



Col. Zadok Magruder High School
Parent Teacher Student Association Meeting
Minutes for 11/21/06

I. Call to Order: President Martha Schaerr called the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m.

II. Presentation on **Read 180**: MHS teachers Susan Haviland, Dana Wagner, and Donna Wagner presented information on a new reading intervention program that will be launched second semester. A group of 60 targeted students who are reading more than one year under grade level will be enrolled in it. Read 180 is a MCPS-sponsored program with MHS providing teachers, classrooms and computer equipment. Read 180 has been successful in other districts. Follow-up information will be presented at future meetings.

III. Athletic Boosters: Jeff Boyd, president of MHS Athletic Boosters, made a presentation on the role of the organization and how it supports 500 students in 23 varsity teams as well as JV teams. The Booster Club raises money through memberships, concessions at sporting events and the sale of MHS spirit wear. Funds have been used for new baseball scoreboard, Plexiglas backboards in the gym, football equipment and much more. This year, the Boosters have a representative on every varsity team to ensure greater participation and be better attuned to needs of each sport. For more information, parents can contact Jeff Boyd at _____

IV. Approval of Minutes: Joe Stewart moved to approve minutes as submitted. Seconded. Passed.

V. Committee Reports:

1. Communications: Martha Schaerr

a. **Courier**: will be online only in December, with some information available again in the printed January issue. Similarly, the May-June issues will be feature one online only issue and one printed issue. Courier submissions are due the week after the PTSA meeting. (*Martha is that the right deadline?*)

b. **Web Site**: Volunteers are discussing ways to update the PTSA page on the MHS Web Site.

2. Operations Committees: Joe Stewart

a. **Volunteer Coordinator**: Cynthia Clark agreed to be Volunteer Coordinator. She can be reached at cclark7749@aol.com

Board members are asked to submit volunteer hours for committee members each month to Jo Emily Knox, under a new MCPS guideline requiring schools to submit hours monthly. JoEmily_Knox@mcpsmd.org

3. Academics Committees: Susan Whyte Simon

a. *SSL*: Pam Kostecka is our new SSL Coordinator. Students will be required to do more service hours under new MCPS guidelines. Mercedes Basso is the MHS coordinator.

b. *NHS*: Kelly Gallo is the interim sponsor; criteria have been expanded to include both adjusted and unadjusted GPA standard.

c. *McLean Science Fund*: Helen Zakour reported that some of the proceeds from last spring's Bow Tie Dinner honoring Kevin McLean will go to the purchase of new printer for the Science Department. She also asked for \$25.00 to for the McLean Science Award Plaque.

Maureen Hanson moved that PTSA allot \$25 for the MHS McLean Award Plaque. Seconded. Passed.

d. *Magruder Award*: Helen asked for volunteers to work on the Magruder Award Committee this year and take over as chair for 2007-8.

4. Outreach Committees: Kelli Hartman

a. *Teacher Appreciation*: On December 19 volunteers are needed to provide complimentary gift wrapping for MHS teachers, staff and administration from 6:30 am to 4 pm. Donations of gift wrap paper, bows, tape and other supplies are also needed. To volunteer or for more information, contact Maureen Hanson at 301/330-3684 or mphanson@comcast.net.

Maureen thanked the volunteers who helped with set up and clean up at the Faculty Thanksgiving Feast. Mr. Evans added his appreciation for all the committee does and will do as well, saying that parent volunteers are a "great gift to the staff."

b. *Club Night*: 31 organizations participated and several students joined clubs and are participating in more activities at MHS.

c. *Hospitality*: Yati Moeller has volunteered to chair the Hospitality Committee.

5. Facilities: Lewis Wilen

a. *MCPS meeting on facilities*: MHS has asked for the Boys' Locker Room to be replaced sooner than scheduled and that the auditorium seats be replaced.

b. *Benches*: Three of the new benches have been installed, more will be coming!

VI. Principal's Report:

1. Facilities: The Cafeteria has 52 new tables. MHS is also working on getting the Public Address system fixed and updated. Bathrooms should be repaired this summer. Changes to the parking lot have been delayed.

2. Academics: Finance Academy is going well. Project Lead the Way is in some transition with some new teachers; looking into more guest lecturers and study review sessions before final exams.

3. Cluster Initiatives:

a. *Read 180* is a Cluster Initiative with all schools focusing on they can work together to improve reading and implement this program.

b. *Middle School Transition*: MHS will be visiting middle schools three times each year and looking at ways to improve the transition to high school, including parent sessions on "How to Succeed in High School."

4. Graduation Plans:

a. *Venue*: 07 graduation will be at Constitution Hall. Some MCPS schools are considering and using other options where there is more seating and more parking. MHS will continue to monitor those decisions and their experiences with these venues for future years.

b. *Ticket Distribution*: Each family is allotted 5 tickets; some don't need all five while others need more. MHS will work with PTA, Senior Class and Faculty Coordinator (Susie Boyle) on ways to distribute additional tickets to families that need them.

VII. Adjournment: Martha Schaerr adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.