



Magothy River Middle School

PTSO MEETING MINUTES

September 18, 2023

Media Center, MRMS

Meeting began at 7:05PM.

In attendance: (virtual) Rachel Martin, Christy ?, Laura ?, Diane Tydings, Amanda Cardon, Lauren Good, Liz Makey, Chelsea Laurel

(in person) Tracy Beery, Stacy Herbert, Andi Destromp, Lili Zimmerman, Rebekah Hicks, Melody Moore, Andrea Snodgrass, Sheri Berberian

Officer Reports

President's Remarks

Rebekah Hicks

- **Introduce the current Board Members.**
 - President - Rebekah Hicks
 - Treasurer - Lili Zimmerman
 - VP Fundraising - Andi Destromp
 - VP Communication - Kristin Hurff
 - Secretary - Stacy Gam
 - Sub committees
 - Amy Mahoney for hospitality
 - Emily Johnson is our webmaster
- **Introduce any teacher PTSO representatives.**
 - Ms Sheri Berberian
- **General goals of PTSO.**
 - As this year's executive board, we are looking forward to strengthening our relationship between us and the students, the teachers/staff and the school as a whole. We truly want to support the school as best as we can. For those of you that were around last year, you know that we are a new board. We are very excited for this school year and we have lots of ideas and momentum. We ask for patience as we are learning how to navigate this process and to keep in mind that this is a fluid environment, so we all will be adapting as the school year moves along. We are only the board.....all of us together make up the PTSO. This means we are going to ask for help from you all - the parents, teachers, and the staff because we cannot do this alone. We need help to make things happen. If we want more events and activities for our kids and school, we need fundraising to help make it successful. Please keep this in mind throughout the school year when you see our emails or posts or requests for help.
- **Future ideas for fundraising as well as activities for students and teachers/staff.**
 - The board has been brainstorming many ideas for future activities and fundraisers for this school year. We want to bring excitement to

	<p>the students in many different ways from social events, to events where the teachers are involved. We have even thought of activities for the parents alone where we can meet each other and get to know each other outside of these meetings! We are open to ideas and welcome suggestions or recommendations from any member of the PTSO. Can always email me at president@mrmsptso.org or comment on any of the facebook pages.</p>
<p><i>Treasurer Review</i> Lili Zimmerman</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updated account info <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The board just received access to the bank account and last year's budget about 1 week ago ● The board will be reviewing the 2023-2024 budget and have final discussions on both spending and revenue goals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ still need to review last year's budget to see where changes need to be made and/or line items added or removed ● Audit for 2022-2023 school year needs to be completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ two volunteers are needed that are not on the board <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tracy Beery and Lori Graf ● The board would like a monthly Treasurer's Report presented at each monthly meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ this will start at next month's meeting ● When the new budget is approved, teachers/staff will be informed of their allotted reimbursement amount and process on how to obtain the reimbursement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ info will be shared with Ms Herbert and she will send it to all of the teachers
<p><i>VP of Fundraising Report</i> Andi Destromp</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Call for volunteers - Fundraising committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ sign up sheets on table for parents to sign up to volunteer ● Social events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ explained that the board would like to incorporate more social events into our activity options ○ possibly a trivia night (Charm City trivia can come to the school and can make it kid focused) ● Marlin Night <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Andrea Snodgrass was present at tonight's meeting, she handled the tickets for Marlin night last year and is open to working on that again this year ○ Photo booth last year was great - suggested that we find out who did the photo booth at Marlin night last year and see if they can do it again ○ At the October general meeting, we will have call for volunteers specifically for Marlin Night to create leadership roles and general volunteers for this specific event ○ Andi will put together a Google form for leadership for Marlin night and post it on Facebook page and website ● First event - Game Night - Nov 8th Tentative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Andi will get approval from front office staff for this event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ in the cafeteria ▪ no entrance fee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● more of a social event ○ the Board will consider if this is going to be strictly social event or if we will sell snacks to make this a small fundraiser ○ Ms Herbert said that she has a whole box of games for PBIS and is willing to share them for this event

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Open for ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Top Golf - Mary Bradford has information about this ○ skate night - Skate Zone and/or Wheels ○ restaurant nights - Andi will contact Katie Spinks for local contacts
<p><i>Administrative Report</i> Ms Stacy Herbert</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School report card for 2021 - 2022 available now, newer one available in December <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ link: https://reportcard.msde.maryland.gov/Graphs/#/ReportCards/ReportCardSchool/1/M/1/02/2243/0 ○ currently 3 points away from a 5 star school (a big component is attendance - ask for parents to try as best as possible to only do half day or schedule vacations around days off) ○ total absences of 9 or more is detrimental (total of excused and unexcused) ○ question: is it still 5 days absence for Covid and the answer is yes, and the student needs to wear mask for 5 days ● For makeup/redo assignments and late assignments, does the county regulate this or is it up to each individual teacher? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ county policy link: AACPS Grading Policy/Regulation ○ 3 assignments per marking period, per class can be redone if below a certain grade ○ homework, quarterly assessments and group work cannot be redone ○ must be done within 10 days of the due date and at least 10 days before the end of the marking period ○ assignments turned in within 5 days of the due date are accepted - county regulation, if submitted more than 6 days - then the student receives a 50% ○ parent portal can send alert if student receives a zero ● Can you clarify what flextime is? Why the change from Marlin block and what does it mean for the students? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ link: Flex block description for families ○ district level decision to have it synced with all the county ○ allows students to take classes that are not available in the school ○ Flex has married advisory time & Marlin block time from previous years ○ before October 10th, how do students do a redo? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ can ask the teacher to complete during the class time ○ starting October 10th, the students will get to choose how they spend their flex time - currently every student has to do every A day class and B day class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ will need to go to any class that has less than 80% ▪ if all classes are 80% or higher, then they can choose different activities offered during that time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● some examples: Chess, Drawing, Soccer, Football, Stitching, Trivia, Fantasy Football, Yoga, Board games, Play dough ▪ Will be Tu, Wed, Thu for this - Monday and Friday is with their advisory teacher ▪ if student does not show up, administration will be notified and consequences follow ● What clubs/activities will the school be offering and when do they start? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms Denney is working on brochure of all the clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ will be an email from the school and students will receive a paper copy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Sept 25th will start after school clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ seaperch and terrapin club applications are in cafeteria and science teachers have them o some teachers will be providing some extra clubs during flex time - otherwise they are Tu/Th after school ● Can you provide information about the school dances? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o PBIS has at least 3 dances o All are all grade levels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ typically on Tu or Thur so students can catch activity bus if needed ▪ after school from 4 - 6pm ▪ DJ, food and drinks available ● Is there any student government at MRMS? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o currently trying to find a teacher sponsor o would be for each grade level o question asked - can a parent sponsor? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms Herbert will look into this - Mary Bradford would do it if possible ● For the PTSO, what is the student involvement? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o not at this time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ this is dependent on student government status ● What is Winter Fest and when is it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o last day before Christmas break o each grade level goes to a band, dance and chorus concert as well as an art activity o during the school day o PBIS event but would love to get PTSO sponsorship to help with the holiday shopping side of things/school store ● When is picture day? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o October 3rd o Make up day is November 13th ● NJHS (National Junior Honor Society) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o GPA o service learning hours o must fill out an application o for 7th and 8th grades only o school committees are meeting this week and will have more information ● Polar Bear plunge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o school activity - not PTSO o service learning hours are needed to graduate high school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ the lessons leading up to this activity counts towards these hours ▪ this is monitored by the school and the hours are accumulated during the school day - there is an option for outside accumulation if parents are against this
MRMS REPORTS	
<p><i>Teacher Liaison Report</i> Ms Berberian</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● will have more information after this week after they have their committee meetings ● find out if teachers have Amazon wish lists <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o we can post these on social media ● PBIS wish list is coming out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o this will be sent in a school wide email by Ms Herbert

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consider Amazon smile account for PTSO - will work with Andi on setting this up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ can also use the lists to stock the teacher lounges
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NEW BUSINESS/COMMITTEE REPORTS

<p><u>New Business</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rebekah will reach out and see what volunteer needs there are from teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Teacher liaison and Ms Herbert will also relay this to the teachers/staff with the understanding that the only way we can consider helping is if we know of a need ● School store <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ goal is to have Marlin Market open first week of October <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ sign up genius will be set up and posted on Facebook, PTSO website and Ms Herbert will send out to the whole school ○ since volunteer will be around students unsupervised, will need to have fingerprint completed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$64 and need to schedule an appointment to have that completed ▪ Ms Herbert will see if it counts that staff is in the cafeteria, does that mean they still need a fingerprint or can a commercial background check qualify? ○ commercial background checks only last for 2 years ● Open <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ per Ms Herber, students taking Spanish or French can end up leaving middle school with 2 credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ also taking Algebra can earn 1 high school credit ○ 8th grade activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ how do parents help? ▪ what does PTSO help with? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● organized the yard signs ● speak with Amy Mahoney - Mary Bradford may be able to help ▪ Ms Herbert wants to do something different this year and is waiting for board approval - more info to come ▪ 8th grade shirts - students make the design - want to get this done sooner so they can wear them for more events
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The meeting was adjourned at 8:18PM.
The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 18th at 7PM.