

Millbrook High School PTSA
General Meeting – Media Center
March 6, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm

Attendance: Brian Saunders, Russ Smith, Kathy Parzygnat, Ann Edmondson, Amy Fulk, Amy Cagle, Morgan Blue, Jocelyn McGuinness-Hickey, Sue Reynolds, Gina Smith, Sarah O'Connor, Shawn Jackson, Todd Hamrick, Kathy Hamrick, Jodi Bulmer, Kim Giardino, Dawn Bartholomew, Kevin Bartholomew, Karen Noon, Lisa Chambers, Chrissie Griffin, Cindy McShea, Kimberley Germillion, Liz Mosler, Chris East

PTSA President - Ann Edmondson
Call meeting to order - Welcome and thanks

Principal Reports

- Guys and Dolls takes the stage at the end of this month.
- \$12,000 upgrade to sound system in auditorium (PTSA, School, Drama Boosters, Chipped in)
- Still working to hire English 3 teacher

Secretary's Report - Kathy Parzygnat

Sue Reynolds made a motion to approve the February General PTSA minutes and was seconded by Todd Hamrick.

Treasurer's Report - Amy Cagle

- Budget attached to PTSA Website

Officer & Committee Reports (as needed)

Spirit Nights – Morgan Blue

- Crumbl Cookies is March 7, All day

Teacher Appreciation – Sarah O'Connor

- Could use more donations for the Taco Day - \$15

Guest Speaker - Russ Smith, Senior Director of Security for WCPSS

- School Safety Advocacy Council – Board decides to have an Assessment of all 200 campus; Assessments have been completed of all schools and administrative facilities. (Wanted expertise in K-12 schools, not malls and homes)
- Only 16-17 schools have not been completed for assessments. Coming back in May to assess those campus.
- Assessments are comprehensive – Recommendations are being prioritized, two committees will be formed to move work forward, stakeholders of each area will be collaborating to ensure all needs are addressed.

- High level report is available on wcpss.net website “Search: School Safety or School Emergency” (Tells you what areas are looked at BUT will not mention the findings due to safety)
- Some things recommended for EVERY school but some are site specific.

For example: A recommendation that will probably be approved is: Classroom doors remain locked during the duration of the school day

An example of one that probably won't be approved: All campus are closed campus. (High Schoolers cannot leave for lunch and parents can't come in to lunch with elementary kids.)

- School Safety Advocacy Council identified 7 key focus areas based on the District report. (These areas have started implementing recommendations)

Seven Priority Recommendation Areas:

1. Prioritize Recommendations
2. Visitor Management
3. SRO Leadership Committee
4. District Emergency Plan
5. Professional Development Plan
6. Mental Health Threat Assessment Team
7. Reunification Plan

Five items affect about every campus that they will move forward on. Can't tell what the 5 are, but they have the money.

Question: A parents and WCPSS teacher (Not a MHS teacher) asked what about the kids with a concealed weapon?

Answer: Mentioned the BeSMART program; that program is geared to parents being responsible gun owners and making sure their weapons are locked up.

Question: Why do neighboring counties, Johnston County, have metal detectors in place, but not WCPSS?

Answer: Johnston County is using two systems. Open Gate (Mobile walk through metal detector) and Evolve. A time and staffing issue for WCPSS. Metal detectors are not “off” the table for WCPSS. Guilford County also have them – they are paying a lot of money. Russ DOES believe the WCPSS Board will find the money to make sure what needs to be done, is done....but if it is effective. They will continue to look at and study change of metal detectors! Policy is there (can do a random metal detector search in classrooms) the policy is just not practiced.

Question: Who would make the decision to do random checks using metal detector?

Answer: Principal would make that decision on site. Policy to support it but not mandatory.

Question: What is the process for “see something, say something”?

Answer: The hotline is 919-856-1911 which is anonymous. Students can't text yet. Russ recognizes a better APP or way needs to be done. (This is manned 24/7)

Dr. Saunders also added the anonymous piece of the hotline became a problem with hoax. MHS is encouraging students to send an email.

Lockdown drills will resume soon. Security has pulled back due to the sensitive nature that MHS dealt with recently at the MHS Basketball game. Communication team will send an email at the same time the kids will be put in the drill.

Discipline Review Committee -30-60 kids are reviewed every Wednesday. That committee can long term those students. (Long termed kids can attend Score Academy, Infinity and Sanderson Night School) This is a committee that not all districts have! It's a way that WCPSS helps keep kids safe.

Adjourn Meeting at 8:40pm