



MRHS PTSA Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., via
Zoom

Number of Members Present: 15

Call to order and introduction – The president called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Agenda:

[SGA Report](#)

[Staff Report](#)

[Principal Report](#)

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SGA Report – Starting elections for next year. Interviews start Thursday. Twenty candidates; down to 6.

Staff Report – Mrs. Shearer, Special Ed teacher, reported that there is an increased need for mental health support. She is appreciative of the mental health speaker. April 1 is the start of Autism Acceptance Month. Staff hope to get “Mug and Muffin” back up and running for this year. Mrs. Clarkin, Math ITL, reported that April and May are big months for the math department. Math teachers are helping students prepare for AP tests, which take place the beginning of May.

BOE Candidate Introduction – Dr. Linfeng Chen introduced himself. He has a PHD from UVA and has kids in HCPSS. He does not support portables and supports building expansions to accommodate growing school populations. Student mental health is a top priority for him. He can be contacted at chen4boe.org, chen4boe@gmail.com or 434-604-0281.

Principal Report

- Thank you to CAPO for a fantastic meal for the staff.
- Mr. Vandenberg is in charge of testing this year.
- IEES survey during Ridge Time for staff and students. It will be sent out to parents as well. This will drive the Student Improvement Plan (SIP) for next year.
- May 2 is a professional learning day. Teachers/staff will work on the SIP that day.

- Listen and Learn – A forum that gives all students a voice. Ours includes all area three schools One was held on March 30 at 7:00 pm. We are taking some ideas from other schools to possibly adopt at MRHS.
- Senior info went out today. Each student gets 10 graduation tickets. Families can request more.
- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week, May 3-6. If PTSA is planning on doing a meal, May 4 would work. No pressure.
- June 17 is Mrs. Goldeisen's last official day!

President Report

- PTSA needs to recruit a president for next year, as well as other positions (membership, senior scholarship, reflections, might need CAPO).
- MRHS parent organizations (PTSA, Boosters, Music Foundation, CAPO) submitted a joint letter with MVMS to request a greater time difference between our two schools to alleviate traffic. PTSA has been in communication with Mr. Nevin, head of transportation for HCPSS. Mrs. Goldeisen says they are meeting again concerning this.

Treasurer Report – Balance as of 4/11/22 is \$35,102. Money has come in for AfterPROM donations, AfterPROM tickets and Senior Banners. Check went out for liability insurance for After Prom. Mental health speaker was paid.

March Meeting Minutes – Approved with no corrections.

Committee Reports

- **Membership** – Currently 588 PTSA members. We received a notification that we owe \$518 to Maryland Congress of Parents, the entity that was Maryland PTA. Will discuss with the treasurer.
- **Fundraising** – Someone has committed to being fundraising chair for next year.
- **Grocery Rewards** – Should be getting a check from Harris Teeter.
- **Website/Communications** – Everything is updated on the website and working.
- **Facebook** – Sports and clubs are getting posted on our FB page. If you need something posted, email text to Facebook chairs.
- **Student Directory** – No need for a student directory anymore. If you have a Canvas account, you can look up MRHS family information.
- **AfterPROM** – Chipotle fundraiser earned about \$200. Paintball earned \$120. Ticket sales are slow, but we expect that will increase. Waivers were sent out. Thank you to NHS for creating and hanging banners to advertise AfterPROM! If students want to rent a tux, on April 19 and 20 tux company will be at school. AfterPROM will get a portion of the proceeds. This is the same with the florist. If students order from April 15-20, AfterPROM gets a portion of the proceeds. Need volunteers the night of and donations for prizes. AfterPROM gets a portion of Senior Banner sales. Great committee of helpers!
- **Senior Scholarships** – Application and essay deadline is April 8 at 10:00 p.m. Essays are anonymous. So far, 12 applications and 5 essays submitted. Committee will have two weeks to score essays. Senior Awards Ceremony will be on May 26. Scholarship submissions seem to be dropping every year. There was discussion about considering reducing the number of scholarships we give in the future.

- **Senior Banners** – Currently collected \$2,736 for Senior Banner sales. Contacted FARM families to sell to them at cost (\$20); regular price is \$35. Target number of 180 banners to be sold. Currently 76 purchased.
- **Horizon Grant** – Will not have this committee next year since we do not have a grant from the foundation.
- **HCDrugFree**
 - ☐ **FREE Life Skills Classes for Students:** HC DrugFree is providing a highly interactive skills-based program designed to promote positive health and personal development for youth in grades 6-9. The next series of classes will be held via Zoom Tuesdays and Thursdays 5/10, 5/12, 5/17, 5/19, 5/24, 5/26, 5/31 and 6/2, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Registration is required. Please **sign-up** ASAP as space is extremely limited! www.hcdrugfree.org
 - ☐ **NEWSLETTER:** Sign up for free newsletter to get updates on events as well as information to keep your family safe and informed. Go to the bottom of www.hcdrugfree.org.
 - ☐ **SAVE THE DATE FOR Medication and Sharps Drive-thru Collection:** HC DrugFree's next drive-thru prescription and over-the-counter medication and sharps (needles, syringes and EpiPens) collection will be held on 4/30, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in the Wilde Lake Village Center parking lot in Columbia. Medication will be guarded and transported by the Howard County Police and the DEA.
 - ☐ **Student Volunteers and Interns:** High school and college students who are interested in assisting with HC DrugFree's Life Skills online classes for younger students should email LifeSkills@hcdrugfree.org. Teens, youth groups and adults interested in volunteering on 4/30 outdoor medication collection may register at www.hcdrugfree.org/drug-take-back-day-1/. Youth will not be permitted near medication.
 - ☐ HCDrugFree requesting a \$300 donation from all PTSA's. Received a letter that we have not paid this.
- **Hospitality** – Excited that there are hospitality chairs for next year! Will work on providing a meal for staff on May 4 during Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week.
- **Cultural Liaisons** – The Chinese American Parent Organization (CAPO) hosted lunch for teachers and staff on 3/31. CAPO has a new president for next year.
- **PTACHC Report** – N/A
- **Boosters Liaison** – Discussed that Today's Topics cannot be translated into Spanish. MRHS has a team for all sports. Boosters to host 15 summer camps: 12 sports and 3 music. Mrs. Goldeisen will check to see if Boosters has paid \$2,000 towards the mental health speaker.

General Discussion

- **Mental Health Speaker** – Most feedback is that virtual is not the best way to have a mental health speaker. The message gets lost. Mrs. Goldeisen said that what she heard was that in-person is best. That was just not feasible with the cost. Mental health continues to be a concern for our children, so this was still an important presentation. One PTSA member suggested getting more information from teachers and how they felt it went and was received by the students. If we have an in-person speaker, we would have to do three presentations. This can get very expensive. Mrs. Goldeisen suggested identifying the neediest students and providing

support for them. There was discussion about how PTSA can help respond to this need, and there was consensus about creating a mental health committee.

- **Announcements**

- A PTSA member shared that she has a non-profit that allows high school students to study and volunteer abroad in Guatemala. She is taking a group this summer. Students will live with a host family, learn Spanish, and do community projects. The president suggested adding this to the PTSA newsletter.
- Last PTSA meeting of this school year will be on May 9 at 7 p.m. in-person.

Meeting adjourned: 8:32 p.m.