

M.A.S.T. P.T.S.A., Inc.
May 17, 2010 Meeting Minutes

At 7:05 P.M. Adam and Diane Hubeny, PTSA Co-Presidents, called the meeting to order at the MAST meeting site. Twenty six members were present. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Adam noted that the April 19, 2010 Meeting Minutes had been posted to the school web site for membership review. A motion to approve the Minutes was made and seconded with unanimous acceptance voted. Executive Committee members present in addition to Adam and Diane were Jill Henry and Stanley McGregory, Co-Vice Presidents, Barbara Ilaria, Treasurer, and Helene Hagen, Recording Secretary. Sakeena McGregory, Co-Vice President, and Anne Davidson, Corresponding Secretary, were unable to attend.

Executive Committee Reports followed.

Vice President's Report- Vice Presidents Jill Henry, and Stanley McGregory had nothing to report at this time.

Treasurer's Report- Barbara Ilaria apologized for not having printed reports available due to software problems for this month's report. Checking account balance as of May 15, 2010 was \$12,155.45 and Money Market balance was \$69,597.10 for a total balance of \$81,752.55. Expenses this month included \$80 paid for PTSA Scholarship Representatives to attend the Senior Brunch for the award process. There was also a \$200 expense incurred at Atlantic Bagels associated with the Teacher's Luncheon. A motion was made and seconded to accept the financial report. The Report was approved in a unanimous vote.

Recording Secretary- Helene Hagen had nothing to report at this time, but provided the report for the **Corresponding Secretary** (Anne Davidson) who was not present. Thank you notes and emails from a number of the faculty had been received in appreciation of the Teacher's Luncheon hosted by the PTSA. Dr. Christopher had written a letter of appreciation to the PTSA to thank the many parent volunteers who had given their support and time for the Rude Awakening program held at MAST on April 22, 2010.

Faculty Report- Dr. Christopher was present, and wanted to address an issue that had arisen about Grade Point Average (GPA) Calculations. There has been a concern expressed about inconsistencies in rounding practices across the faculty, and the potential impact of differences in practices among staff. Dr. C. explained that it has been his practice to rely on the Teacher's professional assessment in determining the grades reported. The software currently used to calculate GPA rounds individual course grades to whole numbers, but does go to decimal spaces in the overall calculation. Next year a new software program ('Power School' is currently under consideration) is going to be employed. Grading formulas will be outlined in the student handbook so that all are aware of the grading practices.

District implications of the significant budget cuts are still subject to further changes. A number of retirements have been filed and this may assist retaining staff who have been given layoff notices. The MCVSD Board were meeting on May 18 and in June to further discuss actions to be taken.

Dr. C. also gave some background on funding practices for students and student Activities that have qualified to participate in National Competitions. A Skills USA team had qualified for Nationals but needed funding to attend. This became a moot point as the competition requirements stated the original team members had to be present and no substitutions were allowed. Two of the team members are Seniors and since the competition was scheduled at same time as Graduation they had opted out of

attendance.

However, Vice President, Jill Henry, reported that the MAST Drill Team had placed first overall in the Area 4 (encompassing 11 states) competition in Colts Neck NJ this past weekend. This was a significant achievement and qualifies the team to attend the National Competition in Pensacola Florida April 8-9, 2011. The issue of funding the trip was discussed. Dr. C. explained that he must submit a proposal to the MCVSD board about the costs and number of attendees that would be involved (guesstimate: \$25,000 costs, 30 Students).

The U.S. Navy will likely cover some of the expenses as it would already be in their budget. Once the proposal is reviewed by the District, then a plan will be developed and a funding base established. Non-covered expenses would likely be the responsibility of the attendees, but amounts can't be estimated at this time.

Several suggestions arose regarding how the PTSA can and can not assist in supporting the Drill Team. A committee to create a 'Drill Team Parent Support' group to assist the team on an ongoing basis during competitions was proposed. Adam requested Jill Henry and Roseann Brandl to chair this committee and come up with some guidelines or thoughts on how to proceed with it, especially with regard to fundraising. This will be addressed more fully after the Executive Committee reviews by-laws and discuss the possibilities that exist in fundraising for a specific group versus the general school population. Jill Henry will be contacting the Colts Neck H.S. Drill Team Parent organization for additional background information. There will be a report presented at the June meeting in this regards.

There was discussion with Dr. C about Drill qualifying as a varsity letter sport at MAST for participating cadets. Dr. C supported the concept but suggested further input from the Naval Science Instructors and the development of guidelines, etc. would need to be completed. Jill Henry is investigating some of the details associated with designing a 'Letter' with local vendors.

Dr. Christopher closed his remarks by reporting that budget cuts are of paramount concern but that there will be more to report, hopefully in a positive stance, after the upcoming MCVSD Board meeting.

Ms Betsy Hoffman was happy to report that the Scholarship Committee had received applications and essays for the awards from twenty one seniors as of the deadline date. She also had been asked by the faculty to express their thanks for the Teacher's Luncheon which all had enjoyed. Ms. Hoffman had also been asked to prompt parents to reply to the Senior Brunch invitations with payment if attending. The Brunch will be held at Branches Restaurant and they are trying to plan room size, etc. So far, very few responses have been received. (Adam will send an email to Senior parents in this regard). She also wanted to express her thanks to the PTSA for their support throughout this year.

Committee Reports:

Driver's Ed- Pam Donegan was not present. No report.

Gift Auction- Roseanne Brandl reported that Gibbs Hall had been able to guarantee availability for scheduled reservation date of November 12, 2010. The location was approved by the membership and plans will go forward for the event. Solicitation letters will be sent out earlier this year in hoping that some large corporate donors with involved approval processes may respond in time for the event. She will be soliciting volunteers for gift basket assembly and wrapping, and also help on the day of the

event for set up at the June PTSA meeting.

Super Raffle- Phil Peluso reported that response at this time was low (approximately 10% of expected response) for the raffle tickets mailed to the membership for sale and return. The raffle proceeds will be split between the lucky winners and the PTSA, with 50% of the amount returned for funding of MAST student enrichment.

Clothing-Dot Lucyk reported that clothing sales totaled \$1944 at the April 29, 2010 Freshmen orientation.

Directory/Membership - Mr. Keith Dwight reported that a problem had arisen in our 'Free Directory for Freshmen' with a four year PTSA membership. A parent of an existing student asked how that applies when siblings are subsequently enrolled: would the new freshman receive a free directory? This will be permitted in the rare circumstances where this event occurs after some discussion.

Family Picnic- Patrice Jaskiewicz noted that 66 replies for the June 11, 2010 event had been received so far. Food donations are needed, and prior year volunteers are going to be contacted shortly. Please contact Patrice if you can help.

Hospitality- No report. Adam reported that he and Joanna Sufficool had set up the food for the Teacher's luncheon hosted by the PTSA.

Scholarship- Dr. Joel Ross had asked to be excused. Ms. Hoffman provided details under the faculty report.

SAT/PSAT Prep- Marianne Morse asked if the school calendar had been set for the 2010-2011 school year, and if so, to have it posted so that planning for PSAT prep classes can be scheduled.

Graduation -The date is Tuesday June 22, 2010 at 4:00 P.M. At Pershing Field. The back up in case of inclement weather is the Post Theatre.

Rude Awakening- Ed Plaskon reported for himself, Mary Pell and Deb Radice. Volunteers did a great job again this year, hosting the student breakfast and making it another successful learning experience on the dangers of drinking and driving. He noted committee co-chair position will be vacant as he will be 'graduating' along with his child this year. He assured anyone interested would find it a worthwhile endeavor.

Spaghetti Dinner- Patrice Jaskiewicz requested that a Co-Chair for next year's event will also be needed.

Sunshine- No report at this time.

Note: Committee chairs will need to be voted on and approved by the Executive Committee for the 2010-2011 school year. A number of vacancies will be occurring as several 'chairs' are graduating. Interested parties should contact the PTSA co-presidents.

Old Business

Musical Instrument Purchase- Ed and Shawn Villalobos ' work in soliciting musical instruments and

purchasing storage equipment paid off in time for the instruments to be available for use in the Student written, produced and performed original Musical this month at MAST. The production had been written up in the Asbury Park Press Community Reporter paper.

MAST Student Successes-The Talent Show was also well received by those who attended. Also, Marianne Morse reported the Mock Trial Team did well this year competing against veteran challengers from other schools and were committing significant time and effort in preparing for next year's competition already on Tuesdays after school.

New Business

Nominating Committee Reports:

Pam Hakim, and Angela and Mark Sabatini had volunteered to solicit nominees for upcoming vacancies on the Executive Committee. The slate proposed was as follows: Barry McCabe (class of 2013) Recording Secretary, Terri Franco (class of 2011) Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Ilaria (class of 2011) Treasurer, Jill Henry (classes of 2011 and 2013) Vice President, Anne Davidson (class of 2011) Vice President, and Adam and Diane Hubeny (CO-Presidents). Additional candidates were solicited but none were submitted by those present.

The slate was submitted for approval and voted unanimously for acceptance by the membership present.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Next PTSA meeting scheduled for Monday June 21, 2010 at 7 P.M. Bldg. 77.