

GCM PTSA Membership Meeting October 2nd, 2017

Meeting: The meeting was called to order at 7:07 and adjourned at 8:20.

President's Report:

- _Cameron's Chocolates catered meeting with an assortment of cookies and cakes. This company hires people with disabilities (many of them Marshall Davis Center alumni).
- Phil has had meetings with our district school board representative Dalia Palchik (<https://www.fcps.edu/school-board/dalia-palchik>) on how to tackle our growing population here at Marshall (expected to be 2,500 – 2,600 in the coming year or two). We are getting a 12 unit classroom facility which is taking about 65 parking spaces in our back parking area. Phil asked for meetings with heads of Fairfax County Public Schools and is working on scheduling presentations about this to our Marshall community.
- Phil spoke with Scott Braband, the Fairfax County Supervisor(<https://www.fcps.edu/about-fcps/departments-and-offices/superintendents-office/meet-dr-scott-brabrand-fcps>) to get a better idea on the plans for the future needs of Marshall. Mr. Brabrand had no specific ideas but wants to see steady improvement in all our area schools.
- Phil met with Officers of Student Government Association (<http://gcmstatesmensports.org/index.cfm?action=main.otherad&contentid=279837>) and asked them for ideas on how we can get students interested in coming to our meetings. Number one answer – FOOD. The Marshall SGA Sponsor, Mr. Pierce Bello, offered to send information and announcements to students .
- It was suggested by a parent that we can have meetings once in a while during LEARN at Marshall. Mr. Litz says Mondays are a possibility.
- It was suggested by a parent that we could have a student class liaison – one student per class attending our meetings.

Presentation By Marshall student Jackson Gurdak:

- Jackson presented an informative introduction to the PTSA meeting attendees about the High School Diplomats Program that brings together students from the United States and Japan. We learned about his own experiences and travels with this organization and he answered questions from the audience.

Treasurer's Report:

- Budget approval – Laura Eskeland's audit of last year's budget was completed and all is accounted for. Budget was done month to month and has been approved. Bank account was reconciled monthly.
- PTSA and ANGC funds – all checks have been accounted for. Insurance policy is up-to-date. Tax forms have been filed.
- VOTE TO APPROVE last year's budget – CARRIED
- We are expecting more membership – we are at about 80% now of what we expect to have.

- Hospitality is up about \$1,500 to improve ways to show staff appreciation. We welcome your ideas.
- We have new flags we helped Mr. Litz purchase that are hanging in the hallways.
- We are adding snacks for some of our PTSA meetings into the budget.
- ANGC is self-funded. We will never spend more \$ than we have. It is well-monitored. \$18,000 now expected to grow to about \$23,000.
- It was suggested that we increase funds for the principal (a ceiling of \$1,000). Students' funds (SGA) would need a new line in the budget.
- ANGC raised more than they needed last year so there is a surplus. Some of this money was spent on school support such as Homecoming floats, etc.
- VOTE TO APPROVE this budget –CARRIED
- VOTE TO APPROVE last month's PTSA Membership Meeting minutes – CARRIED

Principal's Report:

- Principal Litz reminded parents of the 2 hour early release day on Oct 11th. Seniors may stay home to work on essays.
- Marshall has an exchange program with Denmark and France. We are also looking at working with an exchange program with China in the Spring.
- We have been given a grant to host a group of Argentinean educators who will be shadowing our teachers and administrators to learn about our American system of education.
- Extracurricular fees – starting Oct. 16th all sports and clubs have an extra fee of \$50 from students.
- Homecoming – there are dress themes and games at LEARN times. NO BODY PAINT allowed. Too messy.
- The modular 12 unit classroom parts and packages will be delivered on 10/30. Prep begins over Winter Break. Installation will begin in the Spring.
- FCPS – PISA test is an International assessment for randomly picked 10th graders. These test results are then compared to other countries. Marshall did extremely well last year – significantly higher than other kids in other countries and above average in the US.

ANGC Report:

- Last year total budget was \$102K. Last year ANGC spent some money on capital projects like the new shed which is on the school property now.

Grocery Rewards:

- Had 300 families participating last year for a total of \$6,500. Promotion of this program is needed this year. The money goes specifically to student programs and support.
- It was proposed that we stand outside games or functions with flyers.
- It was proposed we list out what this \$ is going to and what our goals are on these flyers.

George C. Marshall Museum:

- Space here at Marshall will be refurbished and updated soon. Can it be more accessible? It is usually locked up.

Academic Letters:

- Linda Baker will be sending out emails to students who have a 3.7 GPA or higher and qualify for an Academic Letter.

Newsletter:

- Send photos and feature by email to MarshallPTSANews@gmail.com by November 15th.

Marching Band:

- Competition was 2 weeks ago and they won 2nd place out of 36 bands!

Class Lists:

- Polly Collwell notes that some people may not be on the class email lists. If you believe you are not on this list please contact Lorene Schlaffer at secretary@gcmptsa.org and let her know.

Theatre Boosters:

- William Shakespeare's Julius Caesar will be presented at Marshall November 2nd – 5th. Tickets are on sale starting next week.

Choir Boosters:

- Fall Choir Concert is at Marshall October 17th.