

George H. Moody Middle School

PTSA Board Meeting: Thursday, October 18, 2018

In attendance: Penny Moss, Jenny Waggoner, Beth Clark, Stephanie Cook, Kim Imajo, Beth Strader, Teresa Clemens

Meeting called to order by Penny Moss at 6:35pm

Agenda adopted and seconded by Beth Strader

September minutes adopted and seconded by Jenny Waggoner

Treasurer's Report – Jenny Waggoner reviewed the monthly financials noting that we are behind in both Membership and Raider Fund dollars from where we were at this point last year.

Beth Clark asked about the HCCPTA dues and our donation to the Moody Scholarship, which is due by December 1, 2018. We budgeted \$580 for the scholarship, since that is what was given in the past, but have decided to contribute \$500 this year to cut back on expenses a little.

Principal's Update – No report from Mrs. Doss

Raider Fund Update – Kim Imajo addressed the issue of the Raider Fund magnets that were peeling. New magnets have been received and distributed to everyone who originally got one.

Kim also talked about how our Raider Fund donations are much lower than expected.

- Discussed the negative impact of not sending the Membership / Raider Fund forms home to the students in folders this year.
- Discussed having a “push” for more Raider Fund donations around the first week of November and possibly a March Madness drive in the spring, if necessary. Our campaign should focus on specific items / events that we are trying to fund, and the fact that we do not ask the students to sell anything as a fundraiser.
- Kim mentioned that we could also reach out to area businesses and ask them to donate to the PTSA.

VP Membership Update – Penny Moss reported the following membership totals for Sri Palani:

- Total # of PTSA Membership – 380
- Total Membership Dues - \$2406.00
- Total Teacher Membership – 48
- Amount from Teacher Membership - \$334.00

These amounts differ from the amounts shown on the monthly financials, because they do not take into account deposits received after 10/8/18.

New & General Business – Penny Moss reported on the following events and committees:

- IB Open House was held on Tuesday, October 16th. The PTSA provided pizza, water, and cookies for the student volunteers, and the administration provided dinner for the teachers.
- The Book Fair will be held from Monday, October 29th through Tuesday, November 6th. The PTSA will no longer be handling the funds associated with the Book Fair, but a Sign Up Genius has already been posted to help recruit volunteers.

- Communications – Information about upcoming events is being posted on our Facebook page. Items for the Sunday message need to be sent to Sowmiya Gomatam (vpcommunicationsmms@gmail.com) by the previous Tuesday.
- Box Top collection just ended, and the winner of the donut party will be announced next week.
- Hospitality – PTSA has provided food for Back to School Night and IB Open House so far. Our next events are the Parent Teacher Conferences on November 6th (lunch), the Open House for students zoned to Moody on January 17th (dinner), and the Parent Teacher Conferences on February 8th (dinner). Joanna Pipes is looking for a good deal for November 6th, and we may ask for donations from parents for the other dates, with a possible soup / chili dinner for the January 17th event.
- Lay Advisory – The last meeting was cancelled due to weather, and the next meeting is on November 12th.
- Reflections – The deadline to submit entries is tomorrow, October 19th.
- Volunteers – If you need a list of volunteers, you can contact our Volunteer chair, Ruchi Shrivastava. She has lists broken down by event.
- 8th Grade Dance – Gina Schottleitner and Rhonda Keith are starting to plan the event.
- Faculty report for Joan Hodges – **1.** The PBIS program gives positive referrals to nominated students each week. There are about 15-20 students recognized every week, and the sponsors would like to provide a treat for all of these students at the end of each marking period. Penny Moss discussed this with Mrs. Doss, who said that the group should not need assistance at this time. We will keep this program in mind later in the year, if their needs change. **2.** Ms. Bradlee would like to provide Scholastic Science magazines to her students. These magazines could also be shared with other science classes. The cost is around \$400, and the PTSA will cover the cost and charge it to our School / Educational Needs line. **3.** Ms. Day was looking for help to replace the shelves that collapsed in her Art room. The replacement shelves that she looked at cost over \$1,000. This is not in the PTSA's budget right now, and seems to be an item that should be replaced by the school.

Committee Report: Retail Promotions – Kim Imajo informed us of the following Spirit Nights:

- Papa John's Pizza is ongoing – just use the code MOODYMS when ordering
- Monday, October 29th - Panera Bread on Staples Mill from 4-8pm; Information will be posted on Facebook and a flyer will need to be presented. We will receive 20% of sales.
- Tuesday, December 4th – Chipotle on Nuckols Road from 5-9pm. We will receive 33% of sales.

Committee Report: School Dances – Stephanie Cook gave us an update on the Fall Dance on 10/26:

- Decided to do something different than the Halloween theme that's been done in the past. This Rave Dance will have black lights and glow sticks, and kids can dress in neon colors.
- Fall Dance will be smaller and more conservative, and the Spring Dance can be bigger if we have the funds available. Stephanie and Kim Clem (co-chair) are already planning for the spring.
- The DJ is lined up, and they will make sure that the music is appropriate.
- Still need volunteers and food donations, which will be addressed in the Sunday message.
- Kim Clem is approaching businesses for donations for the raffle, and it is going well.
- Dress code will be the same as school dress code.
- Was asked if parents are allowed to go into the dance to chaperone, and the answer is no. School administrators and teachers chaperone the dance, while parent volunteers can staff the tables outside the gym.

Committee Report: Spirit Wear – Beth Strader reported that Spirit Wear has arrived and has been placed in the teacher mailboxes for delivery to students. Jennifer Chance is planning on having an online sale, via Sign Up Genius, to sell the remaining inventory that they have.

HCCPTA Update – Beth Clark provided the following report from the HCCPTA meeting on October 16th:

- Meeting was attended by our new Superintendent, state PTA officers, and our PTA General Assembly Legislative Liaison.
- The PTA supported HB 1604/SB 953 in our GA & it passed- providing mental health instruction for 9th & 10th graders.
- GA members just had a 3 day summit on safety. 23 different bills on safety proposed so far. The PTA is pushing for more accountability for School Resource Officers, and that they should have training in dealing with youth.
- PTA will push this session for more support staff for mental health services for employees and students and to also help “at risk” kids for expulsion/justice system before these events happen.
- We have not increased funding for education since 2009. They will be pushing to do so this year as schools are forced to do so much more for less money. Teacher numbers entering the workforce are down by nearly half from 2004, so they will look on how to entice people into teaching as a profession and how to retain current teachers.
- REMINDER: PTA is a 501 (c) (3) so they cannot endorse any candidate
- Our PTA has ballot votes that should be floated and turned in as to whether or not the VA PTA should endorse certain policies. This will affect their legislative agenda and is the best way to make sure our voices are considered.
- VA PTA recently adopted 4 legislative priorities: support students’ mental health needs, support school safety measures, incorporate career and technical (CTE) into k-12 classrooms, and recruit and retain effective educators, especially in high-poverty areas, remote locations, and hard to fill positions.
- PTA is creating a new database with all members- last year over 17,000. This year’s goal is to hit over 18,000. Downloadable Card templates are available.
<https://www.pta.org/membershipdatabase>
- Four VA PTA Programs: Reflections, Citizenship Essay Project, Scholarship Program, and Power Plates (cooking contest Feb 4th deadline) - please reach out to teachers to encourage participation. Citizen Essay Project due Feb 1, Reflections to be turned in Nov 13th (twin Hickory Library or Varina Library 6:30-8:00 pm)
- George H Moody scholarship fund- available to any senior who is a member of the PTA and enrolled at HCPS. Ask all schools to donate to the fund, \$4, 806.10 currently in the budget. Will go to one HS student from each high school. We have not donated yet. Scholarship deadline for applicants: March 1, 2019.
- The Director of Family Engagement (one year in new position) & Director of Equity & Diversity (6 months in new position) have had some tangible results already. The Blue Bus visited in need communities all summer to provide summer enrichment, books, clothes & food. They are expecting to host a family summit Jan 2019. The Diversity Director started a new initiative- providing literature that students can relate to/see themselves in as well as a social justice/critical thinking component with those reads. This initiative will provide reading from minority authors and/or minority characters and discussions about what these characters go through.

- Both Highland Springs & Tucker will be ready fall 2021. The buildings will be built by the same architect with some minor variations for typography. There will be a push to hire all involved from the Richmond area. Both Tucker and Highland Springs kids are expected to remain on site if at all possible.
- Next meeting is January 15th at Henrico High School

Other Business – Beth Clark raised issues about club meetings and class requirements:

- The list of clubs on the Moody website is outdated, and it is unclear when clubs meet and who to contact if you have a question regarding a club. Beth is working on putting together a more comprehensive list of this information.
- There is general displeasure with the fact that clubs can no longer meet during APL, but according to Mrs. Doss, that time is needed for remedial instruction and digital citizenship. Students also work on team and character building exercises during that time and still have two days a week to use as a study period, time to visit other teachers, make up tests, etc...
- There is also some confusion regarding prerequisites for certain classes, and Beth Clark is hoping to make that information more accessible as well.

Allergy Awareness Liaison – Teresa Clemens is the Allergy Awareness Liaison at Echo Lake Elementary and would like to take on a similar role at Moody. We have several students with severe nut and bean allergies at Moody, and she wants to be sure that these students can safely attend Moody events. Teresa will be used as a resource when planning events, such as the school dances, to help determine which foods are safe. She will speak separately with school personnel about steps that can be taken during the school day and on field trips. She will also get in touch with Joan Hodges to discuss the concessions for the school play.

Next Moody PTSA Board Meeting will be Wednesday, November 7th at 6:30pm in the Moody library.

Meeting adjourned at 8pm

Minutes submitted by Jenny Waggoner for Michelle Sindelar