

Myers Park High School PTSO Executive Board Meeting September 11, 2020

1. Call to Order - Katharine called the meeting to order at 9:01am. In attendance - Katharine Bolt, Shelby Patrick, Mandy Rencher, Elizabeth Damesek, Boo Viser, Sherese Smith, Catherine Hensley, Sarah Ryan, Stephanie Cline, Beth Feit, Mark Bosco
2. The August 14 Executive Board meeting minutes were approved via email (August 19, 2020).
3. Principal Report
 - Brown Bag experience - great first stab. Make a few adjustments (sound, pull in Peter K to help). Shelby shared we had 70 watch it live. Shelby received good feedback. People liked Mark's comments. Link will be in Mustang Express today.
 - Teachers are feeling this is an authentic learning experience (have to be 100 % in the moment, brain on high alert, really engaged, but painful, tiring, hard). Staff/Most teachers are trying to be really effective, but how effective, is a range. How it lands on the student could be varied. Mark is very respectful and understanding on how hard this is on everyone. We need to create these moments and stop and collectively start sharing and processing. This is difficult. We need to accept the fact we are feeling overwhelmed. It's important that we keep plugging away at this. Just focus on next steps. Fuel the progress mindset for all, and listen to the feedback, Have listened to feedback on workload and are working on that. We need a path for feedback. Mark would like the PTSO to facilitate ways for dynamic communication. Ex) Have the "coffee idea" be expanded...a PTSO sponsored initiative that covers everyone.
 - CMS is looking at a plan to get kids back in school. Mark thinks that for HS students it could be November, but does that make sense based on holidays and semester ending? Or is it January for live instruction? Will start with Elementary Schools. Looking at a staggered return to school. Will be similar to Plan B.
 - Purchasing HotSpots from Verizon. Using money from Beautification from the MPHS Foundation (5K). 48 students still need Hot Spots. Using Ben Hager Scholarship Funds to purchase Hot Spots.

- EC students extensions program (Self-contained) will start next week. 3 Teachers and 6 assistants and about 20 (out of 30) students will be coming on campus by the end of the month.
- CMS Campus updates - have a new patio around the art gallery. Fixed broken sidewalk on front side. Had a fire in auto tech over the summer. Will get a brand new garage and tech space, with help from insurance. Had a little bit of damage to the auditorium due to storm/rain. Will submit to insurance and get fixed. In November, the vendor is coming to replace half of the auditorium seats. Tennis courts are paved. Waiting to get them painted, and will install the nets soon.
- Power School was showing 3800 students. 3680 is what we're seeing now, which is above our projection of 3500. We may get more resources because we are above our projection. We have 30-40 as no-shows. Another 50 that may have gone to other schools. This is typical of most years. We do have some kids that are showing intermittent attendance. Peets Guice is going out to homes to help with that. These numbers include "All Remote" students.
- Mark spoke about the benefits of "Near Pod." We can use this technology going forward even when we go back in the classrooms. We will take the positives of what we've seen and learned and take them forward. We can continue to learn online even if we are back home for snow days etc. Effectiveness and efficiencies will be used.
- Advisory Time - the district has mandated this as a stand alone or extension time for all kids. In HS, this is called "Advisory time." We took time away from each period. Classroom time is 75 minutes. The idea is to do social and emotional learning as well as incorporate lessons related to what kids need (Naviance, resume building, discussion on social justice etc.). The curriculum from CMS (called SEL) is not geared for everyday Advisory and is missing some pieces.. We are going to take a "pause" from this curriculum and create our own (a more comprehensive program). This will continue when they go back to school. The kids will still have to check in every day. There may be some things to do, or not, but it's still a way to check in and touch base with their advisory group.
- Staff updates
Retirements - Erik Whiteside and Rajito Caldron; Jessica Brumley resigned right before school. There were no substitutes for that class, so

Mark had to divide her classes into 2 other teachers. Mark would like to provide a stipend for those teachers for all of their extra work. Would like to support them until Mark can hire someone (so in the short term). \$75/day for each teacher for 25-30 days. Would like to use residual in the summer support budget for this. Could also use money from unallocated. Recommendation is to issue a monthly check. Put 4K in sub coverage labor to cover this. Move \$2,771 from summer support and remaining from unallocated (\$1,229). Stephanie made a motion to move money, Beth seconded, and motion was approved. Stephanie will need a check request from Deb/Mark.

4. Treasurer Report (Stephanie)

- Financial Review - no major issues or concerns.
- Cash Balance (\$176,737)
- Misc Requests/Standardization - we are seeing a lot of technology requests from teachers. Hopefully supply checks for teachers will cover this. Where do we want to budget those? Mark suggested we need a statement out of PTSO as to what are we trying to do? What are we committed to? Mark would work with us on this. As we move into a virtual environment, there are going to be some needs, wants and “niceties.” How we are going to make these requests. We need to give teachers a process to follow. We have an opportunity to inform the staff of the process and how we are going to support them. We are giving supply checks on Thursday...Shelby and Katharine suggested we can put in the envelopes a general communication about all of this. There should also be a “blurb” in Alyson’s weekly communication from the PTSO. Ex) grant requests. We need multiple ways to communicate with teachers. Stephanie/Shelby/Katharine will work on something and send to Mark for review to put in envelopes. For now, it has been put in the principal discretionary fund. There have been 3 requests for website subscriptions. Has been put in academic support for now. Educators Handbook, which is an incident report software, needs to be paid. The request is for \$700. This is an online disciplinary referral system. It speaks with PowerSchool. So it needs to be paid now. Will come out of technology.
- Budget Changes/2020-2021 PTSO Budget Approval: changes were made that we discussed in May. Katharine made a motion to approve, Beth Feit seconded, and motion was approved. Will send out the budget in Mustang Express (Tues). Will be out before curriculum night. Stephanie will send out a google form for the vote in the Mustang express.

5. Annual Fund Report (Beth, Mandy and Elizabeth) - we intentionally delayed the mailing to parents. Now that virtual school is going well, and plans are to get back on campus, we will send out the mailer. Mailings are at the printer, will go out at the end of this week, or first of next week. Will send out about 3200 pieces of mail. Will continue to be in the Mustang express. As of Wednesday, \$87,376 from 382 donors. We're down a little from last year, but the mailer hasn't gone out so we feel good about it.

6. Update from other groups:
 - a. SLT (Katharine and Shelby) - have not met yet.
 - b. IB Parent Board (Ana) - Sharing expenses with them. Working with Mr. Jenkins on the writing center. Did a zoom call for seniors about the common app. We had 74 seniors sign up.
 - c. Mustang Club (Shelby) - Met on 8/31. 9/14 - volleyball and XC will start. Swim/Dive will come back after, but with fewer numbers. Will be more cuts than normal, b/c of restrictions on numbers. If we move to Phase 3, things could change. Oct. 30, Ticket to play will close out for all sports for the rest of the year. That will help with rolling out the next sports more quickly. Working on new levels for membership. Sending out a letter on 9/14. They are looking into cameras so parents/others can watch virtually. They've discussed posting their minutes. Want to be transparent, but also protect privacy/financial information (sponsorship information is private). Figuring out what to do with merchandise. Martin Godwin is working on revamping the website. Brick campaigns will start and people can decide where they want to put their brick.
 - d. MPHS Foundation (Katharine) - first meeting this Wednesday, 9/16. George Climer is president for another year. Ghazele Johnston is president-elect. They are concerned about fundraising and funding the social worker cost. They will not be able to have reunion gatherings which provide them with donations. They are partnering with our Outreach group and PTSO. More updates next month after retreat.

7. Committee Updates:
 - a. Directory - live on website by 9/21, password is mustangs2020; update will go in Mustang Express
 - b. Campus Beautification - special project for additional trees is happening, as well as painting of peeling posts, pressure washing etc (things they can do with kids not on campus)
 - c. Staff appreciation - Next Wednesday - grab and go lunch; will hand out \$100 supply checks to teachers.
 - d. Staff luncheon - happened virtually - Chick-fil-A gift cards

- e. Outreach - group of students working at Grier Heights. Stefanie Groot is asking for snacks for these kids. They will start covering snacks.
 - f. 9th grade events - Facebook Live on 9/10; was pre-recorded so can be seen at any time
 - g. Open Campus - Virtual on 8/13; Very well received. May need to do something like this in the future even if we're back on campus.
 - h. Senior signs - Heather Goodrum - sold 20 more than last year. Recommendation is to put info on how to buy on the front page of the PTSO website.
 - i. Membership - Need a new Membership Chair. It was decided to put this under the Assistant Treasurer position. Beth will add this to the job description.
 - j. Writing Center - the budget will be lower, Don't need snacks and drinks.
 - k. Mustang Express - we are allowing clubs to advertise in Mustang Express (this came up in 9th grade coffee from parents). We will have a link to ICC club information on the MPHS website. Nichelle is going to clean it up to clear out those that are not longer at MPHS.
 - l. Mentoring - there will be a plea for volunteers for Mentors to help scholars junior level English 3 with their research paper, as well as seniors in the AVID program with the application process. It will be done via zoom. Will advertise in the Mustang Express for the next 2 weeks.
 - m. Stampede - we will do a virtual Stampede (by SGA).
 - n. Prospective Parent - updating flyer with Allyson Davis and Foundation
 - o. Other - Catherine Hensley and Amy Godwin are working on ideas for seniors. We need the start to open up a little more to gather on campus. Will partner with SGA to give treats when they come to get senior shirts.
8. Old Business:
- a. Wrap-up - Back to school - letters, mailings, website, teacher luncheon, forms - Cathy Bradley said we are about the same as last year as far as people filling out forms.
 - b. First 20 days of school
 - c. Memorial Garden - Reggie Deveaux and Lucy Wiley - Katharine has not heard back from counselors on the plaque for these 2.
9. New Business:
- a. New Social Media sites for PTSO - Myers Park High School PTSO Facebook page and MPHS PTSO Instagram page
 - b. Clubs advertised in Mustang Express and Social Media
 - c. MPHS Yard signs - Do we want a MP yard sign for everyone, not just seniors, to create a feeling of community. It was discussed and Board feels we don't want to take away from seniors.

- d. Curriculum Night - 9/15 - Advertised on Mustang Express. Have to have a canvas account! A lot of it is not live, so can be accessed after the fact. Need to put on social media sites as well.

10. Other Upcoming Dates:

- 9/15 - PTSO Virtual General Board Meeting/Curriculum Night, 6:00pm
- 9/16 - PTSO Staff Grab-n-go lunch and supply check distribution
- 9/16 - Virtual Senior Night with college counselors
- 9/22 - Virtual Senior Night Q&A session
- 9/30- PTSO Virtual Committee Chair Meeting, 9:00am

Meeting adjourned at 11:02am.