

Mechanicsville Elementary School PTA Meeting Minutes



HOME OF THE

MUSTANGS

January 18, 2011 7 p.m.

- **President's Report – Julie Weaver**
 - Approval of Meeting Minutes from the November 30, 2011 meeting - According to PTA protocols, the previous meeting minutes will be voted in for approval after comments are requested and incorporated. Julie asked if anyone had any comments on the previous meeting minutes. No comments were raised. A motion was made to approve the November 2011 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and approved.
 - Julie reported that the Applebees fundraiser was a great success. One hundred tickets were sold and approximately \$600.
 - Mrs. Kayler had a request to purchase binoculars for our school. The 5th graders recently went bird watching. Binoculars need to be shared among all the Carroll County Schools. She has asked if we could purchase some. Julie was able to get them for a price of \$16 and can buy them all using the fundraiser money we made at Applebees. Another parent suggested looking into the ones available by National Geographic. They are five dollars. Julie stated that she would look into it.

- **Principal's Report – Nick Shockney**
 - Mr. Shockney talked about the PBSI pep-rally's to recognize CARE students and how many CARE tickets given out. At the pep-rally they re-enforced the theme of the CARE topics. Mr. Shockney said they will be doing this every quarter.
 - Report cards will be sent home on February 1st.
 - The parent academy is going well. Mr. Shockney mentioned the wonderful topics. The Health Department came out. Some of the topics are: drug and alcohol awareness, and parenting styles. Mr. Shockney asked parents at the meeting to pass out the word so we can get more folks to come. The parent's academy is open to everyone, even from other schools. It is a great project for the community.

- **Teacher's Report – Serena Batanglo**
 - Reported that the pep-rally was great!
 - Conferences will be next month – parent academy sessions will be held on: loving logic and good parenting skills (same night as conference night).
 - HIKE journals are going well. Ms. Batanglo asked that parents check in with our children to make sure they are filling out their journals

- **Treasurer's Report - Carolyn Boggs**
 - Budget update. The balance as of January 18, 2012 is \$18,575.
 - Paid out \$4000 for the smart boards.

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- A string bass was purchased.
 - A bank fee of \$300 will be reimbursed next month.
 - Carolyn is looking for a new bank with less or no fees.
 - Julie Ford-Mount recommended the credit union in Eldersburg, they don't charge fees. Julie and Carolyn will look into this.
 - Mark Janeczek suggested SunTrust, non-profit accounts, no fees.
 - If anyone has other suggestions, please let Carolyn know.
- **Committee Reports-**
- Nominating Committee – Paula Scarfone – Paula posted committees and chairpersons list to the electronic PTA newsletter recently. It was noted that the big open spot is Mardi Gras. Also have a list for next school year for nominations. On our website is a list of duties and committee descriptions.
 - Jump Rope for Heart – Robyn Samosuk - as of this past weekend 212 kids signed up. Dates are posted in the newsletter.
 - Spring Luncheon – Keli Houle/Andrea Norfolk - week of May 5th. Planning will not start until after Mardi Gras.
 - Mardi Gras – Julie Ford-Mount – the next meeting is on Monday, 23rd. All chair people in place except for the future Mardi Gras chair. Julie stated that it is really not a difficult job. The person needs to be a good coordinator and organized to keep things moving forward. Volunteer forms will be sent out in February. Everything else is in place. Julie stated that we really need someone to step up for this position or the Mardi Gras will not be able to continue.
 - After School Clubs - Dawn Bainbridge - reported that we are set on clubs. Clubs are starting March 6. The budget was \$4000, if every club is filled, we will use the entire \$4000. There are new clubs called the sports mix club and mad science club. Dawn stated that we also need parent volunteers to sit at the table in the lobby. There are a good set of options for all grades.
 - Cultural Arts – Julie Ford Mount - reported all in place for the year. There will be a laser show for black history month.
 - Just Say No – Angie Grimm - no report.
 - Political Liaison – Chris Pilak, Bob & Cindy Lord - went to community advisory council meeting. Steve Guthrie presented budget. The budget is not as bad as last year. Assuming that funds still come as stated, there are no big cuts coming.
 - Girls on the run – Cindy Lord/Diane Martin – talked about a running club for girls only. This will occur the same time as after school clubs. The program is for 3 - 5 grade girls. Currently this is not offered in Carroll County (it is in Howard County). The organization is working on having this in Carroll County. They are working on it for Elmer Wolf Elementary and Sandy Mount Elementary and hoping to bring it officially to MES. This is an international organization that started in 1996, in North Carolina. In Maryland it started in Howard County with 42 girls and they are now up to 450 girls just in Howard County alone. Girls on the run was described as “not a running club” and “not competitive”. They use the power of running for an overall health program. The girls are training to run a 5k and they also learn life lessons. This is a 10 week program. Two sessions per week, for one hour fifteen minutes. Girls are challenged to run 1 mile. Running is incorporated with games, etc, encouraging fun! The program empowers greater self awareness, team work, and self confidence. It is lead by female coaches providing life lessons such as resisting peer pressure. The

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season ends with a 5k event. Nine hundred runners attended this past event in December. The program helps girls see themselves in a positive light. It was stated that the program will be starting the first week in March when spring sports start. Volunteers are needed. Cindy Lord will be point person. Coaches are needed for the spring and fall session. 10 weeks, they will run here at the school. Season end with a 5k Howard County, however, once we grow this program, future 5Ks could be here in Carroll County as well. Coaches do not need experience. Training is available for coaches. There are 15 girls per team. Training for coaches is three hours. They have no coaches so far. Serena Batanglo will send an e-mail out to teachers to see if there is any interest.

- **Open Forum and Questions**
 - No questions

- **Future Meeting Dates**
 - March 21, 2012
 - May 16, 2012 – PTA Election

- **Adjournment**
 - 7:50 p.m.