

Milwaukee High School of the Arts

PTSO Minutes - March 2, 2009

Meeting started at 6:10 p.m. 21 people in attendance.

Administration Report:

- Conferences March 11th and March 12th. All on first floor. Teachers in classrooms on the first floor will hold conferences in rooms, second and third floor classrooms will hold conferences in gym or library.
- MWL represented PTSO at staff meeting – good information shared. CV offered to be PTSO spokesperson at staff meetings.
- TA checked with engineers – no key yet.
- May banking day has been canceled – is a makeup day now plus one additional day added to end of year. Exams 6/12, 6/15, 6/16. Last day of student attendance is 6/16/09. 6/17 is records day.

Treasurer's Report: MC provided summary of receipts and disbursements via email. Has new printout from bookkeeper and will update electronic version and email. Was not able to locate dollars from Target Take Charge of Education program. ND will email amount of September payment for further research. Current PTSO balance is \$3,090.12 as of 3/2/09.

PTSO requests/followups:

- Fashion show was success. Final amount received from PTSO was \$218.30 and included pizza for fashion show and admission fee to Domes for Visual Art students.
- Request for PTSO help for Mr. Wszalek presented by MG. MHSA received once in a lifetime gift of restored Steinway piano. Mr. Wszalek is requesting assistance to purchase adjustable bench approx. cost \$400. Motion to approve funds not to exceed \$450 made and carried. JR will take back to Mr. Wszalek.
- 300 Club – over 300 students achieved gpa of 3.0 and above first semester. BA would like to reward accomplishment with pizza party/live music this month. Requests help organizing event – sending invitations, assistance day of party. ND and JR volunteered to help with organizing, RD, JR, DV, CV, MK will help day of event.
- WSMA held at MHSA this year. PTSO planned to sell food as did Band. Theater department also selling food and possibly drinks. Vocal requests funds from event. ND recruiting parents to assist with event logistics and PTSO selling. Discussion on logistics of who benefits, what is being sold, where to sell, where do people eat, multiple vendors, one big kitty. Unable to reach decision. AK tabled discussion to keep meeting on schedule, each department responsible for own vending at own table, each department provides own goods and start up cash. TA will find locations available. ND meeting with Rachel Ramirez on 3/4/09 to discuss parent presence needed for WSMA – door monitors, hall monitors, etc.

Cell Phone Policy Feedback: Letter drafted by CM in November was taken to SGC in February for review, co-sign. SGC declined. No point sending to superintendent. Suggested PTSO take change request to district level. Get on agenda at School Board meeting to revise policy for appropriate use. MHSA volunteer to pilot for revised district policy for appropriate use vs. forbidden use. Caught upon entering building, taken and returned at end of day. Caught using during the day, parent must come in to pick up. Parents need to be educated to not call/text students during school day. CM will write up draft. PTSO to look over draft policy at April meeting.

Title 1: VS and CV reported.

- “I am an informed parent” workshop sponsored by MPS Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative and the Wellness and Prevention Office being held on Saturday 3/28 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Continental breakfast at 8:30, workshop starts at 9:00 a.m. Workshop free but registration required. For more information contact Patricia Kirby 414-773-9827 or Kathy Witkowiak 475-8607. AK suggested get information to CW for weekly email newsletter.
- MPS and Discovery World partnering to help parents better understand curriculum and facilitate collaborative relationships between school and home. Meetings held at Discovery World on Thursday, March 19th for parents with students in grades K3-5th and Thursday, April 23rd for parents with students in grades 6th-12th. The times are 5:30 to 8:30 pm, and parents can register for the workshops and transportation to and from Discovery World by calling Melissa Thomas at 475-8346. Poster contest winners announced 5/28 - will receive free annual pass to Discovery World.

New Items:

- MWL reminded orchestra spaghetti dinner fundraiser and silent auction on March 12th from 3:30 to 6 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m. Next meeting date Monday, April 6, 2009.
nd-3/2/09