

Minutes

11/12/2008
7:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Facilitator: Donna
Note taker: Trudy
Timekeeper: Donna

Agenda topics

5	Welcome	Donna
15	Faculty Report	Carolyn and team
10	Presidents Report	Donna
5	Treasury	Kathy
40	Committee Chairs	
	Young Writers Night	Gail
	Reflections	Jillian Storm
	Membership	Laura/Melanie
	Ways and Means	
10	Action Items/Next steps	Donna
5	Closing	

Present:

Carolyn Jameson, Nan Brown, Donna Sudbrook, Kathy Green, Laura Zulick, Karin Molcyk, Jillian Storms, Lin Guba, Angel McGrath, Beth Webster, Sareh Payne, Maason Kupisch, Gail Miller-Myers, Marci Smit, Angie Kozlowski, Amy Schroeder, Trudy van den Deijssel

WELCOME: (Donna Sudbrook)

Donna fills in for Jennie. The minutes of last meeting were passed around in order to be approved. Everybody introduced themselves. Minutes approved.

FACULTY REPORT: (Carolyn Jameson)

After school programs run very well.

Two teachers are working with students on Black Saga.

Not known yet what will be cut in the Howard County budget and what budget we have this year. Maybe in January.

Newsletter on website, please let know if you know someone who doesn't have internet access.

Bus evacuation this morning: everything went well.

150 Parents will attend Math work shop tomorrow night.

Report cards the 13th. After that parent/teacher conferences.

American Education Week next week. Thursday 20th parent day. Welcome to have lunch etc.

Nov. 20, 7:30am: Breakfast of Champions (6th graders: 46 with all A's): invitation only. Honor Roll Assembly: 8th grade: 8:30am, 7th grade: 10:00am, 6th grade: 1:30pm

Nov 20th: Cultural Night: Spanish, everybody is invited.

Turkey troth/Fall fling: Nov 21st. More volunteers needed, everyone welcome to come. Canned food can be brought in the morning. Cakewalk: huge hit. Whole day will be looked at wellness. Classes only in the morning. 40 cakes needed: Mrs. Pearsall sent out email. Hospitality bakers needed. Jessica didn't get back to Amy about hospitality cakes. Bought cakes and homemade ones are OK, because they take it home.

Because of Thanksgiving the Dec. newsletter is due Nov. 21st.

Parent/teacher conferences are Nov. 24th and 25th. Wednesday 26th: half day. Limit 3 conferences per child.

Dinner for staff Nov 24th.

Jan. 20th schools NOT closed because of Inauguration Day, this is because High School has midterm exams. Through social studies they might show it to the children. Each school can do it in their own way.

UNICEF \$ 3000.00 raised.

6th Grade's NASA field trip was wonderful. Fundraiser Chick-Fil-A night on Oct. 22nd was the highest ever! Another one will be held Jan. 13th. Money will be used for buses field trip in January.

Maison Kuupisch: Approval for trip in spring (March 13th) request for the Lion King went out. Is more expensive than hairspray. Check for any fundraiser if Lion King will be approved. Maybe other ways, like signature t-shirts 8th grade, check if parents and kids are interested in that. Donna and Mrs. Kuupisch will work on this.

PRESIDENTS REPORT (DONNA)

As per Jennie: Parents to pick a time for parent/teacher conferences. First come, first serve. You can always make an appointment yourself, if time doesn't work for you. Call student guidance and ask for appointment for conference. Contact teacher individual, with team: through student guidance. Target fundraising is settled, money goes directly to school. BBMS signed up for it now. At parent/teacher conferences there will be a PTA table with details: Giant, Target, membership, direct donations.

TREASURY (KATHY)

Submitted later by Kathy what she intended to mention during the meeting:

- 1) Our annual dues to PTACHC were paid, as well as our contribution to the PTACHC scholarship fund
- 2) I filed our Form 990N (new requirement for PTA's with receipts usually less than \$25,000); it was due 11/15/08
- 3) We still need to do our direct donation drive (not sure who is spearheading that?)
- 4) We are still \$4,252 below our projected profit from the wrapping paper/magazine fundraisers combined; does not include any receipts from internet sales, which I haven't received yet; also, may not be a problem if we decide to do separate magazine drive (we need to make sure that people can renew previous subscriptions using new vendor, if we switch to go with Rob)
- 5) Need to decide when we are going to have socials and get them on the calendar
- 6) After a teacher submitted for reimbursement for WEB expenses, I went to see Carolyn to see how she wanted me to handle it. Since no one used the funds that were budgeted for leadership last year, and since no one requested funds for leadership this year, we did not provide any amount for this in the current year budget. Since Ms. Jameson wanted the funds to be covered, I offered to move some money from the recognition budget to cover the WEB/leadership costs (\$125), if she agreed to have a smaller recognition budget. She approved the change, which has now been reflected in the budget (this should not require a vote of approval from the membership since it is only a reclassification within the same budget category - student support). I reminded Ms. Jameson again that the budget for the year is prepared in the summer, approved at back to school night, and is therefore set at this point. Therefore, any additional requests for money will only be looked at if the money can be taken from another budget category or for next year, in the event that we have additional funds available for new requests.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

YOUNG WRITERS NIGHT (GAIL)

Feb. 6, from 7-8pm, snow date March 6. African American poetry, hope to get 20 kids. Meg Roberts will help.

Work through couple of things, like café decorations, Jazz band playing, want to create nice evening. Also at Howard High School in February.

Meg Roberts will tell kids about it after Thanksgiving. Create flyers, work on communication outside class room.

American Education Week: Table with sign in and name badges on Nov. 20st., Donna will check with Jennie. Nov. 19th : 9-10am coffee with principal

Student social: Sandra Miller

Which date, activities and time? Somewhere in January. Works best after school time. Last year it was held in February and in May. Check with student guidance and Shelly Heinz what works best.

REFLECTIONS (JILLIAN)

Deadline for WOW is Dec. 1st. Our school competes with other schools, can become national. Wait for turnout before setting up big event. Could be held in the week of Dec. 8th. On county level there will be a ceremony.

Jillian distributed some kind of poster to teachers. Please contact Jillian if you want your kid to participate.

Last year winners: see website (Jillian will send the link to Trudy)

MEMBERSHIP (LAURA/MELANIE)

There's going to be a sign up table at Parent/Teacher conferences.

Hospitality: Sent info out through PTA. Chick-fil-A Tuesday 18th. Hand out flyers when people pick up cookies. Print tickets of website. Amy is going to email Janet about that. Amy will get flyers to Lin.

Stars: short by 2 families. List from Billie: Some teachers didn't receive gift still. General email sent out, but no feedback from parents. Just call them to check. Does send out monthly reminders.

WAYS AND MEANS (LIN):

Nothing changed as per last meeting.

It's best to do magazines in January. Sales tax is included. Magazines can be done through Rob Elliott. No time for Angie and Lin to take care of magazines because of high school business. Some people have to take over anyhow, because Angie and Lin are leaving this school. If PTA doesn't do magazines, then school can do it. Jessica asked 6th grade volunteers for it. Also asked for 1 or 2 volunteers from 2 till 6: 30 at Tuesday November 18th cookies distribution. Beth Webster volunteered to do the magazine fundraising in Jan/Feb.

ACTION ITEMS/NEXT STEP (DONNA)

There was a question from Janet Eagles if the information on intramurals could be included on the PTA website. It was agreed upon not to add it.

Calendar change: School starts August 31st. There is proposal to make spring break shorter. No full week, but half. Comments or approval can be sent to board of education. Please send your comments, because it's a 50-50 case. Comments to: boe@hccps.org

The PTA Council of Howard County is looking for priorities to work on for roughly the next 18-24 months. Suggestions can be submitted to PTACHC by email ptachc@gmail.com by your local school Delegate. At the December meeting of PTACHC, all suggestions will be reviewed and discussed. Delegates will settle on about 5 priorities for PTACHC to focus on in the next year or two.

Inauguration: Donna expressed concerns about public schools appearing to the students to take sides in politics. Only if it is seen as an historic event and as long as both parties are mentioned. Teachers are not allowed to show their political preferences. Both parties shared during social studies. A lot of people want to take their kids to the inauguration. Someone mentioned not to waste a day if not a lot of kids will be at school.

CLOSING (DONNA)