

**Menlo-Atherton High School PTA
General Board Meeting
October 3, 2007**

Board Members Present: Julie Brody, Pam Stoner, Janet Perez, Denise Bullwinkel, Pam Songer, Molly Eason, Stacy Fredericksen, Elizabeth Johnson and Patty Burch.

Opening: The meeting was called to order by Pam Stoner at 8:44am on October 3, 2007, Room F-15, M-A campus. 41 members were present. *Motion to approve the minutes from the September 5, 2007 meeting was made by Debbie Verity/Maggie King/Unanimous*

A. Administrative Speaker: Instructional Vice-Principal, Steve Lippi

- **Background:** Has worked at M-A for 23 years, in the Math Department, Administration, and now with Academics. He currently oversees all aspects of academics at M-A, including teachers, classrooms, guidance and testing.
- **Scheduling:** Support from the foundation has helped to reduce class sizes in some instances to the low 20's. In US History and Math at the 10th grade level, we are still looking to reduce the class sizes from 35/36 to 30/31
- **Exams:** The High School Exit Exam will be taken this November. Star Testing is in March. AP Testing is in May. Self Testing for English Language Learners are ongoing.
- **Curricular Changes:** Support classes will continue in english and math. Electives will remain the same. Science teachers are looking into expanding their curriculum, however at this point there is no plan to make any significant changes. **Late pick-ups:** The library is open till 4:30pm. After that students should wait outside the administration building for pick-up.
- **Freshman PE Requirement:** Starting next year, with the incoming 10th grade class, all students coming to M-A may be required to take PE and may not be given credit for sports. The PE curriculum currently at M-A does meet the state standards. 7th period PE is difficult due to a facility issue, however, 0 period is an option. Summer school is offered, with 17 days of PE counting for one semester, however, each year the location changes in the district.
- **No Child Left Behind:** We are not a title 1 school at this time, however, we are subject to the NCLB requirements. Sequoia and Woodside are now title 1 schools, therefore they are required to submit to program improvements or sanctions will follow.
- **Looking Ahead:** In 2008, we are looking at 33% proficiency. In six years we would like to see 100% prof/advanced on the exit exam.

C. Treasurer's Report: Molly Eason

Motion to increase a line item expense to Outreach from \$600 to \$1,600.00, was made by David Jones/Debbie Verity/Unanimous.

Motion to increase funds for the teachers lounge from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00, was made by David Jones/Eileen Van Rheenen/Unanimous.

Motion to add a line item of \$500.00 for Journalism, was made by David Jones/Maria Flaherty/Unanimous,

D. Minigrants/Judy Hood and Maggie King:

Motion to approve grants 1-13, with grant # 8 amended to \$500.00, was made by Maria Flaherty/David Jones/Unanimous

Motion to approve grants 14-31, with the exception of # 23 approved provisionally. If the school cannot pay, we will pay up to the full amount of \$2,151.00, was made by Debbie Verity/Maria Flaherty/Unanimous.

Motion to approve grants 32-36, was made by Debbie Verity/Sally Fundakowski/Unanimous.

B. Committee Reports:

Parent Education/Charlene Margot: We had a successful Parent Education night with approx. 75 parents in each session.

Athletic Boosters/Suzanne Amato: Athletic Boosters funds come from direct fundraising held in December and the Big Bear Run held in the spring.

ESL Tutoring/Sally Fundakowski: We have 40 volunteers for ESL Tutoring.

Fashion Show/Nancy Sterling: Ticket forms can be found on the M-A website with a new name, Menlo-Atherton PTA Fashion Show featuring the class of 2008. On the form, the 12:00pm luncheon offers freshmen the option to sit with other freshmen. Raffles prizes include: and Apple iPhone, a \$250.00 Visa Gift Card, a \$250.00 Best Buy Gift Card, a Digital Camera, a \$200.00 Spa Certificate at Skin Spirit, and a Pearl Necklace and Earrings. Volunteers are needed to pick up food from Costco for the students, someone to be in charge of the dedications in the program, publicity to all the feeder schools and tech crew.

Challenge Day/Betsy Bowersox: Challenge Day was brought to M-A four years ago and at the same time a task force was started that still continues to brainstorm how to make M-A a better place. A follow-up lesson guide to challenge day is used in World Studies classes and rumor elimination classes are available. Leadership classes play a key role with Challenge Day and with freshmen transition throughout the year. Challenge Day will be held on October 29th and 30th. We have 100 volunteers as small group leaders, more are welcome.

Eighth Grade Information Night/Hillary Hausman: Eighth Grade Information Night will be held on November 1st, at 5:45pm. The Dance team and Jazz team will perform. The Football team will do the Hakka and Alice Kleeman and Matthew Zito will speak. Volunteers are needed for campus clean-up for informal campus tours on November 3rd.

PTA Website/Debbie Verity: The PTA website has been revamped and updated. To access it, go to the <http://www.mabears.org/>, click on the drop down window: Support M-A, click on PTA. General information is listed first with specific information following. If you have information that you'd like added to the site, send an email to debv1@yahoo.com and attach documents as needed.

Membership/David Jones: We have 534 responses, 863 members, \$6,000.00 collected in dues, and \$55,295 in donations, for a total of \$61,336.00. Even though we are down 9% in forms collected, and 7% in the number of members, we are up 18% in donations and 15% in dues. The donation form needs to be reformatted.

D. Upcoming PTA dates to remember:

- October 3 –Senior Parent College Night - 7:30 Library
- October 4 – Freshman Parent Night (Guidance Department) - 6:30-8:30 Library
- October 27 – Homecoming Dance – 8 -12 Bay Meadows
- October 29,30 - Freshman Challenge Day – 7:15-3p.m.
- October 30 – Parent Education Night – Planning Ahead to Pay for College 7-8:30 Library
- **NEW DATE!!!!!!!** November 1 – Eighth Grade Information Night – 5:45 – 8:30 Old Gym
- **NEW DATE!!!!!!!** November 3 – Campus Tours – 8th grade
- November 7 – PTA Meeting - 8:30 a.m. -Room F-15
- November 7 – Parent Education Night – Thriving Teens...Got Sleep?
- November 10 – Fashion Show

Meeting adjourned at 11:20 am. David Jones/Maria Flaherty/Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Songer
M-A PTA Secretary