

General Members Meeting Notes

- Greetings from the President of the PTO
- General introductions of current Board Members that had come to the meeting
- **Events** – A quick summary of upcoming events
 - **Fall Carnival – Friday, Oct. 31.**
 - This is a school event and not a PTO event but parent volunteers will be needed to help man the carnival booths.
 - Each classroom will have its own carnival booth
 - Parents volunteer for 1/2 hour increments
 - More details to come as the event approaches
 - **Movie Night – Scheduled for Friday, Nov. 14th**
 - Movie: How to Train a Dragon 2
 - Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm
 - The Movie Night Committee will be getting together to discuss the menu and any advertisement
 - The movie is open to all MHMS students and parents.
 - A parent/guardian must accompany any students attending the event.
 - Menu will consist of one meat option and one veggie option as well as other food items.
 - The Menu should be posted Nov. 3rd so parents have a general idea what will be served.
 - Payment – Cash or PTO account only.
 - A section in front of the stage is always set aside for students wishing to bring their blankets and wear their pajamas.
 - Food is served at 5:30pm and at intermission.
 - Parent volunteers will be needed to help with concession.
 - A sign-up sheet will be available Nov. 3rd for any parents wishing to sign up.
 - **Thanksgiving Feast – Scheduled for Nov. 21st.**
 - Will be held during the students' lunch times.
 - Open to MHMS students only
 - PTO will be providing the Turkey
 - Sign up sheets will be set up Nov. 10th for food donations.

- **Multi-Cultural Week – Scheduled for the Week of January 26-30.**
 - The Committee members will be getting together to plan this event.
 - Mrs. Allender was on last year's committee and can provide guidance.
 - More information will be provided as the event date approaches.
- **Day at the Movies – Scheduled for sometime in March**
 - Event will happen if students accomplish their goal of books read for MHMS February Month of Reading
 - Open to MHMS students and chaperoning parents only.
 - No siblings
 - Pre-K students must be accompanied by (1) parent/guardian.
 - More information will be provided as the event date approaches.
- **Jog-A-Thon – Scheduled for Friday, April 24th**
 - The Committee members will be getting together to plan this event.
 - More information will be provided as the event date approaches.
- **End of the Year BBQ – Schedule for Friday, June 12**
 - The Committee Members will meet after the new year to plan this event.
 - More details will be provided as the event date approaches.

- **Committees** – Committees are run by parent volunteers.
 - Committees plan scheduled PTO events.
 - They plan the date, time, and all details of an event.
 - If a parent has any ideas/suggestions regarding an event, they can either contact the head of the committee or one of the committee members.
 - If a parent needs to know who is on a committee, that information is posted on the PTO Board in the Main Lobby
 - Committees should not be confused with Parent Grade Representatives.
 - Committees only focus on events.
 - There are still several spots open on some committees if any parent would like to join.
 - Committees
 - Bake Sale
 - Yearbook
 - Go Green
 - Multi Cultural
 - Jog-a-Thon
 - End of the Year BBQ
 - Movie Night

- Elections – The MHMS PTO was founded 2 years ago by the current board members.
 - 2012-2013 Board Members:
 - President: Lee Corsis
 - Vice-President: Benson Yang
 - Secretary: Julie Nghiem
 - Treasurer: Namrata Dodeja
 - Administration Representative: Ferishta Kulaly
 - Teacher Representative: Tammy Pachura
 - Pre-K thru 2nd Grade Representative: Mary Chen
 - 3rd – 5th Grade Representative: Yasmeen Wengrow
 - 6th – 8th Grade Representative: Germin Awadalla
 - 2013-2014 School brought us new faces to the Board:
 - Teacher Representative: Denise Allender
 - 3rd – 5th Grade Representative: Carolyn Vargas
 - 2014-2015 Board Positions Available
 - President
 - Vice-President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Pre-K thru 2nd Grade Teacher Representative
 - 3rd thru 8th Grade Teacher Representative
 - Student Representative – open to 8th Grade Students
 - There is discussion as to having 2 Student Representatives
 - (1) Boy
 - (1) Girl
 - Pre-K/K Parent Representative
 - 1st Grade Parent Representative
 - 2nd-3rd Grade Parent Representative
 - 4th-5th Grade Parent Representative
 - 6th-8th Grade Parent Representative
- Employees of MHMS cannot be on the PTO Board. Open to parents only.
- Details of Board Positions will be available on the PTO website (www.mhmspto.org) and on the PTO Board in the Main Lobby soon by Lee Corsis.
- The elections timeline will be posted on the PTO website as well as the PTO Board.
- Parents can nominate themselves or another parent.
- Students can nominate themselves or another student.

- **Communication**

- It was brought up as to how parents could be better informed regarding PTO Events.
- MHMS and the PTO uses the following ways to inform parents of MHMS and PTO events:
 - TV in Main Lobby
 - Emails to Parents
 - Teacher Newsletters
 - Posters around Campus
 - Flyers in student files
- If a parent has another suggestion to get information out to parents, please let either the Administration or the Board know.
- Currently on the PTO website are email addresses for the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Administration Representative
- The Board is currently working with a parent volunteer to update the PTO website to include a section for:
 - Meeting Minutes
 - Budget
 - Frequently asked questions (FAQ)
 - Committees and the Head Committee Member email
 - Details of events
- A Parent and Lee will be discussing a way that parents can import event dates onto their phones.
 - More information will be provided at a later date.
- Parents with questions regarding a PTO event or an idea for a PTO event can approach their Grade Representative and their Grade Representative brings their idea to the Board.
- Parents with questions regarding academics should see the Administration.

- **THE MHMS PTO DOES**

- Encourage parents' involvement in their individual children's lives, education, classroom, and school.
- Coordinate programs and projects that will support or enrich the curriculum
- Organize fundraising efforts to support some additional programs, equipment, and services not covered in the school budget
- Support the educational goals of the school and assist with attaining those goals through parent and community volunteerism
- A LOT!

- **THE MHMS PTO DOES NOT:**

- RUN MHMS
- SET POLICIES
- DEFINE SCHOOL CURRICULUM
- CONTROL THE SCHOOL'S BUDGET
- SET THE SCHOOL'S EDUCATIONAL GOALS, TESTING REQUIREMENTS, OR COMPLIANCE FACTORS
- DO EVERYTHING!

- **Future MHMS Site**

- For parents who might not know, MHMS leases our current site from New Haven Unified School District.
- MHMS is limited by the facility and the District as to:
 - Number of Students
 - Number of Classrooms
 - Maintenance of the Building
 - Design and Update of the Building
- The Administration is currently looking to obtain a new site for MHMS
 - There are 2 possibilities
 - Both are within a 3-5 mile radius of the current MHMS location
 - MHMS plans to remain at our current site for the next 5 years while the new site is being constructed.
 - Once MHMS breaks ground on the new site, the project will be done in phases.
 - Phase 1 should take 1-2 years
 - MHMS will operate both locations (Tamarack Drive & New Site) for 2-3 years (Phases 1 & 2).
 - Not all grade levels will be available at the new site when it opens.
 - In final negotiating stage
 - The Administration will have more information as to the final decision and location at the next **General Members Meeting scheduled for January 14, 2015**