

Spring Parent Team Meeting Minutes

Math and Science Academy

8430 Woodbury Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125

April 16, 2009

6:45 pm – Volunteer Appreciation

7:00 pm – Parent Team Committee Meeting

1. Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by Jeni Crump. Welcome and thank you to the volunteers. Brief explanation that the Parent Team (PT) is a committee of the MSA Board of Directors. The PT is committed to enhancing the educational experience of the students at MSA. The Board liaison, Cyndi Bluhm communicates back and forth between the Board and the PT committee.
2. Review and approve tonight's agenda. Approved as published.
3. Attendance: Jeni Crump, Vice-Chair/Volunteer Coordinator; Lori Nixon, Treasurer; Amy Sunderman, Secretary; Cyndi Bluhm, MSA Board Liaison and Paul Simone MSA Director. There were five additional parents in attendance.
4. Minutes from the January 20, 2009 meeting were reviewed and approved.
5. Board of Directors report by Cyndi Bluhm.
 - Start time decided at 7:30 am for '09-'10 school year.
 - Next years school budget – There are no funds budgeted for technology and there will probably be a technology fund drive. The preliminary budget has been prepared for 2009-2010, but the BOD will wait until the state legislature makes a decision on education funding to finalize the school's budget.
 - Weighted grades will be eliminated (starting with this years ninth grade) and class ranking for next year will be eliminated.
 - Question was raised, as to if the PT is going to have High School at MSA presentation again. There is parent interest. Generally, this was presented in the spring. There was discussion as to if this could be coordinated with the PSEO meeting. PSEO is coordinated by Mrs. Mooney. She has organized the information related to PSEO. Further discussion was that High School at MSA can be held after the PSEO Meeting. Should this be organized by the Parent Team? Possibly to do next spring.
6. Volunteer Opportunities given by Jeni Crump
 - A. MONEY MAKING/FUNDRAISING PROGRAMS
 - While we are not a fundraising committee, it would be a shame to pass up the money making opportunities from various companies (Box Tops, Kemps, Land'oLakes, Moo money (from Kwik Trip), and Campbell's labels.) Basically this is "free" money. Schools can earn up the \$10,000 from Kemps and Land O Lakes. Kids are willing to count & we just need to get students, their families or friends to collect these.
 - The PT will use \$50 to sponsor an advisory challenge to motivate students to bring in Box Tops. Janet Jacobson and Malia Leike are willing to come up with a contest to get another boxtop submitted before the next cut-off.
 - Jeni is looking for more enthusiastic people to help with cutting, sorting and other needs. A sign up sheet for volunteer opportunities was passed around.

- Andrea Jewett - Has been coordinating the Campbell Soup labels. This is here last year organizing this program. This volunteer position is also available. Andrea showed the prize MSA was receiving this year – it is a portable ball “bin” that will be very useful to our athletic department. We collected 8,950 points. We usually collect 2,000 points. Points were so high due to some bonus points on the back of brochures that were cut out and turned in. WAY TO GO!!
 - B. SPEAKER
 - Outside speakers. We need a small committee maybe two people to research for a speaker of interest and appropriate topic. Any final decisions on a speaker would be made by the board.
 - C. SCRAPBOOK FOR MSA
 - There is \$50 in the budget to update MSA’s History/Scrapbook. There are two interested people, but we are looking for a couple more helpers.
 - D. TEACHER APPRECIATION MEAL
 - There is a budget amount. Looking for a “coordinator.” Jeni has a list of volunteers who are willing to bring food. The appreciation is scheduled for Friday, May 8th.
 - E. TRADITIONAL SIGN-UP FOR VOLUNTEERING
 - The PT will have traditional sign-ups for all volunteer opportunities at the fall open house.
7. Treasurer’s Report given by Lori Nixon
- Many of our big expenses will happen between now and June 30th. (Family BBQ & Clean-up weekend, Spring Staff Apprec. Day, Graduation and Prom expense, and Teacher requests)
 - About 70% of the MSA families made contributions for school year ’08-’09. In some cases there were very generous contributions where families contributed in excess of the suggested amount. This allowed the PT to purchase three new microwaves that benefit the students.
 - Copy expenses. Previously MSA school directory and other documents were printed copies. These are now produced electronically.
 - Paper Goods – Costs are now absorbed by the individual activity.
 - Open House Displays – Items are replaced as necessary. Keep on the budget.
 - Brain Day – Mrs. Bartlett has requested the budgeted money to go towards supplies needed for the animal supplies (pet).
 - Mol Day – Same budget \$\$ as ’08-09.
 - Cinco de Mayo – This is scheduled to happen.
 - Spanish Day – This budgeted money will be used to purchase dictionaries for ’08-09 & 09-10.
 - Senior Snack Day – This will be used and has been increased to cover a more substantial snack. Generally this is provided when the seniors have their graduation planning meeting. The date of this it TBD when they get back from Italy.

- Pi day – Went well. Pie donations from MSA families are fantastic. Only minimal costs are incurred. '09-10 budget is decreased to reflect smaller spending.
- Healthy Snack – Continues to run smoothly. Slight budget increased for '09-10 school year due to paper costs being absorbed.
- Octoberfest- Did not happen and is not budgeted for '09-10.
- DUI DVD – Mrs. Molitor does w/ 10th graders. MSA has DVD's.
- Speakers – Received permission to roll the \$500 budgeted amount from '08-09 to '09-10 school year. Allowing PT to accumulate enough funds to pay for outside speaker next year.
- Conference dinner – There were many food donations and expenses were minimal in '08-09. We'll maintain adequate amount in the budget for next years expense.
- 6th Grade Parent Orientation - The '08-09 expense will still be deducted.
- Family BBQ & Clean-up – Will be on April 23rd.
- Senior Picture- We need to find picture from last year and frame.
- Prom - Asked for additional money to increased costs. The PT will honor the request. The '09-10 budget will also reflect the increased cost.
- Graduation Reception – Additional money was requested to help cover costs. The PT will honor the request. The '09-10 budget will also reflect the increased cost.
- Trophies – we are still working on this.
- Pet Supplies – Significant increase as requested by Mrs. Bartlett. The cost increase will more realistically reflect the costs associated with this program.
- PT Board Decisions by special vote: - The PT had a extra funds and took teacher requests for consideration. The requests were for one-time and not on-going expense requests. Please see the detailed budget for specific requests that the PT is able to sponsor.
- FOR 2009-2010 BUDGET - Lori used the demographic information she received from Lisa Boelter (office coordinator). The suggested PT donation for next year is \$35 a student or a \$50 donation for families with more than one student. Lori estimated 70% participation. If participation comes in significantly lower, we may have to adjusted the budget next fall. The budget was voted on and approved. The proposed budget will be submitted to the Board for approval. Lori will send an electronic copy of the budget to Cyndi.

8. Election of Parent Team officers for 2009-2010 School year

Positions were explained and nominations were opened. Results are:

Chair - Nancy Creeger

Vice Chair/Volunteer Coordinator – Jeni Crump

Treasurer – Lori Nixon

Secretary - Amy Sunderman

9. Open Discussion

Taken by: Amy Sunderman

One parent would like to see more socials that are not dances. Maybe a game night with board games, DDR etc.. A student or club generated activity. Maybe a Parent's Night Out – MSA students could babysit.

Fall 2009 - Teachers Workshop – Monday, August 31st

Open House – Tuesday, Sept 1st Open House

Meeting adjourned 8:08 pm