

TMS PTA General Membership Meeting
February 22, 2010 – 9:00am in the Lecture Hall

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am. In attendance were Gay Campbell, Carey Sienicki, Mark Greenfelder, Bob Simmons, Tracy Reick, Gretchen Schofield, Michele Sanford, Nicole DuBar, Tracey Zillian, Debbie Bacigalupo, Julie Hirka, Michelle Kang, Dana Miller, Shelly Koshuta.

1. **The Secretary submitted meeting minutes for review.** A motion by Tracey Zillian and seconded by Debbie Bacigalupo was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2010 TMS PTA Board meeting. Motion carried by voice vote.
2. **President's Report**
 - Since there are only a few items left for the year, it was proposed that the next meeting will be Monday, April 19th at 9:00 AM in the Lecture Hall (this will combine the previously scheduled March and April meetings). Will contact Ms. Warden to schedule the NFCU/TMS PTA luncheon in May. The June 15th General Membership meeting (election) will be held before the Orchestra event.
 - We are looking for those interested in holding Board positions for next year. If interested, please contact Carey Sienicki at Secretary@ThoreauPTA.org.
 - Special thanks to Michele Sanford and her committee for her great work with Hospitality – Student locker treats: Winter break and February's joint SCA treat (both rescheduled due to weather events) and teacher monthly events: January - Soup and Salad in Library and February treats. All were a hit.
 - Thanks to Yolanda Wartenberg for organizing the Reflections program. She had to go through many additional steps to submit the entries, since the county and state reflections chairs were absent.
3. **Treasurer's Report** was distributed: not many financial changes due to low activity during snow events; highlighting no spirit event will be scheduled for this year, \$50 sponsorship payment to Thomas Jefferson All-Nite Grad event and School Store/T-shirt income.
4. **Principal's Report**
 - **Make up time for lost school days due to snow events.** Next week FCPS will vote to see how schools will implement. Mr. Greenfelder advocates added time to school day ASAP to be completed by June 2nd. Will look into adding extra period and rotating each class. Encourages parental input to FCPS (*see links below on how to contact them.*)
 - **SOL** -next week is 8th grade writing. Faculty and staff are scrambling to be sure all students adequately make up time lost from school cancellation due to the snow events. Could be utilizing Time to Soar and elective classes for struggling students.
 - **Smart Boards** - ordered new required stands.
 - **Cell Tower** investigations continue, hopefully the school will gain additional Smart Boards for remaining classrooms.
 - **Miss Virginia** (now Miss America) event was cancelled due to scheduling.
 - **Scholastic Art Awards** – Thanks to Ms. Physioc for doing a tremendous job with the students. She encourages a change in motivation for her students, which can be seen as life changing for some.
 - Simran Singh received a Gold Key award in drawing, a Silver Key award in design, and a Certificate of Merit in mixed media. Mimi Shang received a Gold Key award in drawing. Rachel Child received a Silver Key award in mixed media.
 - Gold Key and Silver Key award winners will have their artwork displayed at Northern Virginia Community College's Ernst Community Cultural Center in Annandale from Friday, February 12, through Thursday, February 25.
 - A ceremony for Gold and Silver Key award winners will be held at the Ernst Center on Tuesday, February 23, at 7:30 p.m. These students will have their artwork forwarded to New York City (Carnegie Hall) for further competition.
 - **Community School use** – This weekend, especially Sunday, was difficult for the custodians. Limited parking between the lost parking spaces due to snow, church use and the sports program ignited some displeasure (and there was even a window broken). Children need to be better supervised.
 - **Hospitality** - thanks again to Michele Sanford and her committee for setting a positive tone for the school.
 - **FCPS Budget discussion**– Continue to remain informed, the budget continues to go back and forth. There are mixed signals (i.e. not cutting Assistant principals, but raising the ratio for schools to over 900 for second AP; increasing the local deposit index, but cutting 780 Mil). School Resource officers, Freshman Sports and Strings

programs are all still not assured. There are areas of waste that could be eliminated. Smaller counties could be especially impacted, while larger counties will lose programs. The 8 Assistant Superintendents are listening to input from principals.

5. Committee Reports

- **Hospitality** – Events went well: Treats were placed on students’ lockers and the teachers’ luncheon in the library. Will consider Bus Drivers’ treat for all their February complications. Would like to stock the teacher’s lounge with disposable napkins, utensils, cups and plates, estimated cost of \$46. Suggestion to use an additional \$150 from the budget (from rescinded spirit event) for that purpose. Voice poll of those present agrees with that strategy. Upcoming events: March – Italian Luncheon, April – Treat, May - Teacher appreciation luncheon.
- **T-shirt sales**– successful first order for updated design for sweats, more orders taken. Looking to place a table at the rising 7th grade introduction session at PTA table.
Reflections: There were 77 entries. The breakfast is scheduled for Monday, March 15. The breakfast will consist of bagels, fruit, donuts, and juice. The ribbons, cash awards and the entries back will be distributed. Entries were as follows: 64 literature, 3 musical composition, 8 photography, 2 visual arts. There were no dance or film production entries. The winners were Anya T. Hereford (music), Noah E. Holt (photo), Elizabeth Kirkhorn (literature), and Rachel M. Child (visual Arts). The judges received letters of appreciation. Yolanda Wartenberg forwarded to the District the four winning entries, that is, one for Literature, one for musical composition, one for photography, and one for visual arts. At the District level, Thoreau had one outstanding for cluster 2 in Literature (Ms. Kirkhorn) and two merit mentions (Ms. Hereford and Rachel Child).
- **Landscape Day** dates for Spring will be March 13, April 10, and May 8. Please watch Thoreau Matters for updates and contact Maureen Alonzo to sign-up to volunteer.
- **8th Grade event** June 11th from 7-9, will schedule DJ for event.
- **Online Payment System** Debbie Bacigalupo has just begun investigations and will pursue implementing this program for rising 7th grade trial in Spring/Summer with spirit wear.

6. Old Business

- Thanks to the following people who have volunteered to serve on this year's Nominating Committee: Jill Hecht, Aimee Davis, Tara MacCall, Shelly Koshuta, and Amy Currin. The bylaws state that only three are required, but we are pleased to have the five volunteers. A motion was made by Michele Sanford and seconded by Gretchen Schofield to elect the nominating committee. Motion carried by voice vote.

7. Announcements

- Oklahoma play will be Thursday, April 22nd, Friday, April 23rd and Saturday, April 24th (Also Sat. matinee - 2 shows that day). Kudos to Mr. DeLeo for doing a great job. Madison HS Drama will be the following week, Singing in the Rain, Thursday, April 29th, Friday, April 30th and Saturday, May 1st (Also Sat. matinee - 2 shows that day)
- Join the Madison, Oakton and Marshall Community for Project Sticker Shock **February 25**, 7:00 pm at the Vienna Community Center, visit www.viennacommunitycoalition.com for full details.
- FCPS Superintendent Recommends Options for Makeup Days Due to Inclement Weather. Parents are welcome to provide their input on the three options by:
 1. Becoming a fan of Fairfax County Public Schools on Facebook (www.facebook.com) and leaving comments on the FCPS page.
 2. E-mailing their School Board member (<http://www.fcps.edu/schlbld/members.htm>).
 3. Sending comments via e-mail to fcpsinfo@fcps.edu.

Calendar:

Tuesday, March 2	SOL English Writing Test (multiple choice) – 8 th Grade Students
Wednesday, March 3	SOL English Writing Test (direct writing) – 8 th Grade Students
Saturday, March 13	Landscape day
Monday, March 29	Spring Break Begins
Saturday, April 10	Landscape day
Monday, April 19	PTA Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by: **Carey Sienicki** _____ Approved: _____