

## **MHS PTO MEETING MINUTES**

### **May 14, 2009**

Present: P. Arntzen, J. Hickey, A. Aguirre, H. Magliozzi, K. Kerr, P. Madow, J. MacGillvary

#### ***Follow-up from Previous Meetings:***

Plantings for the School Sign:

- Two students are working on plantings around the sign as part of their community service project. J. Wood is working with them. Plantings have been purchased and D. McNulty is storing them. J. Wood hopes to get plants into the ground this week. Planters still need to be done and may ask students to help with this as well.

Teacher's Appreciation Luncheon:

- Luncheon was a success. Plenty of donations both food and monetary.
- Thank-you cards received from Linda Koskinen and Terry Herring.

Communication:

- Mrs. Chesson is sending weekly update to the HS community via the MHS bounce email system. Parents are finding this very helpful.
- A senior mailing with dates and timelines was sent to the senior parents after the last meeting. Parents present found the information helpful.
- Juniors received a letter from guidance with important dates for tests, ideas about visiting colleges, etc. Parents present found it very helpful and it seemed to answer some of the questions that had come up at the last meeting.

Grants:

- To date, Mrs. Chesson has only received 2 grant requests. Mrs. Chesson was meeting with teachers this afternoon and was going to remind them.
- PTO will review at the final meeting 6/14/09.

Parent-to-Parent Panel:

- Group discussed the need to still plan for a parent-to-parent panel but felt it should wait until September. PTO will pull group together in August to plan.

Patio Stone Fundraiser:

- M. McCarthy has attended two meetings regarding this potential fundraiser.
- An announcement will be forthcoming with more details as to how this potential fundraiser might work.

## ***New Business:***

### Letters to Seniors:

- Parents are having some difficulty understanding the purpose of the letter they are to write to their son or daughter. There is concern regarding confidentiality. Other questions that came up included: what happens if a parent does not write a letter, when will they be given to the students – if before ceremony, what will they do with them during ceremony, etc.

### Academic Awards Night:

- Each family will receive 4 tickets.

### Graduation:

- If weather permits, ceremony will be held at Alumni field.
- If weather issue, ceremony will be held at Fowler School. Each student will get 6 tickets.
- The band and chorus will both be performing at Graduation. Chorus students have not been informed yet as the schedule for May stated BAND ONLY at graduation.

### College Planning Calendar:

- J. MacGillvary brought in a college planning guide from Belmont HS. Calendar had important information and dates for parents.

**Action Item:** M. McCarthy will pass the calendar on to Mrs. Chesson.

### School Sign Postings:

- A member brought up an issue she had with requesting a posting for the school sign. Group discussed the need for a form or process for information to get up on the sign. Group felt that if there are conflicts, HS activities should have priority.
- M. McCarthy did speak with Mrs. Chesson re: the sign being blank for several days with many activities taking place at the HS. M. Testa who is responsible for the sign was out all week.

### Treasurer's Report:

- Current balance is \$1462.00 after expenses for luncheon and plantings.
- Have allocated \$1000 for teacher grants.
- Other possibilities to use the money for include donating to individual school clubs like Spanish Club, Youth and Government, etc.
- Also may look into a potential donation to the new speaker system.

### Positions for Next Fall:

- P. Arntzen will be stepping down from the Treasurer position. J. Hickey has agreed to take the position for next year.

- Group discussed recruitment of incoming freshman parents. PTO would like to present at the information night for 8<sup>th</sup> grade parents. Unfortunately, was not invited or informed of the meeting last year.
- PTO will set up a table at curriculum night and to collect email addresses for parents of freshman so we can at least get them on the email list.

Watering Schedule:

- Once the plantings around the sign are completed, will need volunteers to water them throughout the summer.

Action Item: Anyone who would like to volunteer should contact Julie Wood at [julieawood@hotmail.com](mailto:julieawood@hotmail.com).

Next Meeting:                    June 14, 2009  
   7:00 pm  
   MHS Library

Respectfully Submitted,  
Helen Magliozzi  
MHS PTO Secretary