

**TRAILSIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP PTA MEETING  
Wednesday, October 15, 2014  
TMS Auditorium**

**I Welcome – 7:05 pm. by Donna Colombo  
Officers present: Faith McGarrity, Secretary, Greg Ogorek, VP,  
Also present: Bridget Beichler, Principal**

**II Treasurer's Report (Update by Donna Colombo)**

**A.Update –**

**Last month we approved the budget. A copy of the approved Budget was provided to attendees. Some amounts have changed. The Membership line item will decrease in the amount of \$3.25 per membership which must be paid to the State. The Club line item will also decrease by the amount that we pay out to teachers and staff.**

**B. Club Funds Discussion**

**Last month there was much discussion about club support by the PTA, particularly for Odyssey of the Mind, Lego League and Nationally based clubs. Because there was so much discussion, we tabled that discussion to collect research and collect information and comments from membership. There was a request from OOTM asking for support from the PTA. We took comments and drafted a document of understanding with respect to PTA Support for Nationally Recognized Clubs.**

**We are drafting an application form and that will be available for any organization that wishes to apply for funds. Currently there is no line item for PTA Sponsorship Fees for Nationally Recognized Programs. Greg Ogorek made the motion to add this line item. Josefina August seconded. All in Favor. Ayes won. Motion passed.**

**One member inquired as to where the amount of \$250 came from? DKC advised that we evaluated the money that the PTA will bring in through the after school clubs and thought this amount should be sufficient to cover the registration fees for these types of clubs.**

**Bridget Beichler suggested we call these “Nationally Recognized Programs” so as to distinguish them from clubs. Faith McGarrity moved to change the line item to reflect Nationally Recognized Programs. Shranda seconded. All in favor, Ayes won. Motion passed.**

**Another member commented as to how many clubs might potentially seek to be sponsored for their registration fees. Bridget Beichler advised that these programs would include – Math Olympiad, Science Olympiad, OOTM, Lego**

League, TSA (stem organization). There may be more but those are the ones we are aware of right now.

Bridget Beichler further advised that the 7<sup>th</sup> G. Tech Ed teacher will sponsor a TSA (robotics competition) along with SBHS officers. Math Counts will also be offered with some TJ HS coaches.

Greg Ogorek moved to approve the line item of \$250 for a team's registration. Another member seconded. All in Favor say aye. Motion passed. Another motion was made to move money from Reflections in the amount of \$100 to support this new line item. The motion was seconded. All in favor, say Aye. Motion passed.

Class parties – we have \$750 budgeted for each grade. We discussed at the last meeting knocking that down to \$500 per grade to bring money into the new Program Sponsorship budget line item. Motion to move \$750 was made by Greg Ogorek. Another member seconded the motion. All in favor, say Aye. The Motion passed. \$850 is now in the Program Account.

A Member asked a question about the “wish list”. DKC advised that a Grant Committee was formed and is still a work in process. How it will work is that a teacher will apply for something. The Grant Committee will look at that, make a decision and report to the General Membership Meeting. The current members of the Grant Committee have experience in Grants.

### **III Committee Updates**

#### **A. Highlights**

1. Restaurant Night – tomorrow night at Firehouse Subs, and Meadows Custard. Shranda and Bob are working on Restaurant opportunities. The link will be on the phone for the flyer. The event is scheduled from 5-9. It has been advertised on FB, websites, Connect Ed, etc.

2. Volleyball Game – FSMS has challenged our staff to a volleyball game on January 10<sup>th</sup> at Broad Run H.S. Pre-sale tickets, snacks, tickets, etc. will be sold. There will be 400 tickets for each school. Concessions will work together. Sue Fuller is on Committee.

3. Clubs –The After school clubs have started. More clubs may be coming. Two that have been proposed are: FCA – Fellowship of Christian Athletes, which is a year long no fee club. Also, the LEO Club which is a community service club. We have a staff sponsor/ parent sponsor for these clubs. Also, a Philosophy club is in the works. Comment from Wendy Wooley – High schoolers are always looking for volunteer opportunities. BB responded that they are meeting with SBHS by the

end of the first quarter to put this piece together. WW also advised that the National Honor Society is looking for ways to get connected with TMS. BB says – we are also looking for opportunities to go next door to Newton Lee with our middle schoolers.

4. Membership – 367 total members (63 staff)

5. Reflections – there is a flyer in the back of the room. This is a National PTA creative arts program. It reaches out to kids with a particular theme. This year's theme is: "The World is a better place if . . ." There are 6 genres. Dance choreography, visual arts, photography, music, literature. A Connect Ed info went home - it is open for all kids. The Art teachers are willing to help the kids if they need it. We've had national winners from this District. It's a great opportunity for creative arts. Due date November 5<sup>th</sup>.

6. Citizenship Essay - national PTA program. Flyer in back. Due date in January. Opportunity to do something outside of regular academics.

7. MSAAC – meeting tonight.

8. LEAP

9. SEAC – Andrea reported that at the past meeting, the presentation was "inclusive practices in the county." Dupree and Wagner gave a presentation on the framework of inclusive practices in Loudoun County. October is disability awareness month.

10. Staff Luncheons – George Milar and Kristin Christman are our chairs. We are behind a bit and we are hoping to have a luncheon in November. DKC will meet with them and help them with the process. Lunch set up in the FACS room. Theme based. Parents help with food.

#### IV Principal's Report – Bridget Beichler:

Mrs. Coptish and I were at Dominion Power and received a grant for \$4000 and we will have a portable solar classroom. We are looking into implementation in the classroom and to have the disciplines inter related.

This is the seventh week of school and we've had lots of firsts. The most important thing is culture and climate. We have 130 Staff members. One of the most important things I need to do is have situational awareness. Majority of staff are over achievers. For many of them, setting up a whole new school is very different than an old school. Even change of class and traffic flow is still being worked on. Last week I met with team leaders to discuss challenges. We still have VISION expectation but we are pushing it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Q. The staff is learning Clarity, Vision, Phoenix, other websites, and there is just a lot of information that they are working

**on. Vision is like a filing cabinet. Some teachers are doing flip classrooms, uploading everything. Not everyone can be there. We are 7 weeks old. We can't be like the schools that are established for 3-5 years. Conversation has been great. But most important things we need to do are build relationships with the kids and have great instruction.**

**The Book Fair is next week.**

**Spirit Week is the last week of October.**

**Monday – Pajama day**

**Tuesday – Twin Day**

**Wed – School spirit day**

**Thurs – TBT**

**Fri – Halloween (no masks)**

**Door decoration contest. Theme must be one of the ones from IMPACK. One door winner from each grade level.**

**Pink Out Day last Thursday – fabulous how many kids were into it.**

**Next week – 22<sup>nd</sup> – Orange Day – Unite against Bullying.**

**November – we have an assembly about Diversity and Bullying awareness.**

**We have two staff sponsors for a play. Last Weekend in April – it will be a double cast so that we can get a lot of people involved.**

**Yearbook – there is an application process,. The application is due by the 31<sup>st</sup> to the Yearbook advisors.**

**Mr. Colicella is in charge of the Student Council – there was quite a showing for Student Government. 57 kids are running. In all my years in MS I've never had this many kids run for Student Government.**

**Donna made a quick statement about signing in to school anytime you come in the school. BB said there were some issues with parents who came in without signing in. One member made a suggestion that we get a security system and make that part of our wish list. A Grant was supposed to come in but didn't. It would cost \$1500. It was agreed to discuss it.**

**There was another question about an 8<sup>th</sup> G. promotion – BB stated that only 2 schools do a promotion, most schools do some sort of 8<sup>th</sup> G. party. That is being worked on right now**

**V Adjourn – meeting adjourned at 7:55.**

**Introduced Eric Hornberger, Chairman of School Board and Wendy Wooley to talk about Academies of Loudoun.**