

**Marshall Road Elementary**



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Marshall Road Elementary PTA Minutes - DRAFT  
October 15, 2018 @ 920am  
MRES Cafeteria

Attendees: Anna Moore (President), Mel Keppel (Vice President), Helen Lee (Secretary), Jen Heiges, Andrea Kramer, Jeanine Aronovitz, Kara Reynolds, Beth Eachus, Victoria Pons-Strigari, Elizabeth Terry-Humen, Joan Ray, Wafa Misellati, Sarah Knudsen, Graeme Jennison, Seema Bali, Annemarie McCaslin

- I. Call Meeting to Order – President, Anna Moore, called the meeting to order at 9:30am.
- II. Principal’s Message (Jen Heiges)

Principal Heiges began with an overview on how Yoga 4 Classrooms is implemented in the classroom. The room tried out a couple positions - mountain, flying bird, and standing pigeon. Teachers are trying to implement Yoga 4 Classrooms regularly throughout the day. The Yoga 4 Classrooms cards are available for purchase online; a parent added that they saw it on Amazon.com. Teachers have committed to using Yoga 4 Classrooms, Positivity Project, and Responsive Classroom to help kids learn self-regulation, how to build relationships, and the importance of our community both in and out of school. Superintendent Braband's message to principals is for every school to provide equity, excellence and effectiveness every day; Principal Heiges added for MRES building joy, love, and trust to that list.

Principal Heiges went over the Workshop Model in math. She described it as very engaging and as a way for kids to talk about numbers and problem solving using math and math games. MRES is using a new Australian math resource adopted by FCPS called Origo (or Discovery in 6th grade), which has a lot of online components (with all levels grades K-5 available to each teacher).

Next, Principal Heiges introduced Graeme Jennison. Graeme is the new reading specialist at MRES. She went over Foundations, a multi-sensory approach to reading that is used in all classes K-2 this year. For grades 3-6, students are learning through word study, in which students learn vocabulary, discover Greek/Latin root words to help with word comprehension, get independent practice time to read and write, and share and reflect time at the end with a reading/writing partner. The school assesses needs of each student each quarter and Graeme will work with a student (or group of students) based on needs identified through iReady and other tests. A parent asked about ESOL and Principal Heiges responded that FCPS policy is to integrate students in the ESOL program into the classroom as much as possible.

Principal Heiges then discussed Portrait of a Graduate (POG). She explained that POG looks at how to help students become problem-solvers, communicators, collaborators, thinkers/inventors, being a global citizen (overlap with Positivity Project!). She along with eight teachers are taking a class called "Creating a Culture of Thinking" to do just that at MRES. When she sees students these days, she asks "What are you thinking right now?" versus "What are you doing?" Putting this into

practice, a third grade teacher held a Chalk Talk where she put a bunch of quotes on a big piece of paper; kids were given a marker and told they could write whatever they wanted on the paper anonymously - write a response, reply to a response, thoughts about a quote. The "See, think, wonder" signs you see around the school are an application of this too. Ultimately, all of this encourages students to think at deeper levels and to take ownership of their education.

- III. President's Report (Anna Moore) – Box Tops were due today. Thanks to Emily Miller for pulling this all together! Box Tops goes straight to MRES (not through the PTA). The next and final collection of Box Tops this academic year will be some time late February to early March of 2019.

The Fall Book Fair begins today. Students will go through the Book Fair today to create their book wish list. The best way for kids to purchase on their own is to create an account through Scholastic and put money in an eWallet, through which your kids can pay for their books just by giving their name and teacher's name at checkout. Huge thanks to Olga Hernandez, Denise Gargano, and Kacie Newman, as they've been working for weeks on setting this up.

Fall Family Fun Night is this Friday. The following food trucks will be there: SpiceWorkx (Caribbean), Little Lady Grill (Latin), Vienna Inn hotdogs and Church St Pizza (thanks to Adam and Sarah Knudsen for making the connection!), Little Miss Whoopie, and Captain Cookie & the Milkman! You can purchase from these food trucks or feel free to also bring your own dinner and join us.

Runathon is coming up in a few short weeks (11/9). Runathon packets will go home next Friday. We are pushing for online donations and are still looking for volunteers the day of. Loginn Kapitan has helped raise ~\$6000 in sponsorships already. Thanks to Loginn! And a huge thanks to Annemarie McCaslin and Martine Kuhle for all of your work on Runathon this year!!

Spirit Wear has begun. Anna displayed new magnets that will be on sale for \$5 beginning Friday night at Fall Family Fun Night and at our events throughout the year. T-shirts are still being developed but will be available for purchase soon too.

Anna brought some signup sheets as we are in need of volunteers during this very busy time of year: Fall Book Fair, selling hotdogs/pizza during Fall Family Fun Night, food drive (to supervise 2nd grade students), and Runathon.

Finally, the Coat Drive is in two weeks!

- IV. September Meeting minutes (Helen Lee) – Helen moved to approve the September 2018 meeting minutes and there were no objections.
- V. Treasurer's Report (Anna Moore for Laura Parker) – MRES was chosen as the beneficiary of the Safeway Foundation throughout the month of August 2018. The Safeway Foundation raised for the PTA over \$3500!! Anna asked Principal Heiges to think about a specific item(s) that we could put this money towards.

We have reimbursed the school for our committed portion of the Dreambox as well as for costs associated with a couple of Kindergarten field trips. No questions were raised here but if you have questions about the budget going forward, please feel free to reach out to Laura Parker.

- VI. New Business – no new business discussed
- VII. Meeting Adjourned by Anna at 10:33am.
- VIII. Next PTA Meeting is on January 8, 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

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