

Marquette Area Public Schools
Parent Advisory Council – Meeting Minutes
Central Administration Office 1201 W. Fair Marquette, MI 49855
Meeting Agenda: Tuesday, October 15, 2019
6:00pm

Meeting began at 6:01 pm

In attendance:

<i>Holly Bodjanac</i>	<i>PR</i>	<i>Graveraet</i>
<i>Mandy Miskovich</i>	<i>PR</i>	<i>Sandy Knoll</i>
<i>Bill Sanders</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>Superintendent</i>
<i>Jamie Randall</i>	<i>SBR</i>	<i>MSHS, SBR</i>
<i>Justina Hautamaki</i>	<i>PR</i>	<i>Bothwell</i>
<i>Kim Matulewicz</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>Alternative High School</i>
<i>Kendra Dompierre</i>	<i>TR</i>	<i>Bothwell</i>

PR=Parent Rep

SBR=School Board Rep

TR=Teacher Rep

Representative

Introductions

Perusal of minutes from May meeting: Read. Fix spelling of Rachel Tillison.

MAPS Superintendent Report: Hired new HR specialist to replace Stacy Benson who resigned. Lyceum Adam Degraht Nov 6,7,8...he is a rock violin player. Promo in the newspaper. Puts tracks together. Will perform for each school, then will do evening performance. Andrew from alternative H.S. suggested a Holocaust survivor to talk. Saw him 13 years ago, still alive 91 years old. Nov 11-12, won't see all students, only during the day at Kaufman but probably Alt H.S. and Seniors/Juniors from HS, perhaps...and evening performance at NMU...only a couple hundred survivors left. Community has pulled together and made arrangements work...from Detroit/Dearborn area. Nov 11 7pm-9pm free to public...first come first serve. NO ticket sales required. Only asked for airfair and room and board, Landmark giving a couple nights. Needs Kosher meals. Landmark been helpful.

Had some issues at homecoming...continue to face scrutiny because of mascot and nickname, phased out mascot with capital M instead. Phasing out more Redmen but around homecoming run into issues...managed inhouse, some things happened out of ignorance, some students wearing headdress t-shirts. Some kids wore face paint at game that offended some native students. Not trying to offend, just wearing paint. Blew up in social media. Kids were good about taking things off not realizing they were offending anyone. Can become divisive in community. Was divisive last time we tried to make that change. Likely to become an issue when we try to tackle that issue again (20 years later) 70-80 years of tradition. Lot of folks are understanding of insensitivity of that nickname, even as alumni. Not run into anyone that is insistent, but that is out there. Fear is for students, that as community goes through it, sides are

formed and combatants...that students on both sides could be bullied, harassed and deal with the fall-out of what happens. Social media reflected some anger...started as parents and became students. Handle it in a way that does not pit student against student. Does not want that to end up in our classroom.

Have not replaced the mascot, so many revert back to what they were in the past.

School Board report: New projects, maintenance items ac compressors, heating...unplanned things that needed lots of money, \$60k in ac units. Was required because it creates airflow. Discussion on how well things are going amending the budget. Better off than in the past: projected 3198 students, didn't know until count day how many students, nor what the governor is going to give. Now that all is known, we ended up ahead of the game budget-wise. Facing a deficit in June now not a deficit. Then repairs set us back, hoping to even out by December.

School Reports:

Alternative High School: Got a new door, change is hard, but it's a nice filtering system for the kids. They are accounted for, students are adjusted and office is adjusted. Really like our new door. Martin Lowenberg is very animated, honest and transparent (holocaust survivor). At 5 different concentration camps and ghettos. Could tell you all the different aspects of things that happened. Welcome to bring everyone to presentations. Students doing welcome at airport and thank you to district for okaying the guest.

Doing some field trips...MSU extension farm in Chatham. Saw cows, and calves, learned a lot about fall cows and local research and ate smoothies. Heading to Pictured Rocks Friday. Helping with clean up on beaches. and local history learning stations. Art teacher Joy has been working with haunted hayride clowns theme.

High School: Meeting is tomorrow. Musical Adams Family Nov 13, 14, 15. Seniors won the float competition. Parent groups has more money than thought, roughly \$7K. Hoping to get more mini-grants.

Bothwell Middle School: Fundraiser is out right now, chocolates, gift wrap, flower seeds and other items. Also doing passive fundraiser for online shopping...will bring sample next month. Dance scheduled for Nov 1. Family Trivia night planned, not fundraiser just to get family feel comfortable visiting. Sent gift cards to teachers. Picture day last week. Educational night on the dangers of vaping coming up. Bagging at Super one Nov 9, Bookfair Nov 4-7 with parent/teacher conferences, will provide staff luncheon during conferences, snacks and wish tree for each teacher if desired. Hallways will be named after landmarks, like "LifeSkills Parkway" or "Office Hall". Math night coming up: teachers volunteer to come and help with new math books. Teachers like it with more practical application of math...story problem oriented, real life. Math night will help explain to parents. Math text books available to check out.

Cherry Creek: no report

Graveraet: Halloween parade, all kids wear costumes and walk around the block, parents take pictures. Just finished Farm to School fundraiser, goes much better in the fall than in the spring as last year. Will be a little over \$2000 on that. Like to run all the way to zero every year, but didn't have anything extra to do teacher gifts at the beginning of the year. Then another bill for field trip bussing that was a few hundred dollars over budget so a little short. Still on school's account...how did other schools jump off that account? How do you hold liability insurance? And who's Social Security number do we give for a 501c3? Could all the schools join together and make one 501c3?
Recommendations were made to contact Superior Hills for advice on becoming 501c3.

Sandy Knoll: Had little Caesar Pizza fundraising goal of \$7k, brought in over \$6500. Only need one fundraiser for the year. Book fair coming up along with conferences made \$1500 between both fairs last year. Approved for purchase 2nd grade Spelling City \$178. Mini fair in Dec. Halloween parade on Halloween. Just had picture day on Monday. Q: when is Chili Cookout info meeting? A: have not started yet, but will pass it on when they do. New mural painted with money from principal's fund; re-did shuttle mural...magnifying glass "Explorers." (see photo attached). E-wallet option for kids to use at bookfair so they don't have to send money with kids, parents just set up an account. Volunteers get 30% off.

Superior Hills: Not present.

Additional Items/Old business: none

Next Meeting Date: Nov 12 6:00pm.

Adjourn. 7:14pm. **Respectfully submitted by** Justina Hautamaki.

