

Marshall Road Elementary PTA Minutes - DRAFT

March 12, 2019 @ 7pm

MRES Cafeteria

Attendees: Anna Moore (President), Amanda DuFrayne (Vice President), Mel Keppel (Vice President), Laura Parker (Treasurer), Helen Lee (Secretary), Jen Heiges, Andrea Kramer, Sarah Knudsen, Yesenia Argueta, Missy Dixon, Mara Gecan, Lisa Kelso, Elizabeth Terry-Humen

1. Call Meeting to Order - President, Anna Moore, called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.
2. President’s Update (Anna Moore)
	1. Thank you to Chris Torregrossa and the many volunteers that helped with the Unique fundraiser. And thanks to everyone who made donations – we collected 6 carloads of donatable items, raising nearly $270 for our school!
	2. The biggest need we have for next year right now is board members. We only have one more PTA membership meeting this school year at which time we would need to vote in all five new members. All current board members will be around next year to help train the new board.
3. Nominating Committee (Anna Moore): The nominating committee will consist of Anna Moore, Helen Lee, and Missy Dixon. Andrea Kramer voted in favor of the committee members and Amanda DuFrayne seconded. There were no objections. Members on the nominating committee may not be on the board next year. If you or someone you know is interested, please let any member of the nominating committee know.
4. January Meeting Minutes (Helen Lee): Helen moved to approve the January 2019 meeting minutes and there were no objections.
5. Treasurer’s Update (Laura Parker): Laura explained that the School Rewards to PTA line item of the budget contains special fundraisers income, e.g., Safeway, Amazon Smile, and Unique. The amount in this line item is a bit larger than previous years due to various special fundraisers we had this year. She also noted that there will be lots of movement in the Spring Break camp line item as spring break come and goes. Finally, the Spirit Wear line item is not yet updated; there is also a lot of movement here because many Spirit Wear purchases continue to be made.
6. Principal’s Update (Jen Heiges)
	1. Read Across America and Dr. Seuss Night was very fun for everyone. Thanks to everyone that participated.
	2. During yesterday’s three-hour early dismissal, the same training was held across all of FCPS. The training focused on equity, how to put on our lens of equity as teachers and staff and how to impart this vision onto the students. Jen remarked that three-hour early dismissals overall have been great because we have been able to do some real substantive training for our teachers/staff. Unfortunately, next school year’s calendar has no three-hour early dismissals, so the school will need to adapt to the new schedule.
	3. MRES has two school board representatives (for Hunter Mill and Providence). Neither of the current school board representatives are up for reelection next year, so keep your eyes peeled as these representatives can really make an impact on our school.
	4. Laura Parker briefed us on the January FCCPTA meeting. She reported that the average teacher salary increase for FCPS teachers is 12% over two years, which would bring us on par with Loudon County. She also reported that in FY20, every FCPS high school student will have a laptop so they will not need their cellphones in class.
	5. The rule on cellphones is to not use it in school, and MRES plans to keep it that way for now. The school has found that at this age, the cellphone is not a useful learning tool.
	6. A question came up about the “Momo Challenge.” Principal Heiges responded that MRES had one parent reach out to ask about the challenge, as the parent’s child had heard about it. We are lucky so far that our students do not seem to know about it, but the school is ready to talk to students and parents if they need to talk about it or need help. Please also refer to Principal Heiges’ email that went out last Friday with a bunch of contact information should you need to reach out.
	7. Finally, one topic Principal Heiges has heard about a lot is addiction to video games. She is thinking maybe we can have a parent information night early next school year (maybe focusing on 5th and 6th graders) on this topic so that elementary school parents can have more knowledge about this before the problems crop up (generally more prevalent in middle school). The Madison pyramid has talked about doing things together, such as jointly hosting a screening of the film *Resilience*.
7. Program Updates
	1. Spirit Wear (Sarah Knudsen): Spirit Wear has been going well. We have 9 out of 100 beanies left! The Spirit Wear store has opened on the PTA website and that has generated a lot of interest. Having stock on hand this year has helped a lot with sales. Sarah will be present at upcoming events (Spring Book Fair and, time permitting, Pastries for Parents) to help with sales. Anna thanked Sarah for trying out something new with Spirit Wear this year.
	2. Dining for Dollars (Mara Gecan): Dining for Dollars has been very fun this year. We have the Ben and Jerry’s Dining for Dollars next Wednesday, which was coordinated with Thoreau Middle School’s Mod Pizza fundraiser that same evening. Overall, we raised over $1300 so far and still have some checks we are waiting to cash in. The promotion of Dining for Dollars events has been great! We are on track to meet last year’s amount. Finally, Social Burger has been our biggest Dining for Dollars fundraiser to date (raising $397). As a result, we are working on holding a month-long fundraiser with Social Burger next year.
	3. *The Jungle Book* (Andrea Kramer): This year’s school play *The Jungle Book* will be performed right before spring break, on April 11-12. Play participants will perform both mornings during the school day for the students/teachers and both evenings at 7pm for families and others in the community. Seating is first-come, first-served. The show is free but attendees will have the opportunity to make a voluntary contribution to the Fissell Foundation, an organization that assists music education in the Philippines.
	4. Spring Book Fair (Anna Moore for Olga Hernandez, Denise Gargano, and Kacie Newman): Our next book fair is in April and is buy one get one free. Volunteers are needed for set up and packup. Anna also noted that we will need new book fair chairs next year so please consider helping out (and feel free to reach out to any of the current chairs if you’re interested or have questions). The Fall Book Fair is the heavier lift every year. Also, this year, Dining for Dollars money collected during the months of February and March will be earmarked for All 4 Books (instead of holding a separate coin drive), which provides gift certificates to students in need to buy books at the book fair.
	5. Spring Family Fun Night (Amanda DuFrayne): We are planning a school dance (Retro Video Game theme) for Spring Family Fun Night. There will be an inflatable photo booth, we hope to get teachers to help with line dances, there will be no slow dances and no dress code. We also plan on organizing a craft area for students to make crafts that will go to teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week.
	6. Teacher Appreciation Week (Elizabeth Terry-Humen): Anna thanked Elizabeth for stepping up to chair this committee. Elizabeth emphasized that her focus would be on delegating out smaller tasks throughout the week. So far, Mara Gecan will organize a dessert event and Yesenia Argueta will organize a breakfast event. We are looking for small amounts of help from parents to contribute for the week. In addition, Room Parents will be sending out information on what classes can do for Teacher Appreciation Week. Teacher Appreciation Week will be May 6-10.
	7. Summer Camps (Anna Moore): We sent home information on summer camps through this week's Tuesday Folder (there will be yoga, art, and outdoor sports). Information is up on the PTA website and registration will open Sunday morning. Registration is for MRES students first and will open up for other students as space permits. Please note that you may not enroll someone else’s child in camp. There are also no scholarships for camps and no daily rates (only per full week).
8. New Business – No new business discussed.
9. Meeting Adjourned by Anna at 8pm.

\*\*The next (and final 2018-19 school year) PTA Meeting is on May 28, 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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