

Myers Park High School
PTSO General Board Meeting
January 26, 2023
9:00 am Art Gallery
Minutes (draft)

In attendance: Sherese Smith, Melissa Sullivan, Tammy Jones, Kim Walsh, Andee Smith, Natasha Scrivener, Michele Mangan, Ann Manning, Laura Tenzer, Bob Folk

Sherese called the meeting to order at 9:11am.

Principal Report - (Mr. Folk)

- Second semester opening: We are fully staffed.
- Initiatives:
 - PTSO will help fund an upgrade to the MPHS TV Studio (\$11K).
 - Upgrading the auditorium sound and visual systems (funded through CMS monies + PTSO support) to a “theater cinema” sound. PTSO Exec Board will vote on this at 2/10 meeting.
- New Charlotte “Relief” High School/Student Reassignment updates:
 - Community-wide meeting to be scheduled in the near future (hopefully here at MP).
 - Board vote will be in May.
 - New school will be in place by fall 2024.
 - Some parents are advocating for “grandfathering” current students to stay at MP (probably w/out transportation).
 - The IB program at Harding will be moved to South Meck (where they already have a World Language magnet). The new Relief HS will not have an IB program. MPHS IB program will not be touched.
 - When everything is said and done, MPHS may lose about 200 students. The Board has decided that 2500 students/HS is optimal. We will not see that at MP.
- 2/9 Meeting for parents interested in IB/AP/CPCC course offerings
 - Mr. Folk is planning to develop a list of courses and options for parents/students to review before/during the meeting.
 - Will also work to develop a process for counselors to be able to respond to schedule changes as a result of the meeting.
- Parking: We will begin to use boots/fines to deter unauthorized parking in the lots.

Treasurer Report - (Michele Mangan)

- Two committees over budget due to fluctuations regarding post-Covid adjustments.
- Everyone else is on-track.
- Income to date: \$142K left to spend for the rest of the year.

Annual Fund Report - (Sherese and Melissa for Rebecca and Ghazale)

- \$190,000 raised to date. Matching is NOT included in this number, \$197K with matching.
- Please ask your friends who have not made donations yet to do so.
- 620 families have donated.
- One more email about thanking those who have already donated + a push for additional donations is forthcoming.

Nominating Update (Sherese for Rebecca and Ghazale)

- Putting together a Nominating committee to help fill spots for next year.
- Email went out to current chairs to ask if anyone would like to continue in their roles –please reply.

Information/Updates:

- A. Foundation
 - a. Art for the Park is 2/25 at the BoPlex. Tickets on sale now.
 - b. The committee received \$40-48K through the Jason Huff memorial. With these funds, they would like to transform the Art Gallery into more of a “Zen Den” –a place for students to relax, speak with counselors, have a timeout. New furniture needed.
- B. IB update (Laura)
 - a. A lot of the Parent Board members will stay on next year. They are looking for a President-Elect.
 - b. Laura and Kim Bowman will be meeting with our new District Board of Education member, Lisa Cline, next week to discuss the IB program remaining at MPHS. The head of review for the Magnet programs at CMS has made concerning statements. He has not responded to the question: Will the MP IB program be impacted during the rezoning/Relief HS process?
 - c. Trying to pull a group of kids for an upper-class IB student panel to help answer questions at the Parent Information meeting on 2/9.
- C. SIT (no update)
- D. TV Studio Equipment (see above)
- E. Calendar - Please send updates to presidents.
- F. SAVE THE DATE: May 9 - PTSO End of the Year Celebration

Committee Reports:

- A. Attendance Office (Andee)
 - a. Smooth so far. Plenty of volunteers. There are more volunteers than we have slots. Everyone is capable and willing –so if there are other administrative-type work, they would like to help.
- B. InReach/Outreach/Holiday Outreach (Laura)
 - a. Winter holiday gifts (sweatshirts and gift cards) for 250 kids. About 20 MPHS families facing the most needs got bigger holidays from individuals who signed up to provide.
 - b. Congratulations cards and \$100 gift cards for 10 mid-year graduates.
 - c. The committee has \$6444 left for the year. Committee is concerned that they will not have the resources needed to see our families through the end of the year. Another big ask will go out to the committee for more donations to fill the closet. The Inreach Amazon Wish List will be published in the Mustang Express to help address the gap between the crisis budget and services met through counselors and outside programs.
 - d. Prom assistance goes to less than 10 students in great need. Graduation assistance is the same.
- C. Guidance (Kim)
 - a. The committee had a very busy fall. Volunteers threw a breakfast for the counselors in November. Through parent donations, treat baskets were also distributed to a grateful reception. Hospitality support is the main focus of this committee.

- D. Avid (Ann)
 - a. Mentors are needed. Anyone who wants to come in and mentor is welcome. You don't need to be an expert in anything. Suggestions: perhaps Foundation members would be a good line to explore, as those who have been through the college application process are the ideal mentors.
 - b. Speakers are lined up to fill out the spring semester. Speaker topics are varied: CPCC, financial literacy, test-taking strategies, Avid Alum speaking about his path/career.
- E. Open Campus/Mustang Round-Up (Natasha)
 - a. Mustang Round-Up (during summer) should be a separate committee with a separate budget. Natatsha is working with Bob and Allison Davis on dates. Would be helpful for families to know before planning summer trips/driver's training. Mustang Round-Up t-shirt giveaways were very well-received –looking for sponsors for next time around.
- F. Prospective Families (Natasha)
 - a. Tours are getting tricky to keep up to the moment information about MP's different programs. Tours should be updated in PTSO documents/website to read a start-time of 9am. About 60 people/tour representing families from private schools, out of state, out of country. Tours are taking up to an hour (more information to share). Current parents should be encouraged to attend a tour –just as a learning opportunity.
 - b. March 8 is Prospective Parents Night –could use more volunteers.
 - c. Ideas to address Freshmen not feeling like they're making friends/connections: Midway point in 9th grade school year “How are you doing?” SGA buddies and parent get-together. Mid-year club joining? Freshman table flags during lunch?
 - d. Banquet/Food needs? The Culinary department on campus is wonderful and the price is right.
- G. Mental Health Initiative (Sherese)
 - a. Next Lunch and Learn will be on the topic of addiction on 2/15. Two professionals from The Dilworth Center will do the presentation and “Alcohol, Marijuana, and Adderall, Oh My!” presentation will happen that evening for parents, online.
- H. 11th grade Events (Sherese) - 11th grade Candy giveaway during lunches on 2/14.

Upcoming Campus Events:

February:

- 1 Prospective Family Tours, 9:30 am
- 2 Virtual second semester curriculum night
- 8 Early Release Day - Staff Appreciation event
- 9 IB/ AP information session, General Board meeting PTSO -6pm
- 10 Executive Board Meeting
- 11 ACT
- 11 Sadie Hawkins Dance
- 20 No school (Presidents' day)
- 21 Jazz band concert
- 22 Prospective Family Tours 9:30 am
- 23 Guidance ACT vs SAT info session 6-7:30

25 Art For The Park

March:

1 Orchestra concert
6 Chorus concert
8 Early Release day - Staff appreciation event
8 Rising 9th grade and new to CMS night - 5 pm
10 PTSO executive board meeting
16 Band concert
18 Campus clean up
27 Teacher work day
25 3rd quarter ends
28 Dream Team Mental Health Week
29 Prospective Family Tour, 9:30

April:

5 Prospective Family Tour, 9:30
5 Staff appreciation event
6 Student / teacher basketball game
7 Spring Break
19 Prospective Family Tour, 9:30
21 PTSO executive board meeting
28 Senior Carnival / T-shirts for tomorrow
27-29 School Musical