



MRHS PTSA meeting minutes
Oct 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Number of Members present: 19

Call to order and introduction – The president called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda:

[SGA Report](#)

[Staff Report](#)

[Principal Report](#)

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SGA Report

- Senior Crab Feast was Oct 4. It was great. Students had a good time, and school is happening.
- Homecoming Week, Oct. 4-8, was awesome.
- SGA is planning to create some study groups to support students who need help.

Staff Report

- 12th grade – Now is the time for college essay preparation. English teachers are helping students to write their essays and prepare their college applications. Participation in these sessions continues to increase.
- 11th grade – Students are mimicking projects inspired by Tuesdays with Morrie. AP English 11 is very literature heavy.
- 10th grade – Students are learning about the “hero’s journey.” New and diverse texts have been added to the curriculum.
- A new teacher is working on re-starting the literary magazine. This is a building year; the plan is to publish it next school year.

Principal Report

- MRHS currently has around 1,700 students.
- Female students appreciate the provision of menstrual hygiene products in restrooms.

- Homecoming was great. Around 1,100 tickets were sold, and there were dancefloors and activities/games both inside and outside. In order to keep safe, masks were required inside.
- Regarding some MRHS students' improper behavior during the game, the post about this on the HoCo School Interest Facebook profile was not factual. Administrators were present at the game. Mrs. Goldeisen told students to stop booing through a megaphone, and they stopped after about 30 seconds. She saw just one sign that focused on our team winning and WLHS's team losing. Today, a Canvas message warned students about the consequences of bad behavior at games, and administrators and staff will reiterate this in additional messages and PA announcements.
- PTSA approached administration about setting up a mobile COVID vaccination clinic, following Mount Hebron HS's example. This would be convenient for winter athletes, who need to provide proof vaccination or get regular COVID tests. Administration and ITLs think this is a good idea. PTSA just needs to coordinate with Mr. Reagle regarding the date and location.
- Current 9th-11th graders will take the PSAT on Wednesday, Oct 13. Seniors don't need to come to school that day.

President Report

- AfterPROM committee is aiming to raise \$5,000 in corporate sponsorship, but Boosters are open to increasing their normal donation by \$3,500, so PTSA would not approach corporate sponsors and focus on other types of fundraising instead.
- Chipotle fundraiser today seems to be going well.
- Blowfish Poke contacted us about partnering. They have partnered with RHHS for fundraising nights, and now have a new location in Marriottsville. They normally provide only 10% of revenue to PTSAs, but they agreed to provide us 15% of revenue. Members present thought that it would be a good idea to set this up with the restaurant in November.
- Menstrual Hygiene Products Program
 - SB 427 - Provision of Menstrual Hygiene Products was enacted in May 2021. This law requires each county board of education to ensure that each public school provide, at no charge to students, menstrual hygiene products via dispensers in the women's restrooms at the school; each public middle or high school has to install menstrual hygiene product dispensers in at least two women's restrooms by October 1, 2022, and in all women's restrooms by August 1, 2025.
 - For this school year, Ms. Reier and Ms. Miller have been providing these products in one restroom on the 3rd floor and requested PTSA's support.
 - Motion approved for PTSA to donate \$200 to support equipping one girls' restroom on each floor with menstrual hygiene products.

Treasurer Report – As of Oct. 11th, we have received \$8,935.54 income this year (AmazonSmile \$100, membership and hassle-free donations \$8,835), and had \$2,809.28 in expenditures. As of Oct 11th, we received total cash and checks \$866, but did not finish depositing yet.

September Meeting Minutes – Approved with one correction.

Committee Reports

- **Membership** – 471 members, and \$9,665 in gross sales, including hassle-free donations. Co-chairs are considering holding a raffle for teacher/staff members in Dec/Jan timeframe,

although it was discussed that it might be good to do it earlier, since our membership numbers are lower than they have been during pre-COVID school years.

- **Fundraising**
 - So far, a total of 192 Little Caesars pizza kits have been sold, which has raised \$1,162 (29% of the target).
 - Ideas for increasing sales: advertise at concessions during games; hold raffle for a pizza-themed prize for anyone who has placed an order (1 entry per order); continue promotion on Facebook and newsletter; and extend the fundraiser to November during parent-teacher conferences and the fall play so we can advertise at those events.
 - Send information on the fundraiser to feeder elementary and middle schools.
- **Grocery Rewards** – N/A
- **Website/Communications**
 - The banner at the top of the website currently shows three things: Little Caesars fundraiser, becoming a PTSA member, and AmazonSmile. If committee chairs want something to be added to the banner, please let website administrators know.
 - The only ways for people interested in contacting our PTSA is by emailing mrhshocoptsa@gmail.com or completing the online volunteer interest form or contact form on the website. Committee chairs present at the meeting expressed interest in having gmail accounts that are unique to each committee, which can be included on the website. Advantages of this would be that the email account can be transferred to new committee chairs in the future and current chairs would be able to keep personal emails separate from committee-related emails.
- **Facebook**
 - Working on guidelines/parameters for posting, considering social media guidelines from National PTA and other PTAs.
 - Facebook co-chairs will consider whether to keep the current page.
 - Motion passed to create a PTSA group on Facebook, since this allows for more engagement and traction. Posts from group members will need to be approved before posts can be viewed by all members.
- **Student Directory** – N/A
- **afterPROM**
 - Date not confirmed yet.
 - Considering an indoor-outdoor option, based on the success of the Homecoming dance that indoor and outdoor spaces.
 - Exploring setting up a fundraiser with a local tuxedo rental business that donates 20% of the revenue from each tuxedo rental. This has been successful for other PTAs.
- **Senior Scholarships**
 - Will form a working group to establish the purpose of the scholarship, determine the essay questions, and revise rubric to evaluate essays.
- **Senior Banners** – Will start working on this after the holidays, i.e., January.
- **Horizon Grant** – Motion passed to reallocate remaining grant fund (\$1,000) to support a mental health project that student group Project LETS is planning.
- **HCDrugFree**
 - Medication and Sharps disposal on 10/23, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., in the Wilde Lake Village Center Parking lot.
 - Next Teen Advisory Council meeting: 10/11, 5:30-7:00 pm. Students can apply online at HCDrugFree.org

- **Hospitality**
 - Custodian Appreciation lunch/dinner was provided on October 6th.
 - October is Principal Appreciation Month. Principal appreciation gifts were delivered on October 11th.
 - Prior to Thanksgiving break, small gifts (felt turkey decorated lollipops), will be given to our bus drivers with a note of thanks.
- **Cultural Liaisons** – N/A
- **PTACHC Report**
 - Highlights from PTACHC on 10/4:
 - Maryland General Assembly passed bill to allow households impacted in Howard County to provide public testimony if the redistricting plan proposed by the Superintendent differs from the BoE's. It has been approved by the governor.
<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb/site/Legislation/Details/HB1142>
 - Bill on special education was passed - Learning Continuity Plan. It stipulates that the onus is on the school to provide that the needs of the student are being met.
 - PTA-held events after school do not require proof of vaccinations. Do need to comply with school mask rules.
 - PTACHC advised PTAs/PTSAs not to fund schools' PBIS (Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports) program. Although the idea for bringing in a speaker for MRHS students came up in a PBIS meeting, it is not part of the school's PBIS program, so we can continue providing a donation to the school to contract a speaker and not refer to the speaker as being associated with the PBIS program. Request for our Treasurer to rename the budget item so it does not reference PBIS.
- **Boosters Liaison**
 - PTSA president will attend the next Boosters meeting which will be on 10/13. Agenda items include corporate sponsorship and Boosters increasing their donation for afterPROM.

General Discussion

- **New business**
 - Our PTSA and MVMS' PTA are considering writing a joint letter to the HCPSS Department of Transportation to request a later start time for MVMS, since having the schools start only 15 minutes apart, combined with increased student enrollment and car riders, is causing heavy traffic. Boosters is supportive of the letter and interested in signing it. The letter should include data that shows the impact of this problem on students, for example, whether there is an increase in student tardiness compared to previous school years. Mrs. Goldeisen shared that there are around 900 cars that drop off every morning.
- **Announcements** – Next meeting: Nov. 8 in the Student Services office.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.