

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

Present: Board Members Stacy Fredericksen, Leslie Murveit, Julie Brody, Pam Stoner, Marilyn Loftesness, Hilda Friedman, David Jones, Margie Lawrence and Debbie Verity.

- I. The meeting was called to order on May 3, 2007, at 9:03 a.m. by Co-President Stacy Fredericksen in the Rise Room of the J Building at M-A HS, with 29 members present.
- II. Old Business
 - A. Approval of Minutes, Debbie Verity: Minutes of the April 5, 2007 PTA meeting were presented. Section E vi of the minutes was amended to read that a new requirement that all freshmen and sophomores must take PE has not been approved, but is expected to be approved, and would apply to incoming freshmen only. **Julie Brody moved, and Margie Lawrence seconded, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion passed.**
- III. New Business
 - A. Public Comment: Maria Flaherty reported that meals that are being provided to Sue Kayton's family will end Friday at their request. Sue is speaking to Denise Plante about holding a remembrance at M-A for her son Daniel Barclay, and it may be held in the library the first week of June.
 - B. Presentation of Slate for 2007-08 Executive Board, David Jones:
 - Co-Presidents Julie Brody and Pam Stoner
 - Co-Vice Presidents Janet Perez and Denise Bullwinkel
 - Treasurer Molly Eason
 - Secretary Pam Songer
 - Auditor Elizabeth Johnson
 - Parliamentarian Alice Hom
 - SDMSC PTA VP Stacy Fredericksen**Stephanie Nisbet moved, and Patty Burch seconded, to accept the slate as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**
 - C. Denise Plante: Denise thanked the parents for their outstanding support during her tenure, and noted that the high level of parent support impressed the WASC team.
 - D. Committee Reports for May Events
 - i. Senior Breakfast, Anne Call: 375 to 400 seniors signed up for the senior breakfast on June 6th prior to the mandatory graduation rehearsal. Linda Walsh is co-chair.
 - ii. AP Testing, Kim Mitchell and Suzanne Amato: Proctors are needed for May 16th.
 - iii. May Appreciation Luncheon, Judy Hood: The luncheon is co-sponsored by the Foundation for the Future. An ice cream social will also be held next Thursday for school staff.
 - E. Auditor's Report, Hilda Friedman: The audit of the PTA and Grad Night accounts for August 1, 2006 through January 31, 2007 was presented. Hilda reported that all is in order.
 - F. Treasurer's Report, Marilyn Loftesness:
 - i. Final net income from the Fashion Show was \$33,936. Total income to date is \$104,709, with expenses totaling \$71,725.
 - ii. Benches and tables have been ordered for the school grounds.
 - iii. Menlo Park Presbyterian Church previously donated \$1000 to support a Lenscrafters eyeglass program. Lenscrafters now provides the eyeglasses free to qualifying students. MPPC has agreed to release the money to the general fund. The board recommends putting the money in the Outreach account. **Judy Hood moved, and Mary Hom seconded, to add the \$1000 to the Outreach account. Motion passed.**
 - G. End of Year PTA Spending, Margie Lawrence: The following requests were submitted to SDMSC for funding consideration and are items that the PTA would be able to fund.
 - i. \$1000 for 2 Creative Expressions publications per year.
 - ii. \$750 to cover spring registration fees for Math Contests for 2 years. Request amended to grant \$350 for this spring's fees, and add a line item for this expense to next year's budget.
 - iii. \$3139 for 20 digital cameras for a new class. These cameras will only be used for this class, and will supplement the 10 already owned.
 - iv. \$3500 for a server for computer lab. This request is a result of the WASC evaluation.
 - v. \$8540 for 10 desktop computers to replace staff computers. Discussion was held on whether the district should be responsible for providing the staff with such tools.
 - vi. \$671 for 5 overhead projectors to replace broken projectors.
 - vii. \$850 for video cameras that will be used by the limited intellectual functioning class to give the students feedback on their persona.

Funds are available to cover these requests because of higher than expected fundraising income and because some budgeted expenses were not funded. **Janet Perez moved, and Patty Burch seconded, to approve the requests as presented, with the math contest amended to \$350 for this spring and the addition of a line item to subsequent year's budgets. Motion passed.**

- H. Administrative Vice Principal Matt Zito:
- i. The focus for Foundation funds is on instructional programs, including teacher salaries and class size reduction.
 - ii. The district is spending \$400,000 on new servers, but this does not cover day-to-day needs. PTA funding thus becomes a core part of technology support.
 - iii. **Question: Please explain the inventory management program.** Hugo, the computer technician, is responsible for inventorying and tagging computer equipment. He assigns it to a room, and then works with teachers at the end of the year to account for the equipment.
 - iv. **Question: What is the district plan for computer replacement?** The district distributes unrestricted money to the schools, a much larger amount than most schools get. This allows the school to make the decision on how best to spend the funds. M-A has an informal, ongoing plan that will result in all computers being replaced within the next 5 years. The request for \$8540 for 10 desktop computers is a stopgap request, since more money will be available for new computers next year. Parents asked Mr. Zito to give the message to the district board that our technology budget should be increased to cover the basic expenses of \$60,000.
 - v. **Question: Can you give us an update on Atherton's lawsuit about the Performing Arts Center?** Atherton is still trying to stall the project. Attorneys are conducting settlement talks, and Atherton has said that it will not slow construction. M-A does not answer to Atherton's building department, but is under the jurisdiction of the Division of the State Architect, who is responsible for slowing the process. Reports are being prepared for bid, but the project is also competing with large community college and hospital retrograde projects. After the J Building is torn down, some options for music concerts include Hillview's multi, M-A's gym, and renting Sequoia High School's Carrington Hall.
 - vi. **Question: Can you address the change in PE requirements?** As the school begins the move into compliance with the state rules on PE next year, a question that needs to be addressed is how students will take electives or a class such as Western Civilization if they only take 6 classes. A possible solution may be to add full time PE teachers so that 7th period PE can be offered. Other ideas are also being discussed. Sequoia District is one of the last 5 out of 1000 state districts to move into compliance. The state will eventually inspect the program on site to make sure the district is following their framework.
 - vii. **Question: Is there a capital campaign for the PAC?** There won't be a campaign started until the project is underway.
 - viii. **Question: Are any new foreign languages to be offered now that German is being phased out?** Most students want to be able to continue a language to the highest level possible. If other languages are to be offered, it may need to be with a guarantee of only 2 or 3 levels. Care needs to be taken not to draw new students from other language programs.
- I. PTA Service Award Winners: Terry Tsu, Chris Rivera, Charlene Margot, Lisa Bohannon, Kathy Jackson, Eileen Van Rheenen, Susan Mohr, Kayla Skidmore, Marilyn Loftesness, and Hilda Friedman.
- IV. Upcoming PTA Dates and School Events
- A. M-A Athletic Boosters "Big Bear Run" – Sun., May 6th, 8-10am
 - B. AP Testing – May 7th to 18th
 - C. Deadline for Trivocis Article submissions – Fri., May 11th
 - D. Junior and Senior Prom – Fri., May 11th
 - E. Appreciation Luncheon and PTA Service Awards – Wed., May 16th
 - F. Spring Concert with Senior Awards – Tues., May 22nd
 - G. Spring Sports Awards – Wed., May 23rd
 - H. PTA General Meeting – Thurs., May 31st, 8:45 am, Rise Room
 - I. M-A Graduation and PTA Grad Night – Thurs., June 7th

Meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Verity
M-A PTA Secretary