**Methacton Home & School Association**

**May 1, 2014**

**Attendees:**

Judy Landis, Carla Tuhacek, Meg Cunane, Sue Gabriel, Michelle McCubbins, Cathy Stratoti, Laura Winslow, Monica Holman, Manisha Baman, LoriAnn Verna, Kim Woodring, Christie Pirovitz, Cindy Hartson, Cara Woudenberg, Kath Schlenker, Michelle Kolody-Cost, Christine Capece, Sue Tierney, Dawn Rieder, Margaret McGowan

**Vice President’s Report – Sue Gabriel**

* Students from NMTCC were present to allow us to hear about their experiences and ask questions. They represented the following programs: Internet Technology, Megatronics, Precision Machinery, Graphics Arts, Welding and Health Occupation. Many of the students had family members who went to NMTCC. The students go to their sending school for their academics for half the day and then spend the rest of the day at NTMCC to complete their technical studies. NMTCC provides a competency (skill-based) curriculum where students move at their own pace. They also partner with local businesses. They will have a Manufacturing Career Awareness Night on May 20. This will also be their Senior Expo Night. NMTCC is currently pushing to find Machining students because there is such a need for this skill.

**Secretary’s Report – Laura Winslow**

Laura stated the minutes would be available on-line later.

**Treasurer’s Report – Cathy Stratoti**

Cathy presented the treasurer’s report. The proceeds from the Giant income will be the basis for our startup budget next year.

**Vice President’s Report – Sue Gabriel**

* Sue reported that we would need to have H&S approval to extend Cathy Stratoti’s term as treasurer for one more year. Meg Cunane approved the motion and Laura seconded it.
* Next year’s officers will be:
  + Sue Gabriel – President
  + Meg Cunane – Vice President
  + Cathy Stratoti – Treasurer
  + Michelle McCubbins and Laura Winslow - Secretary

**President’s Report – Carla Tuhacek**

* Carla thanked everyone who donated food for the Bus Driver’s Appreciation Breakfast.
* Carla also thanked Ms. Landis, Mrs. Hartson and Mrs. Woudenberg for all of their work this year.

**Counseling Department Report – Cindy Hartson**

* Ms. Hartson reported that the Counseling Department is now on Twitter.
* The following exams will be given at MHS: SAT exam on 6/7 and the ACT on 6/14.
* Mrs. Hartson reported that there would be some new changes taking place on the SAT exam, which will affect the PSAT for the fall of 2015 and the SAT for the spring of 2016. Information will be coming later as these changes are examined.
* The counseling department will present to the juniors in their English classes about college and what they should be doing now. This information in the form of a power point presentation is on the website.
* Senior information requests were sent out and need to be completed and returned. In addition, copies of letters of acceptance for college and scholarships need to be turned in to the counseling department.
* The Awards Night Ceremony will be held May 21 at 7:00 pm. All attendees should dress appropriately.
* Counselors will work part-time during the summer. June 20 is the deadline for schedule changes.
* The ASVAB test will be held May 6, and run by Mr. Ruminski.
* The Senior Picnic will be held May 28 at Mermaid Lake. Tickets are on sale now.

T**eacher’s Report – Cara Woudenberg**

* **Mrs. Talmadge and Mrs. Nickerson:**  Yearbooks are on sale for $70; there are a limited number still available to purchase. Senior portraits for the class of 2015 are now being taken. 1-800-OUR YEAR is the number to call if an appointment needs to be changed or if there are any questions.
* **From the Methacton Teachers:**  Thank you to all of the parents for the amazing Post-Prom event. The students are very lucky to have such supportive families who offer them such an enjoyable experience and care about their well-being.
* **From the Sponsors of the Class of 2017:**  Class of 2017 T-shirts are being sold at lunch this week and in room C214 for $10.

**Principal’s Report – Judy Landis, Principal**

* Ms. Landis reported that testing would begin next Monday and continue throughout May. Two Keystone texts will be paper and pencil tests: the Literature Test given 5/15 and the Biology test given 5/27. The Algebra test will be given on computer 5/20-21. All students retaking the Keystones will take both modules in the hope that they will show improvement in both areas. The best score is taken for their transcript.
* Graduation will be held at the MHS stadium. There will be a banner commemorating the 50th Anniversary, which will continue to be displayed throughout the years.
* Graduation practice will be held on 6/10 at noon, 6/11 at 9 am (they will receive their tickets) and 6/12 at 9 am. Students must come to all practices to be eligible to march. If additional tickets are needed email the school to request them. On 6/12 the graduates must be back at the school cafeteria at 5:30 pm with the processional to start at 6:30 pm
* All obligations must be met by the second practice in order to graduate. On 6/11, the students will receive their cap and gowns. The graduation will finish around 7:30 at which time the graduate will go into the cafeteria to get their diploma and permanent file. The permanent file they receive is the only copy.

**Post Prom – Carla Tuhacek**

* Dawn Reddington wrote in an email that Post prom was a great success. We had 890 students register online, plus 14 walk-ins. Extending the online registration deadline until noon the day of the prom may have helped cut down the number of walk-ins, which made the check-in process much easier for all involved. Everything went smoothly and we have received overwhelmingly positive feedback in the student surveys we have received so far. Some students mentioned wait times being too long at some of the attractions and suggested switching up some of the activities from year to year. We will take all of their feedback and more into account at our wrap-up meeting in May. Please extend our gratitude to H&S for all of its support over the years – it is greatly appreciated.
* Fifteen hundred community members toured the walkthrough. We will need longer hours next year. Three hundred plus volunteers helped to put on Post Prom. We are looking for new volunteers to head up Post Prom as the current volunteers have been in their positions for three years. If you are interested in being a co-coordinator with Dawn Reddington let them know.
* The first fundraiser for next year’s Post Prom will be held May 12 at Chap’s Grill. The Golf Outing will be held 7/12.

**District Reports:**

* **Kim Woodring** reported that the baseball field dedication would be held Saturday May 3 at 12:30 pm with a game to follow at 2 pm.
* The transportation contract has been awarded to Fist Student. There should be no disruption for the students. The School Board Meeting on 5/6 will be an opportunity to consider their decision.
* It is currently budget development season. They will keep tax increases at the index. The proposed budget is $99 million. Hybrid learning programs with electronic instruction is up for discussion. There is proposal to pilot full day kindergarten. The interim director for Pupil Services is nearing the end of their contract. The School Board is authorizing an enrollment student to project for the next five years.

Our next meeting will be held in September

**The Meeting Adjourned at 11:25 a.m.**