

Marshall High School PTSA

Meeting Minutes

2/13/19 7:00 p.m.

Board attendees – Phil Pedlikin, Carolyn Keehan, Laura Eskeland

Nominating Committee – Kelly Sund

- Kelly needs 2 more people to serve with her on the committee.
- She will send emails to the middle schools to attract rising Marshall parents and continue to put announcements in the Blast.

Treasurer's Report

- Our income was \$840 under budget but we received \$900 from Catalyst for the SAT fundraiser. They had 18 kids and we got \$50 each. There will be another boot camp in April. We earned \$3,000 in the fall, probably less will come in the spring.
- Expenses running ok, we were \$219 over for Academic Letters.
- Laura is trying to reduce the treasurer workload for next year's treasurer. We will set the budget in May for next year so that will already be done. Next year we should have a cushion of extra money leftover from this year. She has worked with ANGC to reduce the work coming to her. They can make their own deposits. She is trying to reduce the workload from 8 hours per week to 4.

President's Report

- The directory is now available with a password. The Blast mentioned that members can contact the membership secretary for the password which is available to our members only. Polly Colwell (Communications chair) mentioned that Chris Gardner, an alumni parent, is continuing to let us use his website service for free and he helped with the set up of the directory. Kelly Sund suggested we could try Wix in the future. Polly will be stepping down after this year. Susan Skaggs will return.
- Phil will contact all our committee chairs to determine who will be returning next year and what open spots we'll have. Our March meeting will highlight open positions.

Principal's Report

- Class of 2017 donated a bronze griffin which was installed on top of the ticket booth.
- For graduation, each family will be given 5 tickets. There are currently 567 seniors, 530 last year. This is the biggest class we've had in a while.
- Growth will be flat next year. He projects 520 freshmen next year. There are still families displeased about Marshall being closed to transfer students, but with our projected numbers for the future, we had to do this. Three of our 6 feeder elementary schools are at 115% capacity.

The CIP for 2024 projects almost 2,400 students for Marshall. This month Jeff certified 2,224 students.

- Regarding the standard diploma, there has been a change in favor of giving kids more elective options instead of taking as much science and social studies. For social studies they will now be required to take World History 2, Government, and USVA. For science they will be required to take 3 sciences and 2 different types. Only 25% of our students receive the standard diploma and 75% receive the advanced diploma.
- In terms of SOL's, current freshmen will only take 5 SOL's – history, science, math, reading and writing. Biology and reading meet federal requirements. Students will have a choice to take these 5 plus one more of their choice. Most SOL's will be taken before junior year. Tests taken in middle school don't count. Teachers will still have to teach all students all material whether or not the student needs to take the SOL for that class.
- In terms of registration, counselors are meeting with students to go over their course selections and discussing the SOL requirements. They will finish by 3/15. We offer a leadership class for class officers. Next year bilingual leadership will be offered.
- There are changes to the IB math curriculum for next year. We are going from 3 types of courses (Math Studies, SL, HL) to 2. IB Math Applications SL 1 and 2 is for kids who used to take Pre-Calc and Trig and Math Studies. IB Math Analysis 1 & 2 will have no HL at level 1. It will only run for 2 years, so they are still figuring out what students will take senior year if they finish it earlier. Current freshman and sophomores will be in the new curriculum next year. IB is still releasing details and offering training.
- There is a new literature curriculum for IB. All English classes are 2 year classes. All Marshall students take IB English now with the exception of kids in special ed.
- There has been a problem trying to schedule the Senior Ethics Day, which is a day when seniors go off site which we have done for 18 years, dress in business casual, and have various ethical modules such as a mock trial, media issues, etc. It is a very popular event for students. We have held it the last few years at the Westin Hotel just down the street so we didn't have issues with transportation. However, Jeff has not been able to work out an acceptable price with the new manager. He is looking at other possible venues but need to get it scheduled soon. The Vienna Rotary Club helps with some of the cost.
- Graduation will be at 2:30 at DAR Constitution Hall this year. This is a later time which creates some issues with getting the buses back to school. Next year graduation will likely be earlier, like June 1, 2 or 3.
- The Marshall Mark program is an internship for seniors that they can do during the last 2 weeks before graduation when they are done with exams. It runs from late May through early June. Applications must be submitted and reviewed.
- IB exams will start May 3rd and run through May 24. There is overlap with SOL testing. Seniors wishing to miss part of the school day must submit a form in advance.