

Marshall Road Elementary



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Marshall Road Elementary PTA Minutes
May 23, 2018 @ 7pm
MRES Library

Attendees: Anna Moore (President), Andrea Kramer (Vice President), Amanda DuFrayne (Vice President), Laura Parker (Treasurer), Helen Lee (Secretary), Lisa Hoffman, Missy Dixon, Urvi Desai, Michele Sullivan, Jennifer Heiges, Rebecca Hamilton, Beth Eachus, Kelli Lozada-Reese, Helga Tong, Kenneth Wong, Elizabeth Terry-Humen, Yesenia Argueta, Laura Jairam, Melissa Keppel, Mara Gecan, Loginn Kapitan, Bruce Wyman, Keestra Smith

- I. Call Meeting to Order – Anna Moore called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.
- II. President's Report
 - A. Spring Events – Anna reported that we had a very successful Spring Family Fun Night this year – a school dance along with a photobooth, crafts for Teacher Appreciation Week, a fun deejay, and great teacher participation. It was one of the best-attended Spring Family Fun Nights in a while. We also had a successful Spring Book Fair and a wonderful Teacher Appreciation Week. Anna thanked the MRES community for helping us celebrate our teachers Hollywood-style during Teacher Appreciation Week. Some highlights include a red carpet for our best dressed teachers on Monday, gifts from classes and a concession stand of snacks on Tuesday, a hot breakfast on Wednesday, treats from the administrative staff on pajama day Thursday, and a Chinese Theatre-themed lunch on Friday.
- III. April Meeting Minutes – Helen made a motion to approve the April 2018 meeting minutes and there were no objections.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Laura presented the latest budget as well as a narrated snapshot of our incoming and outgoing income that can be found on the MRES PTA website. Income this year was approximately \$91,000. She highlighted PTA's significant funding of field trips (mainly for school bus fees), the classroom supply fund, and Dreambox subscriptions for students. In addition, we will pay, from funds available in the Enrichment budget, for a phonetic training as well as a Yoga for the Classroom training for our teachers to use in the next academic year.
 - A. Principal's Fund: Laura made a motion to provide \$12,000 for the Principal's Fund (leaving a remaining balance of \$4,000 going into the 2018-2019 academic year). Andrea Kramer seconded the motion. There were no objections, so the motion passes.
- V. Nominating Committee – Voting in of New Board

Andrea Kramer announced a partial slate of candidates at the April meeting – namely, that Anna Moore, Laura Parker, and Helen Lee would continue in their existing roles. Andrea asked if there were any floor nominations. Andrea

nominated Amanda DuFrayne for first vice president and Mel Keppel for second vice president. There were no other nominations. Andrea closed nominations and opened voting for the entire slate of candidates. There were no objections, so the new board for the 2018-2019 academic year is voted in as follows: Anna Moore (President), Amanda DuFrayne (Vice President), Mel Keppel (Vice President), Laura Parker (Treasurer), and Helen Lee (Secretary).

- VI. Principal's Report – Mrs. Heiges reported that a good chunk of the principal's fund will go to purchase laptops. Some of the funds will also go toward the purchase of Foundations, a program that assists grades K-2 students with phonics and spelling. She noted that Fairfax County is lacking in phonics resources for grades K-2, so for those that are not naturally gifted spellers, our teachers will be trained (and will receive relevant materials) in Foundations before the next school year starts. Mrs. Heiges is optimistic that grades K-2 kids will get really good phonics instruction starting next year. For grades 3-6, she is still looking into materials that will help our students with vocabulary.

Mrs. Heiges expressed excitement for Yoga for the Classroom. She has been looking for something involving yoga and mindfulness that can be used by all students. This is something everyone can connect to. It teaches self-regulation and calming strategies, teachers will learn to use this during transitions, and this can also help teachers with their own coping and calming strategies! This training will occur right before the next school starts.

Finally, Mrs. Heiges closed with a big thank you for Teacher Appreciation Week! She thanked everyone who helped and for the creativity that went into planning the week. She knows that it is a huge time commitment, so she appreciates all of the events and the community-building that the PTA generates, as well as the partnership and relationship between the school and the PTA. Mrs. Heiges presented gifts to the board and a huge THANK YOU to the entire PTA!

- VII. Thanks Yous – Anna Moore thanked the board members for their time, energy, and effort in contributing to a very successful school year. Helen Lee stepped up as a parent of a rising Kindergartener this year; Laura Parker helped us move from Excel to MoneyMinder; Amanda DuFrayne served not only as Vice President but also served as Chair of Fitness Warriors as well as of Spring Family Fun Night; Andrea Kramer finishes her third year on the board (two as Treasurer and one as First Vice President) and helped fill Anna's shoes during a temporary absence. We will miss Andrea, her wisdom, and her vast institutional knowledge very much next year!

Amanda DuFrayne gave a huge and extra special thanks to Anna, our President, who dedicated so much time and effort for the PTA and does a ton more behind the scenes. Thank you so much, Anna!

Anna closed with a special thank you to sixth grade parents: Natasha Perkins (assisted with tax filing and ran winter drive for several years), Michele Sullivan (former Fitness Warriors Chair), Urvi Desai (former board member, former Special Needs Liaison, Spring Play Chair, and former Runathon Chair), Kelli Lozada-Reese (Dining for Dollars), and Caren Hoehner (photographer).

- VIII. Volunteer Appreciation Presentation

Anna Moore gave a presentation to supplement the one-pager Laura Parker

provided tonight that highlighted what we did this year. The big message is that everything we do takes a lot of volunteers. Just to give you an idea, Evites for tonight's PTA meeting were sent out to over 120 volunteers.

We started out with our Fall Book Fair which raised over \$5,000; a coin challenge which raised \$1,500; and STEAM night for which the PTA earned a \$1,000 grant and that was attended by over 500 people. Our 7th annual Runathon raised over \$31,000 (our biggest revenue yet), consisted of a massive volunteer undertaking, and was attended by the mayor and her running club.

In the spring, we had our 25th annual International Night that, as usual, was attended by the most diverse audience; in which students participated in a talent show; and where attendees enjoyed delicious foods from around the world. Dr. Seuss Night was expanded this year into a Read Across America Week. One highlight from the week was a presentation by Henry Cole, a local author/illustrator, who came and mesmerized 3-6 graders for an hour. We coordinated the production of the spring musical Lion King Jr. where anyone in grades 5-6 who wants to can participate in some way. This major endeavor between the school and the PTA saw the largest participation rate to date. We held a spring dance that enjoyed a large attendance (and thanks to the teachers who joined and helped get kids involved).

Most recently, the PTA coordinated Teacher Appreciation Week. The fabulous Hollywood-themed decorations were thanks to Tanya McClelland. This was a huge joint effort between the school and the PTA to appreciate our teachers!! We raised over \$2,000 throughout the various Dining for Dollars events this year (Chipotle alone raised over \$800!); thanks to everyone who dined out and supported our school. After many many volunteer hours, we transformed the garden and the flagpole area, thanks to Laura Jairam and the help of Girl Scouts and first grade students. Amanda DuFrayne also heartily thanked Keestra Smith and Lisa Desta from SACC who provided child care and service activities during PTA meetings this year so that parents, including board members, can attend the meetings without distractions. Thank you so much to everyone in making this year a success!!

IX. Meeting Adjourned by Anna at 8:01pm.

Parents and Teachers Please...

- JOIN the PTA! <http://marshallroadpta.org/join>
- DONATE to Friends of Marshall Road! <http://marshallroadpta.org/direct-donations>
- SIGN UP for ENews! <http://marshallroadpta.org/news/subscribe-to-enevs/>
- LIKE us on Facebook: MRES PTA

PTA Board Contacts

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