

## **Myers Park High School PTSO Executive Board Meeting Minutes November 13, 2020**

1. Call to Order - Shelby called the meeting to order at 9:02am. Members present include Katharine Bolt, Shelby Patrick, Mandy Rencher, Elizabeth Damesek, Beth Feit, Stephanie Cline, Catherine Hensley, Sarah Ryan, Boo Viser, Sherese Smith, and Mark Bosco.
2. Minutes from the October 9, 2020 Exec Meeting were approved via email.
3. Principal Report
  - a. Mark reported there has been a change to the middle school plan. K-8 students will return this month on 11/30. Every other middle school will start on 1/5/2021. This was a major shift. The main issue is due to a shortage of bus drivers.
  - b. Mark reported there has also been an adjustment with testing. All local finals have been waived. The grade for students will be from their class work. We aren't communicating this just yet. We are letting teachers process this and figure out what it means for their class. We still have state tests that are mandated. Those will start on 12/14. The make up day will be on 12/21. The week that was designated for "normal" exams will be regular class days. We still need to pressure the state to give us more flexibility on the state testing. There are federal requirements and the legislature has to reconvene for this to happen. We have close to 600 freshmen that would come on campus for the first time to text tests. Bosco thinks this doesn't make sense. Mandy asked who we should write to if we have strong opinions about this. Bosco said the pressure needs to be at the state level. Bosco said to pull this off we'll need every single teacher on campus to help with the testing to maintain social distancing. Not all teachers want to be back on campus because of wanting to visit relatives over the holiday.
  - c. Staff Changes - Brian Freeland - Moved into a new role as Dean of Diversity of Engagement. Brian has served as a Dean of Students at MPHS for the past 8 years and is immediately transitioning to this new position. Brian will work within our extended community to focus and refine efforts to maximize equity of resources, systems and programming for staff and students. He will also direct appropriate staff professional development while facilitating multicultural initiatives and case managing

students as we celebrate the diversity of the Myers Park High School Mosaic.

- d. Sarah asked about back to school procedures for students returning in January. Students are getting information from their teachers and some kids are feeling like they need to go all remote because of what teachers are communicating to them. Mark stated their plan includes screening, social distancing, and a look at what instruction will look like for all. Students will be on the three part rotation. One week students will be in class with their teacher. When you're home you will access instruction via zoom. When they are in the classroom they will not have to be on zoom. Students will be getting live instruction. There was discussion about the variety of readiness among teachers. Lunch will be in the cafeteria and outside.
4. Treasurer Report (Stephanie)
    - a. Cash Balance and Income/Expenses - \$188,666 in the bank
    - b. Grant Requests - None
    - c. Wish List Funding - On hold
    - d. Staff fleeces - Mark is wanting to give all staff a fleece, in lieu of a holiday lunch. Cost is \$7600. The current Staff Gift budget has \$7500. After discussion, Stephanie made a motion to move the money from unallocated (\$250) to the Staff Gift budget. The motion was seconded and approved. The fleece's are kelly green with a logo.
    - e. Proposal for Financial Review Committee - Stephanie suggested asking Lauren Ball, Carol Giardi, Heather Goodrum. Mandy also suggested Kim Bowman. Stephanie will ask these individuals and report back in December.
5. Annual Fund Report (Mandy, Elizabeth, and Beth) - Mandy reported that we have \$135,00 with 552 donors as of 11/11. This is about 30K less and 65 donors less from last year. Mandy mentioned there are a lot less of the big gifts. Katharine suggested doing a year end push (around the holidays) for year end giving and put it in the Mustang Express. Catherine also suggested tying this to Giving Tuesday (the Tuesday after Thanksgiving). Mandy is also hoping that we will get a bump when the kids go back to school. Mandy suggested we should highlight what we're doing for Outreach.
6. Old Business/PTSO Updates:

- a. Office Staff, Principals and Deans Appreciation - Katharine and Shelby brought the office staff and principals/dean a Pasta and Provisions meal last week for all they've been doing. It was well received.
- b. Outreach - **Crisis/COVID-19 Response** - Since the beginning of school, Outreach has distributed \$2,575 in gift cards to assist 26 students (81 total family members). We assisted one family with shopping for groceries and one family with purchasing a T14 calculator. Most families have needed groceries and cleaning supplies. **School Supply and Coat Drive** - In October, we collected school supplies and coats. The response was incredible. They received so many supplies and coats that they did not have room in the Outreach closet, and are storing many of the supplies in a classroom for the time being. They plan to have a "drive-through" event in which students can pick up supplies outside the school. **Thanksgiving Outreach** - The committee is sending out a Sign Up Genius to their 300+ members to ask families to donate holiday/breakfast breads and \$50 Walmart cards to assist MP families in need with their Thanksgiving grocery shopping. The drop off date will be November 23, and will distribute the breads and gift cards to families in a drive-through event outside the school. **Christmas/Winter Holiday Outreach** - The committee is consulting with staff to plan for the holiday outreach in December. Students will receive spiritwear, Visa gift cards and candy. Some families in great need will provide a wish list, and we will "adopt" them and provide gifts from their list.
- c. Guidance - Guidance committee has been talking about a holiday gift for the guidance staff and is communicating with Katharine and Shelby about this.

## 7. New Business:

- a. Hoof Hut/Swag Wagon - We have been doing online sales and this has been successful. Also working with Mustang Club and Lauren Ball from Hoof Hut on how to proceed when school opens. They are working on a holiday promotion. There is discussion to move the Hoof Hut to a parking lot away from the school so that there aren't social distancing concerns that CMS has with people being on campus.
- b. Virtual Open House - 11/19 - Committee is working on this.
- c. Campus Beautification - 11/21 - Sign ups in Mustang Express
- d. 12th Grade Events - SGA has ordered senior t-shirts. Catherine reported there are goody bags from PTSO for when they come to pick up t-shirts. Catherine has been working with Tyson Jeffus on Parking. Students will be notified on parking spots so that parents can complete the

Transportation survey coming out next week. Catherine/Amy Goodwin are working with Ms Schwifert on prom. They are working on trying to plan something for the seniors and it would be outside.

8. Update from other groups:

- a. SLT (Shelby) - Meeting virtually. Working on testing issues and pushing to get that waived.
- b. IB Parent Board (Ana) - No update.
- c. Mustang Club (Shelby) - Met on 11/16. Having challenges getting members. Have advertised in Mustang Express. There are different levels for joining. Celebrated college bound athletes. Brian Poore said CMS is following NCHSAA spectator rules. We will be allowed to have spectators. There can be 25 indoors and 100 outdoors. All athletes have to wear masks now during work-outs and training. This produces some new challenges. Parents can subscribe to watch games online.
- d. MPHS Foundation (Katharine) - They are wrapping up their 4th week of "Learning at the Lake." They have hosted 48 students and 15 teachers/staff/administrators. The teachers have been amazing. Brian Freeland went to camp and led a program around leadership and social justice. There were several 9th graders that attended which was great for them to connect with MPHS. They are considering hosting additional weeks in the spring if the space is available. The YMCA/Camp Thunderbird folks have been great partners. Trying to figure out Art for the Park. Their giving is way down. Just sent out their year in review. Hoping that will inspire giving.

9. Other Upcoming Dates:

11/19 - Virtual Open House

11/21 - Campus Clean Up

11/25-27 - No School - Thanksgiving Holiday

12/4 - Last day to change to remote learning for 2nd semester

12/11 - PTSO Exec Board Meeting, 9am

12/15-18 - EOC/CTE On-campus In-person Exams

Meeting adjourned at 10:26am.