Mariemont High School PTO
January 9, 2015 Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE:
Roseann Hayes, Denise Scholtz, Renie Grantham, Amy Weiss, Astrid Michels, Maria Borgerding, Dina Wilder, Molly Stewart

WELCOME – Denise Scholtz

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT – none
All seniors are at Xavier University for Senior Research Paper.
Snowball is January 24

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – none
Steve is at a Hamilton County meeting.
State of the Schools address is Tuesday at MJHS at 7:00.

TEACHER REPORT – Julie Bell:

- Huge thank you for the holiday gifts.
- Terri Thomas' Healthy Transitions class is wrapping up a pilot program – True Body. It will extend to MJHS next year. www.truebodyproject.org
- Elizabeth Briggs' AP Bio class went to Dayton for a genetics conference, will go to Mt. St. Joe for lab next week. Trying to get our kids looking at life beyond high school so it's great to be exposed to different experiences.
- Julie is honored to be chosen as a leader for the Global Leadership Summit this June. She'll go with 6 students from Mariemont, Madeira and Indian Hill.
- Eric Vanags is serving as advisor for students interested in service trips abroad.

COUNSELOR REPORT:
Pam Tackett:

- The course guide for class registration will be available January 23 online and on blackboard.
- Registration starts February 4. Counselors will meet with students, recommendations will be mailed.
- Course requests are due online February 13.
- The 8th grade Open House is January 24. The counselors will meet with the students that day to explain course registration, with parents that evening.
- Verification sheets will get to students March 6.
- Sheets are due back March 13.
- Overrides will be reviewed in June. You should contact Pam once you receive the recommendation if you would like to override. The student should sign up for the recommended course then Pam will check grades, tests, teacher feedback for the review.

Amanda Lesczcuk:

- For Wendy Long – they're working on senior year registration.
- January 27 is a career chat with a senior aquatic biologist – great for science students.
- She's checking with juniors regarding college visits, act/sat, etc. She's also continuing to meet with juniors and parents.

- January 12 at 7 pm and January 13 at 9 am is the junior college meeting – this will cover what to do this year in order to prepare for next year's college search.
- February 5 Frank Palmasani, author of Right college, Right Price will speak at Mariemont Elementary 7 pm. The meeting is being held there to encourage parents of younger students to come since they should begin thinking about college in 5th/6th grade.
- February 11 Coffee with the Counselors at 9 am
- February 19 7 pm and February 20 9 am College presentation for sophomore parents
- March 12 Mariemont School Foundation is sponsoring a visit from Emily Listfield from New York who will work with the students on writing college essays.
- Seniors mid-year reports – check online if your school needs them, request through Amanda if so. Large schools generally don't want them but it's a good idea to send if the student had a great first semester.
- Two long weekends and spring break are great college visit times.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Jim Renner:

- 10th grade and beyond are set with the OGT. The Park Assessment testing for grades 3-9 begin in February. These are performance based. They are getting the schedule together now. The states' requirements don't necessarily match up with our course schedules so there is quite a bit to work through. There are 7 end of course exams, students must score 15 of 35 to pass. Mariemont Academy next week will be about this testing. We won't know the results until next January. If they don't pass the Park test, the district will pay for them to take the ACT until they get a 21.
- The Social Networking presentation for 9 & 10 graders is next Tuesday. Both a Cincinnati Bell rep and a county prosecutor will be presenting.
- Students will find out exam grades next week. They aren't published sooner since teachers shouldn't be grading over break and we don't want students altering efforts based on grades.
- It may be required that our college credit courses may need to be weighted.
- Question – Molly Stewart pointed out the congestion at the bottom of the driveway since the gate has been left open for handicapped people. This will be addressed.
- Also working on lighting – particularly for the pathway coming through the woods.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion by Amy Weiss, second by Denise Scholtz.

TREASURER REPORT – Dina Wilder:

- Income is well above for spirit shop and Kroger. We're still low on C&C – we'll go back to a paper request next year. Dina will send a new request now. The big outflows are coming.
- Taxes weren't filed a couple of years ago. They've been filed now but we've got a $2000 fine from the government – Dina's working on that.
- Amy Cowart is depositing snack bar money on her own which is working well.
- Approved the Black History month poster money.
- It's probably better to make payments for teacher requests sooner rather than later since spring is so busy. We may want to think about Foundation matching funds or Make it Happen to supplement what we do.
- It's about a month process for teacher requests so Jim will start that now. The board needs to look at what we expect to give – maybe $2500-3000.

ADOURNMENT:

- Motion by Amy Weiss, second by Dina Wilder.