
Call to Order/Introductions - 7:03pm

SGA Report - Archana Swaminathan

Annual Food Drive at MRHS
• Partnered with Community Action Council to help donate canned food and non-perishables to the Howard Food Bank.
• Top thee collection winners received Chick-Fil-A gift cards. MRHS students, families and staff donated over 3,300 pounds of food and over $2,800 in monetary donations.
• The overall contribution was so noteworthy that Community Action Council mentioned us on Fox 45 News.

Toys for Tots
• National Honor Society is currently collecting for Toys for Tots.
• Monetary donations are also being accepted.

Resting money in budget
• Want to plan something for the students in the Spring 2020.
• Event would consist of activities, food, games, music, movies, etc. at no cost to the students.

Volunteering with the Community Action Council
• Helping out at the Howard County Food Bank on January 11th.

Principal’s report - Tammy Goldeisen

2019 ESSA Report Card: Every Student Succeeds Act
• MRHS earned an overall rating of 5, which is the highest rating. This rating was based on ELA proficiency, math performance, 4 year graduation rate, being on-track for 9th grade and chronic absenteeism among other data.
• Climate survey asks questions related to behavioral academic support, bully and safety issues, student to student relationships, teacher to student relationships. These surveys are anonymous and teachers and students receive separate surveys. Out of a possible 10 points, students gave MRHS a 4.8/10 and teachers gave MRHS a 6.4/10.

Breakfast Cart
• Very successful, budget was $800, spent $925.

Redistricting
• 16 MRHS student leaving to attend Glenelg High School.
Some students, who have qualified exemptions, will have the option to stay at MRHS.
- Junior and Seniors are exempt.
- Potentially there will be 238 new students redistricted to MRHS.
- January 9th there is a planned orientation for the incoming families.
- Need ideas on how to help the new students feel as welcome as possible.

President’s Report - Sharon Blessing

Screenagers Movie
- Mount View is presenting a viewing of the Screenagers and asking for a $100 donation from the PTSA.
- Movie gives parents and students information on how technology affects our relationships and our lives.
- Heather Dyer motions to have donation granted and placed under Student Programs in the budget, Lori Bacon seconded the motion, vote was taken all in favor.

Horizon Foundation
- In order to receive this $600 grant, we need two people to go to the sponsored Suicide Prevention Training.
- Important in making our community more aware of mental health.

President Status
- Currently Sharon is Acting President.
- She has agreed to be available to oversee the next six meetings. However, there needs to be someone available to take over if Sharon is unable to present. Lori Bacon has agreed to come early to each meeting and help set up and be available to run any meeting(s) that Sharon is not able to attend.

Meeting Minutes
- Posting minutes would be a great way for parents to see what is discussed in the PTSA meetings.
- Minutes will be posted hopefully beginning in January 2020.

Howard County Drug Free
- Representative is organizing a parent night in January.
- The presentation will be primary about vaping.
- Additionally, a presentation in the Spring regarding Senior week.

Budget - Heather Dyer
- Donations from Club Z will be categorized as a business sponsorship.
- Discussion regarding how to categorize donations from other tutoring services.

After Prom - Michelle
- Next installment has been paid at the Main Event.
- Similar prizes as in the past, but will be making a few changes.
- Looking into corporate sponsorship. Some corporate sponsorship is done in the form of t-shirts and also advertising on the digital board. Cost of the t-shirts for sponsorship purposes would be approximately $1,800.
- Sponsorships are usually broken down in 3-4 levels. Sponsorship levels could be color coordinated with school colors and possibly in increments such as: $250, $500, $750 and $1,500.
- Cost of After Prom is around $25,000
- Donations from “$25 to Keep Alive” were down from last year. Maybe requests for “$25 to Keep Alive” donations should come out earlier in the year.
- Currently, transportation tickets to After Prom are $10 and tickets to After Prom are $10.
- Committee volunteers needed for student liaison, “$25 to Keep Alive” fundraiser and AP night volunteers.

Grocery Rewards - Pam Wilson
* Received $20 from Amazon Smile.

**Hospitality - Gwen Bury**
- First teacher’s lunch went well. Another one is scheduled for January 22nd from 11:30a to 1p. There will be gluten free and vegetarian options as well.
- Chinese Parent Association would like to provide a lunch to the teachers on January 31st in celebration of the Chinese New Year.

**Memberships - Patti Groman**
- You have to sign up and register through the MRHS toolkit application to receive the newsletter and also to have access to the school directory.
- More money has been raised through memberships with the new toolkit application. Currently there are 670 members, which includes students and families.

**PTACHC Report - Joanna Ramos-Romero**

PTA Council of Howard County (PTACHC)
Fourth General Meeting 2 December, 2019

**Board Attendees:**
1. Brent Loveless, President
2. Karen Herren, Executive Vice President
3. Lisa Soto, Vice President, Issues
4. Brett Sovereign, Secretary
5. Joseph Griffin, Treasurer
6. Meg Ricks, Chair, Policy Committee
7. Tonya Tiffany, Chair, Legislative Committee

**Meeting was called to order:** 7:34 pm. Quorum was confirmed.

**Let Me Run:** Presentation by Dara Glen from “Let Me Run.” After school running program for boys from 3rd-8th grade. Started in Howard County around 2015, and is now in 6 schools in the county. The cost is $140 and it ends in a timed 5k race. See https://howardcounty.letmerun.org/ for more information.

**Announcements:** CB 42-2019 passed November 4th. Although less than needed, it will provide funding for capital improvements. Training, Survey: Response rate has been low so far. Fundraising policy for the County is being revised and PTACHC will be providing guidance (based on the MD PTA Cash Encounters), Redistricting.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer Joseph Griffin reporting. November report of expenses. Looking to hold financial training 19 December, with further training in January.

**Secretary’s Report:** Prior meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

**SECAC Report:** Howard County Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee (SECAC) advises the school system on the needs of students with disabilities. See SECAC site for details. SECAC has a monthly meeting, the December meeting is on the 11th from 7-9 at Wilde Lake HS and will be an opportunity for parents to ask questions.

**CAC Report:** Lisa Soto reporting. Discussion on Wednesday, December 11th at the Board of Education offices on operating budget for next year. Proposed budget from the Superintendent will be issued on December 17th.

**BOE Report:** No report.

**Superintendent’s Report:** James LeMon reporting. After the redistricting vote, there is now ongoing meetings with schools and parents to prepare for the changes. Further details will be provided shortly. Look to https://www.hcps.org/school-planning/boundary-review/ for current information and assistance.

**BOE Report:** No report.

**MD PTA Report:** No report.

**Kirwan Commission:** Sean Johnson MSEA, Maryland State Educators Association (https://www.marylandeducators.org/) presenting. Discussed the reasons and processes behind the Kirwan Commission five policy initiatives and recommendations for improving schools. Initiatives include:
1. Full day Pre-K for 3-4 year olds, using private providers to increase capacity (with accreditation).
2. Teacher recruitment and retention incentives along with training and preparation.
3. College and career pathways involving tutoring, advanced placement, and other career ready standards.
4. Funding formula adjusted for concentration of poverty, increase funding for students with disabilities and English learners.
5. Blueprint accountability with reviews to prevent waste fraud and abuse.

See https://www.marylandblueprint.org/ for more information. The Kirwan Commission didn’t consider school construction funding, but Maryland legislature is considering Bill Number 1 (called “Built to Learn”) to address this area.

Horizon Foundation: Rashel Taylor presenting. The mission of the foundation to increase health and wellness in HC, giving over $50 million over 20 years to 50 plus organizations. https://www.thehorizonfoundation.org/ Provide mental health therapists to currently 30 HC schools. Last year's Mental Health Film Festival 2019 outreach ended up with close to 35 HC PTAs getting grants to promote a mental health film screening and discussion.

Streets for All initiative: https://hcstreetsforall.org/ pushing for better bike and walking access throughout the county.

Policy Update: Meg Ricks reporting. 8050 policy updates, December 5th at 7 pm. https://www.hcpss.org/board/policies/. There will be a meeting with PTA/PTSA Presidents and Board of Education members on Dec. 16, 2019 at 7:30 pm in the Board of Education building, 10910 Clarksville Pike, Ellicott City, MD 21042.

Legislative Updates: Local bills have been officially proposed for the state legislature this upcoming year. Brent Loveless reporting with three members of the local delegation also commenting, Delegate Erin Ebersole, Delegate Jessica Feldmark. Senator Katie Fry-Hester came to the meeting for a short period. Bills are now available at https://www.howardcountymd.gov/About-HoCo/State-Delegation/2020-Session-Proposed-Local-Legislation for review.

A list of the education-related bills and proposed PTACHC positions will be posted to http://ptachc.org. PTACHC Delegates were requested to report to their PTA and then provide input to the PTACHC board before the next general meeting, where they will be discussed and voted on.

Meeting adjourned: 9:14 pm.

Next Meeting: Monday 6 January 2019 Homewood School at 7:30 pm.

Associated Documents: Minutes from 4 November General Meeting, Meeting agenda, Treasurer’s Report.

Minutes taken by Brett Sovereign, Secretary

Reflections - no representative present
  • Some submissions have already been received.

Meeting adjourned 8:37pm.