

April 4, 2011
Mamaroneck High School

PT Council Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Melany Gray at 9:20am.

I. Minutes for 3/14/11 approved

II. Nominating Committee – presentation of panel:

Kristine Budhill - Co-President
Pam Buchmueller - Treasurer
Lizette Macaluso – Secretary

Voted and approved by PT Council Members

III. Race to Nowhere Screening

- a. Murray faculty has requested a screening of Race to Nowhere. Ann LoBue is hoping to find a co-sponsor (another school or SEPTA) for this screening. The screening would include a facilitator and discussion afterwards.

IV. Board of Education Report (Robin Nichinsky)

- a. Question brought up as to whether there should be an acknowledgement to the PTAs by the Board for grants or gifts when they are given to a school. This process could get complicated and create paperwork, etc. Maybe there should be a monetary threshold for these acknowledgements. Whatever is decided, it is important to calculate how much (as a total number) is given to the district. Robin will discuss these issues with the board and get back to us.
- b. The budget has been revised with \$1 million of additional cuts made due to efficiencies and state aid. The budget to budget increase is 3.06% due to a 2.3 million dollar transfer from the fund balance account that is going into the budget (to be used for safety repairs, the fire alarm system, etc.). This money is coming in as revenue so taxpayers will not be taxed on that amount. We need to make sure this information is added into the FAQs about the budget – as well as basic information on the tax rate, tax levy, tax cap, etc.

V. Superintendent's Report (Dr. Shaps)

- a. Next Monday (April 11th), there will be a meeting for current 6th grade parents to discuss the 7th grade team structure next year. This will be an opportunity to provide feedback to Dr. Shaps and Dr. Weitzman and make sure the concerns facing the "super team" are addressed.
- b. Summer repairs/construction will affect every school building. Co-op camp and summer school will be occurring, but the construction may affect summer school hours and there may be some juggling of space.
- c. Playgrounds: Need clarity around the issues and need to know the projected cost of repairs beyond the safety issues. Dr. Shaps will be meeting with the board over the next few weeks to identify priorities and get a sense of direction and consensus on where to start.
- d. Ribbon cutting ceremony for new field on Saturday, April 2nd was a great success. This field belongs to the school district and there is a fee schedule for others who want to use it.
- e. Liz Clain has officially been named the next MHS Principal and is working on transitioning to this position.
- f. Transportation Study: Still working on collecting information at this point. Subject is still under review.

VI. New Business

- a. Budget Communication: There is a weekly Friday budget session at 1pm at the Mamaroneck Diner for anyone who wants to join. We need to start getting out budget information including the date of the vote, absentee ballots, etc. We want to make sure we reach those that have voted in the past. We will need volunteers to make calls, etc.

VII. Calendar (Debbie Manetta)

- a. Debbie is currently inputting her dates onto the online calendar. She will then provide passwords to the PTAs so that they can start adding their individual school information to the calendar. Inputting by the PTAs should begin about May 2nd. The Calendar meeting is scheduled for June 3rd.

Meeting Adjourned 11:10

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Herbsman

In Attendance:

PTC: Melany Gray, Co-President, Jennifer Malherbe, Co-President; Past President: Cindy Habig; Lori Herbsman, Secretary; Kristine Budhill, Treasurer; Celeste Sharpe, Legislation;

Central: Pam Buchmueller, Barbara Lambert, Co-Presidents

Chatsworth: Lisa Samson, Co-President

Mamaroneck Avenue School: Lisa Boren, Co-President

Murray Avenue: Ann LoBue, Liz Paras, Co-Presidents

Hommocks: Rina Beder, Rachel Goldman, Co-Presidents

Mamaroneck High School: Amy Rothman, Sherri Rozansky, Co-Presidents

SEPTA: Cecilia Absher, Co-President

District: Debbie Manetta, Director of Communications

Board Liaison: Robin Nichinsky

Special Guest: Dr. Shaps

Approved 4/29/11