

# George C. Marshall PTSA Board Meeting Minutes December 7, 2015

**Attending:** See Attachment A

**Meeting:** The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. and adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

## **Principal's Report:**

- Jeff McFarland, Marshall's Academy Coordinator was present to announce the successes of Marshall. Marshall has been identified as a Center of Excellence by the Air Force Association. Marshall is also a five time National Finalist of the National Cyber Patriot competition.
- Other announcements from the Academy include the introduction of a new Computer Science course in the 2016-2017 academic year as well as a new Network Systems teacher who was hired for the current school year.
- Marshall's academy offers the largest Chinese program in the county
- International Night was a huge success and was well attended
- Senior Ethics Day at Westin Hotel was a hit and received great feedback
- Winter sports are in full swing
- The first part of a compensation package study and review of Fairfax County Public School teachers' salaries revealed a lack of competitiveness in FCPS teachers' starting salary. Those in the mid career term (with 10- 15 years tenure) did not fare so well compared to teachers' salaries from other counties. Over a 30 year career, the average FCPS teacher earns an average of \$142,000 less than the average of surrounding counties and \$293,000 less than teachers in Arlington County over a 30 year career.
- More parts of the compensation package study will come out and will be available on the county website in the months to come
- On Thursday, January 7 from 11:00 am – 12 pm, Superintendent Dr. Garza will unveil her budget at West Potomac High School in Alexandria. Dr Garza will present her budget to the School Board later that evening.
- Seniors' Cap and Gown – we will be contracting with Balfour for graduation
- Danielle Schoolcraft, Assistant Principal has created a calendar of all events at Marshall. It can be found on the GCM website. Since this is such a comprehensive calendar of school events, the PTSA plans to point to this calendar on its website instead of duplicating this effort.
- Five new speed bumps have been installed to encourage drivers to slow down and to ensure the safety of students and drivers.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

- Maureen presented the financials ending November 2015
- Our dues and income are tracking slightly over budget
- \$1,200 was raised by the SAT fund raiser
- Academic Letter budget is tracking almost exactly on budget

### **President's Report:**

- The November meeting minutes will be amended to include suggested language provided by Yvonne Heffner. Both the November and December minutes will be voted on for approval at the January PTSA meeting.
- Hospitality Committee update – A staff appreciation luncheon was provided in November. There are currently 33 staff PTSA memberships. An additional 31 staff signed up for membership during the luncheon. The next Hospitality planning meeting will be in January 2016. Anyone interested in attending should contact Mary Krafft [cmdrafft@yahoo.com](mailto:cmdrafft@yahoo.com)
- Statesmen's Station, a farm to table service will be introduced in the coming months
- Twelve teachers made wishes this year. All received their wishes.
- A suggestion was made to publish the teachers' wish list in either the PTSA newsletter or the PTSA email blast

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **All Night Grads (Becky Foster)**

- The Silent Auction will kick off in Spring 2016. This is the biggest fund raiser for All Night Grads.
- Donations for services and gift cards are greatly needed for the auction
- Becky is looking for additional volunteers to help with running the online auction
- The web page for All Night Grads needs to be updated. Polly would like contributions to update the All Night Grads webpage.

#### **Newsletter (Aisha Kashif and Jennifer Church)**

- The Fall newsletter was distributed via the weekly PTSA email blast
- The next publication will be released in January 2016
- The deadline to submit newsletter content is January 12, 2016
- Future newsletters will include Department Highlights. The newsletter team will be contacting Marshall Academy for news, events and pictures.

#### **Miscellaneous**

- The Orchestra department will be hosting a fund raiser event on December 16, 2015 at Barnes and Noble
- Parents and families are reminded to order from Amazon and link up to our school for shopping credits

The next PTSA meeting is 1/4/2016. Mr. Litz will be lining up some guest speakers to share more about the new course offerings.

### George C. Marshall PTSA Meeting

December 7, 2015

	Name	Committee (If Applicable)	Email Address
1	Sheri Soyka		SLSOYKA@yahoo.com
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10	MAUREEN QUATHROCK		
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