Mariemont High School PTO
October 3, 2014 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE:
Kim Newton, Denise Scholtz, Patty Stahl, Jennifer Westmeyer, Beth Garrison, Amy Weiss, Astrid Michels, Julie Holland, Sarah Dunning, Renie Grantham, Maria Borgerding, Dina Wilder, Molly Stewart

WELCOME – Denise Scholtz, Patty Stahl

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – Gretchen Wittry:

- Mrs. Lair has asked for donations of wooden furniture for the Art Club to paint and sell at Holiday Fair.
- Soles for Souls shoe drive just wrapped up. Madeira business, RSW US, sponsored a contest between Mariemont, Indian Hill and Madeira High Schools to collect shoes which will be sent locally and around the world. There is a $2500 prize for the winning school which will be funneled back to the students. Winner announced tonight.
- Students are ready for Homecoming!

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Steve Estepp:

- Absent

TEACHER'S REPORT – Julie Bell:

- Teachers are prepping for the Halloween door decorating contest!
- The Key Club Eliminate 5K Run raised over $9000.
- Amy Leatherwood's Psych students are making intro brain books, they will teach what they've learned to other students.
- Jeff Radloff is grateful for last year's PTO donation of wireless interfaces – they're being used extensively.
- Terry Thomas' health class just finished with the freshmen drug abuse presentations.
- Luke Wiseman created a likeable page on Facebook for journalism class – facebook.com/mhsjournalism. Also, please look at www.warpathonline.org.
- Leadership council is hosting monthly leader lunches with local speakers.
- Kim Richardson's New Voices program pairs MHS photography/journalism students with the US Bank/North Avondale Boys and Girls club.
- Mike Becksfort is piloting a new vocab program www.membean.com which seems to be very successful.

COUNSELOR'S REPORT:
Amanda Lesczcuk:

- Wendy Long has arranged for Kelly Schulz from Fidelity Investments to speak at the October 31 career chat.
- They are meeting with juniors and seniors to check first quarter progress.
- They met with juniors to emphasize 1. Take the ACT/Sat 2. Research Colleges 3. Visit Colleges.
- The PSAT is October 15 at MHS. The cost is $15, signs up are due October 6th, sign up in the CCPC. Payment can be made in person or with EZPay. All juniors should take this (they will be eligible for National Merit Scholarships) and most sophomores. Payment constitutes registration.

- October 22 Maria Furtado from Colleges that Change Lives will speak on behalf of the Life and Leadership program. This is appropriate for grades 7-12.
- Amanda is almost done meeting with seniors about college plans, transcript requests etc. With electronic files, the colleges will begin an electronic file as soon as they receive any part of the student's information and will add to it as more information comes in. They will review the application once all the information is complete.
- October 17 is an in-service day, a great day to visit colleges.
- This Monday, October 9th is Coffee with Counselors. This is informal, with no agenda, just bring your questions.

Pam Tackett:

- She's been meeting with freshmen and sophomores to review first quarter progress.
- She's also meeting with freshmen to review Naviance and reminding sophomores to sign up for the PSAT.
- Campus life held their first pep rally before the Indian Hill game.
- They're gearing up for the Halloween fun, including pairing up with the book club for a costume contest.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Trevor Block for Jim Renner:

- Trevor presented District Dashboard and Scorecard which are more efficient methods of communicating test results. Dashboard shows district results, Scorecard shows your student's results. Trevor and Gene Stigall (IT coordinator) developed and wrote this program in order for the district to control data and communicate results immediately. We're leading the way in data sharing, possibly only 2 other districts in the state have this capability.
- To access Dashboard/Scoreboard, click on the Mariemont portal, click dashboard and you'll see an overview of demographics, upcoming test dates, tabs for test results. This section is open to anyone and shows the whole district's results.
- As a logged-in parent, you can see specific results about your school and student. There is a double log-in for security. Only one student ID is necessary to log in.
- Please look at this and provide any feedback, ask questions etc. – contact Trevor.
- A long term application could be a formal online student portfolio for the user to send to colleges.
- It's very useful for teachers who have the student's entire test results at their fingertips. They can use the information and meet with students regarding results, goals, book to read etc.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SPIRIT SHOP – Molly Stewart:

- Will be at tonight's game.

FALL SPIRIT SHIRT – Denise Scholtz for Mary Beth York:

- Will be ready for next week's game.

FLOWER FUNDRAISER – Denise Scholtz for Mary Beth York:

- Selling at lunch this week.

DIRECTORIES – Denise Scholtz for Julie Curran:

- Directories will be distributed next week. Julie Curran did the directories for Mariemont Elementary, Jr. High and High School in order to get a great printing rate. She's done a great job, the process is now in place for next year.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Dina Wilder:

- Dina signed up for a credit card and online banking for MHSPTO.
- The directory cost of $635 includes all schools – we will be reimbursed.
- The C&C fundraiser is quite low right now. Denise will send a reminder email. It's possible the online format this year accounts for the shortfall. Trevor Block said he'll look into whether it's possible to have online payments through EZPay for PTO payments.

SPECIAL ITEMS:

- Kristi Gall has organized a Ski Club for all Mariemont Schools. A bus will run to and from Perfect North every Wednesday in January. If you already have a pass, you can pay only the $25 bus pass. Membership includes one lesson. Cost varies depending on equipment rental but $90 is the base price.
- Thelma Alsip passed away. It was determined the PTO will purchase a brick in her honor and send her family a note.
- Pam Tackett is putting on a sophomore program as follow up to the kindness and courage retreats. It's optional for sophomores, seniors are counselors. It was recommended by parents to require all sophomores to participate. The cost has been covered by the school. Denise will ask if Pam needs any miscellaneous support.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Motion by Dina Wilder, second by Kim Newton

Submitted by Molly Stewart, Secretary