
- e. Question about allotment of positions based on enrollment- The allotment for several schoolwide positions (including counselors and assistant principals) stops at 2,400 students. We are far above that number. How do we advocate for change with this? We've had the same number of assistant principals for years despite growth. Mrs. Marshall shared that she could initiate some conversations.
- f. New Superintendent - Mrs. Marshall shared that CMS is strong internally, and that good things are happening.

5. Treasurer Report

- a. Cash Balance and Income/Expenses - We are in good shape with cash flow. The website has helped to get donations from PayPal quickly. We can pay bills in August from this year's budget.

- b. Audit Report - This was conducted over the summer by Sallie Beason, Ashley Hewitt, and Jane O'Donoghue. Everything passed with only one recommendation: Add procedure to report monies spent in Treasurer Role and one note that more annual fund payments/gifts and matches received in late May unexpectedly so not spent but marked in carryover. We can work to increase the forecast if it is verified online.
- c. Budget Changes - Reminder that if you need to go over budget, you should get approval in advance.
- d. Check Requests - Because we are a non-profit, we do not have to pay sales tax if we purchase items directly from the vendor. If you buy it, we have to pay sales tax. For big items, please take time to do this. You can ask the vendor to NOT charge the sales tax and they might do this. Or we will pay the sales tax and then Beth will apply for reimbursement.
- e. Cash/Collections Monies collected go in safe.
- f. Fundraising Policies - Because there are many groups raising money at MPHS, PTSO only asks once for annual fund. Exceptions: Outreach committee (gift cards and other donations) and Staff Appreciation committee (holiday gift cards). If you need more money for your committee, come to us and we'll see if we can find it.
- g. Gift cards - If you are purchasing gift cards, there is a company where you can order gift cards and the 529 fee is paid to a charity instead of to the gift card company.

6. Annual Fund Report

The annual fund is going well. We are at 74% of goal with over 500 families having participated so far. The main focus for our fundraising is school safety. We are working to get 2 additional Helios systems this year. Big initiatives have included the Punch alert app, campus beautification, lighting in the auditorium (school paying part and PTSO is paying part), and window screens in front office and gym.

7. Information/Updates:

- a. Enrollment as of 9/23 is 3,601 students. Question raised about how to help with seating in the lunchroom with increased population.
- b. School Directories/Handbooks/Website - the directory is officially online. The password is **mustangs2019**
- c. 411 Video - This was a new initiative this year to help freshmen and new students get acclimated to school. It was posted on Facebook and Instagram with over 2,000 views.
- d. Upcoming Parent Events
 - i. 9th grade Parent Social 10/1 6pm-8pm Ed's Tavern
 - ii. 10th/11th grade Parent Social 10/17 6pm-8pm Selwyn Pub

8. How to:

- a. Communications/Contacts: Do not park in bus lot after 1:00. Tablecloths are stored in a closet in the front office. Liz James is happy to help you with this. We have a big variety of tablecloths and flower vases for your use. Please look in the closet before purchasing new items.

b. Calendar: Send updates to Sarah Ryan sarahcryan5@gmail.com

9. Committee Reports:

- a. MPHS Foundation - George Climer - They are working on long-term, big impact programming. including privately funding 2 CIS social workers and Mustangs Matter. They have a goal for the endowment to fund at least 1 annual CIS position.
- b. Hospitality - Alison Dalton - They served coffee and snacks for registration and have made plans for the year.
- c. Senior Exits - Isabel bader - They currently have 10 volunteers and need 40-50. They will post volunteer information in the Mustang Express, There are 3 sessions of senior exits in December, March, and April. They may need to add dates because of the number of students.
- d. Staff Appreciation Events - Kaylee Lundberg - They served a catered lunch from Salsaritas during teacher workdays.
- e. Student Representatives - Lily Rowland and Charlie Robinson - The Mustang Stampede was successful, Homecoming is next big event, and tickets go on sale on Monday.
- f. Front Office Volunteers - Chris Brenner - This is a big transition year. Liz James is Mr. Bosco's secretary and will keep her desk in the front office/reception area. Bev Fritts is retiring and will be replaced by Maura Silva who is bilingual. Also, Jane Eubanks is working in the front office. There is a great group of volunteers. At Liz James' encouragement, they are working to make visiting the front office a "Nordstrom's experience," and want it to be a welcoming, happy, positive, warm experience for people as the face of Myers Park.
- g. Campus Beautification - They had the most volunteers they have ever had before school clean up! Michelle Richards has been crucial to success, and they have worked out a system for asking clubs and sports teams to recruit student volunteers. November 16 is the next campus cleanup. Margaret McBryde and Blair Farris are doing plan for 28 trees to be planted around LA and SET buildings this winter. They are also continuing to work on benches and flower pots.
- h. Open Campus - Diana Jones - Open House went well. There were some challenges with large crowds. This was helped by lots of student and parent volunteers.
- i. Health Room - Julie Ahdieh - They have updated and distributed red health folders, and first aid kits have been distributed to all teachers.
- j. Student incentives - They will celebrate fall A/B Honor Roll on November 8 with popcorn in the Art Gallery.
- k. Attendance Office - They are looking for more volunteers and have several shifts open. They will begin helping Ms. Kennion in the Attendance Office on October 1.
- l. Mentoring - They are looking for more volunteers. There has been a training but will train new volunteers. They will help with graduation projects for juniors, Mustang Matters. This year they are also connecting with Foundation and working together to recruit and manage volunteers.

- m. Prospective Parents - They have held 2 training sessions for tour guides. This year there are 11 sessions scheduled throughout the year, and they are working to limit private tours unless people are coming from out of town.

Upcoming Campus Events

- i. 10/2 Staff Appreciation Event
- ii. 10/9 NO School, CMS Teacher Workday
- iii. 10/10 Prospective Parent Tour 9:30AM
- iv. 10/11 PTSO Executive Board Meeting - Principals Board Room 9:00AM
- v. 10/14-10/18 Spirit Week
- vi. 10/16 Early Release Day 11:15am
- vii. 10/18 and 10/19th Homecoming Weekend
- viii. 10/21 Prospective Parent Tour 9:30AM
- ix. 10/28 No School, CMS Teacher Workday
- x. 11/6 Staff Appreciation Event
- xi. 11/8 PTSO Executive Board Meeting - Principals Board Room 9:00AM
- xii. 11/14 8AM-10AM Prospective Parent/Student Program and Tour - Auditorium
- xiii. 11/16 8:30AM-11:30AM Campus Clean Up
- xiv. 11/25 9:30AM-10:30AM Prospective Parent Tour