**Methacton Home & School Association**

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 19, 2015**

**Attendees:**

Sue Gabriel, Meg Cunnane, Michelle McCubbins, Kim Woodring, Judy Landis, Leah Millrood, Cathleen Barrone, Sahar Kandil, Kathleen Schlenker, Monica Holman, Colleen Rossi

I**ntroductions – Sue Gabriel**

* The meeting began at 9:17 am

**Counseling Department Report – Leah Millrood**

* Ms. Millrood is looking for three parent volunteers to help find the most improved students for the senior class. Parents must not have a current senior.
* Counselors are meeting with juniors to build a list of colleges they want to attend. They are helping them develop preferences for their likes/strengths and dislikes. They are working with sophomores to identify careers of interest.
* Ms. Millrood stated that the Main Line College Fair will be held on April 28 at Villanova. Three hundred colleges will be represented at the fair. Students should come with pre-printed labels with their name, address, major, and year of graduation.
* Scheduling requests have concluded. Students will receive a course verification letter soon. Parents will be notified that the verification has been sent home through an e-blast. Appeals for courses should be made in May. Tech students can meet with their counselors on Thursday, April 2, if they cannot meeting during regular school hours.

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

* **Class o f 2017** - T-shirts are on sale again for $10 in C214.
* **Mrs. Lynn of FCCLA** - Mr. Methacton has been rescheduled for April 17th.
* **Class of 2016** - Prom is April 24th at Franklin Commons in Phoenixville. Tickets are $75.
* **Mrs. Sue Cattie** - The International Festival is being held at the High School on April 11. All are welcome to attend.
* **Yearbook Staff** - Yearbooks are still on sale through the Jostens website. The link is found on the MHS website. The cost is $70 plus tax until April 30.
* **Yearbook Staff** - Juniors will be receiving their Senior portrait sitting information in the mail very soon.
* **Element** - *Element* is a student run creative arts magazine that showcases students' and teachers' writing and art. This is a non-funded club. They are planning a book release party around the second week in May. They are seeking donations of food/beverage/decorations for the party. Please contact Lee Ann van der Kwast for more information.
* **Health and PE Departments** - Health and PE wanted to thank Home and School for the funds they donated for Self Defense and Personal Safety Training. The funds allowed a guest instructor to be brought in.
* **Athletic Department** - There will be a ground breaking ceremony for the outdoor fields project on Saturday, March 28th at 9:00 am in the high school stadium. Please contact Paul Spiewak for more information.

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

* Ms. Landis presented some changes that will be made in the upcoming school year with Hybrid Schedules.
  + Cascading - Classes will be Cascaded to enable fixed science labs on specific days. This will ensure that everyone will be in class on certain days. The first classes that will be cascaded will be Art, TV Studio, and Music.
  + Blended/Hybrid Learning - This is not on-line learning. Learning is social and most education should be bricks and mortar. However there are some educational materials that can be used to supplement learning. Study Hall will be substituted with ILEARN (Independent Learning Environment and Responsible Networking). ILEARN will be used for the following:
    - Remedial - For example, Keystone Project Assessments. ITunes U has a program called Pennsylvania Learns which is designed for remediation at different grade levels. Students will use the CSR, Biome, or have passes to teacher's room. Some students will be allowed to be a teacher's assistant for special needs students.
    - There will now be an Open Access area for upper classmen (Juniors and Seniors) in the current Commons area. There will be snacks and a coffee bar available. Students will have to earn the right to be here.
    - The library will repurpose the upper deck. The lower area will now be permanent classrooms. In the upper deck, they want to purchase new furniture: study carrels, tables with electrical outlets in the middle, and make a sound barrier between the upper and lower areas. The reference section will be moved to the lower deck. Around $16,000 will have to be raised to accomplish these changes.
* Ms. Landis also spoke about the Freshmen Seminar. This will be an addition for non-honors social studies classes. Students will learn how to read textbooks and enhance their study skills.

**District Reports - Kim Woodring**

* Mrs. Woodring stated that the School Board’s Finance Committee has been working on the budget. There will be a maximum tax increase of 1.9%. They are working on long term, big budgets.
* The Tech Center Spring Fling is 3/21/15 from 10 am to 2 pm and all proceeds will go to Anthony Flick, the sole survivor of his family.
* The Policy Committee is working on the volunteer policy. They are developing the handbook and determining what is the school district's responsibility and what is required by law.

**Secretary’s Report – Michelle McCubbins & Laura Winslow**

* February meeting minutes were reviewed and approved by Michelle McCubbins; seconded by Meg Cunnane.

**Treasurer’s Report – Meg Cunnane for Cathy Stratoti**

* Meg announced that Giant A+ rewards spending until 3/31/15 will be included in this year's fundraising.

**Vice President’s Report – Meg Cunnane**

* Meg announced that details for the Arts Corks and Forks fundraiser on 4/13 are up on the website.

**President’s Report – Sue Gabriel**

* Sue stated Home and School is still accepting nominations for H&S board positions.
* Also, Spring mini-grants are under review.
* Year book pens for seniors will be ordered soon.

**Post Prom**

* The Community Walk-through is scheduled for April 24th, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.
* Get involved now to insure the future of the Post Prom celebration. ***It is imperative that new co-coordinators are selected in order to keep Post Prom going***.

Our next meeting will be held on April 9, 2015, at 7:00 pm

The Meeting Adjourned at 11:05 a.m.