

Mariemont High School PTO
February 7, 2014 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE:

Kim Newton, Brenda Westfall, Leah Pittman, Suzi Ricketts, Hester Sullivan, Denise Scholtz, Astrid Michels, Laura Dolle, Kali Boecher, Amy Weiss, Nan Dill, Ann Hobart, Roseann Hayes, Molly Stewart

WELCOME/Roseann Hayes

(NO SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT, STEVE ESTEPP WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND)

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – Ellen Dolle:

- Snowball was somewhat successful. They learned lessons for next year and they're working with the upperclassmen regarding how to get them to attend.
- They may have a casual spring dance.
- Students are excited for a new after prom location.
- Pennies for Pasta is kicking off. This is a homeroom penny war raising money for the Leukemia/Lymphoma society. Winners will receive an Olive Garden lunch.

TEACHER'S REPORT – Julie Bell:

- The teachers are holding a 'biggest loser' friendly competition to promote health and wellness.
- Thank you in advance to the PTO for the Wish Lists.
- The Champions for Children gala was wonderful. The 5K sponsor students received their award, they represented Mariemont so well! They even received a standing ovation.
- February 18th is the 8th grade parents' night.
- March 6th is the blood drive. Parents are welcome.
- All classes are working on making up for lost time with all the snow days.

COUNSELORS' REPORTS – Amanda Lesczuk:

- Brad Dewey from Paycor was the most recent career chat guest. It was a computer/techy kind of presentation attended mostly by boys. Roughly 30 students attended.
- Class registration is coming up. The counselors will meet with each grade level Tuesday. That same day, recommendation letters and online instructions will be mailed home. Course descriptions can be found online on Naviance or Blackboard.
- Meetings with the juniors and parents are going very well.
- Next week counselors will meet with the freshmen to give them their college binders, work on resumes and career interests.
- February 27 Kevin McMullen will speak about How to Find the Best College Fit. He's an outstanding speaker, this will be great for students and parents!
- March 18 Wes Hill will be here to work with juniors on their college essays in English class. The parent meeting at night will be in the Mariemont Elementary auditorium.
- The last coffee will change to the evening, the date will be announced.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Jim Renner:

- Next week's Mariemont Academy is February 14 (no school for students). They will be continuing assessment literacy and formative assessment – this will be a focus on specific content. High school teachers will be working with the junior high teachers who are actually

ahead of us. They'll also work on Destination 2026 (the year current kindergarteners will graduate). Think of the changes you've seen since your child was in kindergarten. They'll look at how we meet changing needs.

- We have used our 5 calamity days so we now get 3 days for blizzard bags. There is potential to get more calamity days from the governor. By state law, students have two weeks to complete this work (in case they don't have computers at home). The blizzard bags will be updated monthly in order to stay relevant but they do have to be general.
- Jim's looking into a new proposal – a campus wide book which will be read by all students and teachers. It becomes somewhat of a 'theme' /common conversation for the school year. Ideally, the author would visit. Please feel free to recommend books.
- They're still refining the digital organization requirements and making sure all teachers are organizing with the calendar feature. Let Jim know if this isn't happening.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES:

- Motion by Kim Newton, second by Hester Sullivan.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Roseann Hayes for Patsy Kaschalk:

- Status quo

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AFTER PROM – Suzi Ricketts and Hester Sullivan:

- Budget discussion.
- Students can go to after prom even if they don't go to prom.
- Waivers for the Winter Club will be sent with the prom letter and will need to be returned with ticket purchase.
- Entertainment may include Monte Carlo casino, movie, illusionist, ice skating, dodge ball, food etc.
- The fundraising letter will be going out soon.

SPRING MUSICAL – Kathy Deadrick:

- Tickets will go on sale in about two weeks for Beauty and the Beast!
- The musical is March 21, 22 and 23 – three evening performances and two matinees.

CONSUMER SURVEY – Dawn Harden:

- May 15.

HOSPITALITY – Brenda Westfall:

- There are openings in April and May for Wednesday Teacher Treats.

NEW BUSINESS:

2014-2015 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS – Roseann Hayes:

- Please let Roseann, Denise or Patty know if you're interested.

TEACHER WISH LISTS – Roseann Hayes:

- Jim got a great response from teachers for their wish lists. There are about \$13,000 worth of awesome requests which would enhance classrooms. The discussion centered around the need to spend the money we have.
- Band uniforms (which were discussed at the last meeting) will be a joint effort with other organizations.
- The question was asked about the 'Make it Happen' fund from the Foundation. According to Jim, teachers request from one or the other. It's traditionally been easier to request from the PTO. Nan Dill commented that the foundation would like to meet with teachers, possibly at the in service day, to streamline the asking process. Shannon Kromer has promoted the Foundation Fund to the teachers. It's possible the PTO could address some of those requests.

UPCOMING DATES – Roseann Hayes:

- There are so many great events coming up, please refer to the school/district calendar!
- The Next MHSPTO Meeting is Friday, March 7 at 8:45 a.m.
- No school Friday, February 14 or Monday, February 17.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion by Amy Weiss, second by Laura Dolle.

Submitted by Molly Stewart, Secretary