

**Marshall Road Elementary**



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Marshall Road Elementary PTA Minutes  
January 8, 2019 @ 7pm  
MRES Cafeteria

Attendees: Anna Moore (President), Amanda DuFrayne (Vice President), Mel Keppel (Vice President), Laura Parker (Treasurer), Helen Lee (Secretary), Jen Heiges, Lauren Downs, Andrea Kramer, Sarah Knudsen, Beth Eachus, Daniel Galan, Rhonda Carlson

I. Call Meeting to Order – President, Anna Moore, called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

II. President's Update (Anna Moore)

A. Thank You: Thanks to Annemarie McCaslin and Martine Kuhle on running a smooth Runathon! We had to reschedule this event due to inclement weather but, despite this, everything ran smoothly and efficiently. To all who were involved - thank you very much!

Thank you to Danielle Cook and Tanya McClelland for a very well-received teacher/staff hot chocolate and coffee event.

Thank you to Emily Miller who has helped raise \$389 for the school through Box Tops. She will do at least one more this school year.

Dining for Dollars is also doing well this year under the helm of Mara Gecan. We have another one coming up next week (1/15) at Panera.

Finally, InCourage in PanAm plaza is holding an event for all PTAs on our next early dismissal day (1/18). 100% of proceeds go to MRES - just tell them you are with MRES!

B. Spring Needs: The Board decided to separate the Coin Drive from the Book Fair, as both are large endeavors. At this time, we are looking for someone to run the Coin Drive (late February to early March). In the past, we've raised over \$1000 in coins! Most of the time commitment involves counting the coins as PTA rules prevent us from using the commercial coin machines.

Debbie Frankiewicz is chairing the Dr. Seuss night (3/7) event, but we need volunteers to help Lisa Hoffman (school librarian) with the rest of Read Across America week.

Teacher Appreciation Week (TAW) (first week of May) is still in need of a chair. We are considering moving it up a week so it doesn't fall during the same week as SOLs (so teachers can fully enjoy TAW). Tanya McClelland is available to help out with any artwork needed.

C. Board Positions: Most likely all five of the current board members will need to be replaced in the 2019-2020 school year. If you have any interest, please contact any

of the current board members. While current board members may not be on the board next year, we will still be around for any questions or guidance next year. Amanda DuFrayne added that all of the current board members work outside the home and have found the time commitment manageable; she also mentioned that we have made lots of strides this year technologically to make the board experience better for next year's and future years' boards.

III. October Meeting minutes (Helen Lee) – Helen moved to approve the October 2018 meeting minutes and there were no objections.

IV. Treasurer's Report (Laura Parker) – We met our goal of raising at least \$24k in Runathon donations. We are still raising a bit more money from adult Runathon t-shirt sales. Laura noted that we are on track financially at this time.

V. Principal's Update (Jen Heiges)

Two eighth graders reached out to Principal Heiges about a service project of theirs that involves sending books to Africa. The eighth graders have asked for MRES to run a book drive to help them meet their goal. Principal Heiges announced that MRES will hold a two-day book drive soon and that MRES will donate some books collected through the book drive to the eighth graders and keep the rest for MRES students in need.

Principal Heiges brought up that parents have asked her how FCPS determines the school bell schedules. MRES used to have an 820am start time but it inched its way up to a 920am over the years. MRES and the PTA had a huge campaign to fight the 920am start time when we first had it, but the start time has stayed that way for years. (Beth Eachus noted that a big reason for this was because FCPS could not get 16 buses to MRES for an earlier start time.) Principal Heiges relayed that teachers would like for the PTA or parents to plead MRES's case again for an earlier start time. She suggested that perhaps the PTA can hold a survey to ask our parents whether they would be interested in MRES pursuing an earlier start time, and then go from there.

VI. Spring Theater Enrichment (Andrea Kramer) – Families with 5th and 6th grade students should have received a flyer on Monday about the Spring Theater Enrichment Program. We are trying something new working with an outside company based in Chantilly (as FCPS parents/faculty were not available to direct this time around). Registration is just this week, as we need time to get this program started in time for the show. 80% of spots are already taken, so if you are interested, don't delay. Andrea will lead an info session at 815am tomorrow in the library.

VII. International Night (Anna Moore for Yesenia Argueta) – International Night is coming up (2/8). Yesenia will send out a flyer about it next week. At this event, we highlight a variety of cultures represented at MRES. In a couple of weeks, to the enjoyment of students every year, the cafeteria will be filled with flags in preparation for this event. Families are invited to come to enjoy (or participate in) the event – there will be a talent show and various ethnic foods donated by MRES families!

VIII. Spring Break Sports Camp (Andrea Kramer) – Mr. Clancy and some high school students will run Sports Camp during this Spring Break. This camp typically fills up so spots are currently reserved for MRES students only.

IX. Membership Update (Amanda DuFrayne) – The Fall Membership Drive was a big

success. The grade with most members is third grade (they earn popsicles!) and the class with the most members is Ms. Gomes' class (they earn MRES magnets!). As a result of the drive, we have \$800 to provide for classroom supplies (the amount raised during the Membership Drive minus operating costs). We will talk to Principal Heiges about whether we will distribute a pro rata amount to each teacher or whether we can make a single large purchase that can benefit the whole school.

- X. Spirit Wear (Sarah Knudsen) – Just in time for winter weather, we have some gorgeous MRES-branded beanie hats in two different colors. We also have magnets that are ready for purchase on the PTA website.
- XI. Website (Anna Moore) – Anna demo'd the PTA's new Membership Toolkit website. Pretty soon, the [marshallroadpta.org](https://marshallroadpta.org) web address will automatically direct you to the new Membership Toolkit website. This website is much easier to use and more intuitive than our last website. The website is more secure as well so a lot of the content is only available to those that sign up; the directory is only available to enrolled PTA members (although those that opted out of the directory are not listed in the directory). Enrichment and camps are organized in a way that they show up only for the students in the grades that are eligible for that class/camp; also, once the class fills up, the class/camp will not show up at all - this makes it much easier administratively for anyone that's interested in helping out with or running enrichment sessions in the future. You can also import all PTA events into an existing calendar of yours in one click. Anna also highlighted the volunteer tab through which parents/teachers can see current volunteer opportunities. We have lots of forms on the site (financials, meeting minutes, expense reimbursement form, etc.) too. We are moving eNews over right now and once it fully migrates, newsletters will likely go under the News tab.
- XII. New Business – no new business discussed
- XIII. Meeting Adjourned by Anna at 8:03pm.
- XIV. Next PTA Meeting is on March 12, 2019 @ 7pm.

#### Parents and Teachers Please...

- JOIN the PTA! <https://marshallroadpta.membershiptoolkit.com/membership>
- DONATE to Friends of Marshall Road! <https://marshallroadpta.membershiptoolkit.com/fomr>
- SIGN UP for ENews! <http://marshallroadpta.org/news/subscribe-to-enews/>
- LIKE us on Facebook: MRES PTA

#### PTA Board Contacts

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