***October 1st, 2015 Minutes***

**Methacton High School Home & School Association**

**Attendees:** Kathy Deitch, Cathy Stratoti, Cindy Hartson, Kim Rosseth, Christina Mitchell, Monica Holman, Mercy Varghese, Mary Byrnes, Cathleen Barone, LoriAnn Verna, Kim Woodring, Cheryl Rothe, Coleen Rossi, Anne Pensabene, Janet Bolendz, John Maioriello, Chris Pirovitz, Michelle Bauer, Meg Cunnane, Michelle McCubbins, Kathy Schlenker, Laurie Markle, Judy Landis.

**Introductions- Meg Cunnane**

* + Meeting began at 9:15 a.m.

**Teachers Report – Cara Woudenburg**

* **From the Yearbook Team:** Senior Portrait selections are due immediately. Please log on to the Prestige Photo website that came with your proofs and make your senior’s selection. You are choosing a Drape/Tux pose on a beige/tan background. Senior Baby Ads are due. Please get them in immediately. The form can be found on the HS website under Yearbook. Yearbooks are on SALE for $65. Order online at Jostens.com before the price increases.
* **From the Nurses’ office:** The Student Red Cross Blood Drive is during the school day on Friday, November 6th. All students 16 or older may donate. Only those that are 16 will need parental permission. The staff and community drive will be from 3–7 p.m. The Student Flu Program through the Montgomery County Health Department is coming up. High School students can have the flu vaccine at school on October 20 or can come to the MSD Clinic on October 22.

All other Methacton District students can get the flu vaccine on October 22. Parents will bring their child to High School Main Gym from 4–8 p.m. There will be Flu Mist and injection available. You will be able to designate which you prefer when doing the online registration. Online registration is expected to be ready by early next week.

* **From Pat Smith, Criminal Justice teacher:** The criminal justice students visited a crime museum yesterday. The students participated in a criminal forensics lab which including working with blood spatter, fingerprinting, handwriting analysis, and information decryption. They also went through the museum which included various types of crimes as well as a medical examiner’s office.
* **From Adam Sussman:** The Winning Warriors program will begin this month.

**Laurie Markle- Homecoming Parade:**

* + This year the student council is hosting a Homecoming parade in conjunction with a ribbon cutting ceremony on October 24th in the am starting at Eagleville elementary school and parading up Walker Lane, Mt. Kirk, then Germantown Pike to the high school.
    - Parade Genre/theme is MOVIES.
    - This parade is planning to be inclusive of all of the schools in the district. All schools are being invited and asked to participate in some fashion with a banner and then some type of theme, possibly the theme of their school for the year, with costumes, decorated bikes, dance routines, floats, etc.
    - Shuttle buses will be available starting at 8am.
    - Anything is open and ideas are encouraged and welcomed. There has never been a parade and student council is looking to potentially start a new tradition. They are asking that all Home and School associations please help with the communication and participation.
    - Both fire departments are on board, and now the parade just needs participants. So far, participants include the high school marching band, cheerleaders, homecoming court (looking for trucks or convertibles), and the high school classes by year.
    - Parade will conclude at the high school with activities for all.
    - Questions can be directed to Laurie Markle at [lmarkle@methacton.org](mailto:lmarkle@methacton.org).

**Counselor’s Report –Cindy Hartson, Counselor**

* + The 10th and 11th grades will be taking the PSATs on October 28th at MHS. The PSAT tests will reflect the new SAT format.
  + A few key differences in the new SAT are:
    - It better reflects what they are learning in class.
    - “SAT” vocabulary words are gone.
    - There will be NO penalty for guessing. They will receive points for the questions they get right, but won’t be penalized for choosing the wrong answers.
    - It focuses on the math that matters most for college and a wide variety of careers.
    - Free test practice for all- partnership with Khan Academy- who will provide SAT practice materials that can be personalized for the students.
* Your current junior should take the new SAT since they are already exposed to the material.
* The National College Fair will be held at the PA Convention Center on *Sunday, November 8, 2015  
  11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.* [*http://www.nacacnet.org/college-fairs/fallncf/pages/philadelphia.aspx*](http://www.nacacnet.org/college-fairs/fallncf/pages/philadelphia.aspx)
* Continue to encourage your seniors to fill out college applications.

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

* + Methacton’s first homecoming parade is hoping to pull the community together since the field projects are nearing completion. Classes will earn points through the week with various activities to see which class can earn the most points. Homecoming dance will be that Saturday night.
  + Keystone results are back. Programs in place to help students who need help.
  + Library changes: there will now be a New study hall concept coming up where the students can choose their study hall locations in order to make the best use of our resources. The December meeting will have discussion on this to provide more space and a functional environment.
  + Commons breakfast/coffee- will be serving until 9:30 am.
  + A new Life Skills program will be in place at a work-study called “Methacton Works” which will help students at the school to learn life skills such as office jobs, mailroom, etc.
  + Backpack program- Jamie Gravinese is working on a project to create a pantry/trailer to have non-perishable items available to those students in need.
  + Methacton has partnered with a company to have our own branding for the Methacton logos. The goal is to complete the branding logos by homecoming. The green color is called Dartmouth Green.
  + MHS marching band now has a NEW green trailer which will reflect the marching band uniqueness.
  + Teachers will now be using Google Chrome, pilot classes are now in progress.

**Souper Luncheon- Monica Holman**

* Will be Wednesday, Nov 4th, please bring items by 7:30 am in crock pots and salads/etc in containers-drop off location on cart near Athletic office (pool door). Please pick up items at 2:30.

**Secretaries Report- Chris Pirovitz & Kath Schlenker**

* + Minutes from September and October meetings are posted on the Methacton High School Home and School website.

**Treasurer-** **John Maioriello**

* + The report was presented and accepted.
  + Income was more than expected at Giant. **Giant shoppers will need to RE-register their cards annually.**
  + Mini grants, post prom golf donation were all completed.
  + Starting the year out ahead in revenue.
  + Budget and Line items will be more defined.

**Co-President- Michelle McCubbins**

* Sign up for e-alerts are on the website. You will get morning announcements and other school related information through emails.
* Mini grants are now being reviewed and approved, updates provided at the next meeting.

**Post Prom –Dawn Pataki**

* + Date for Prom is April 29th
  + Oct 22nd first meeting-7pm, in the MHS Library. All welcome. Come find out more and volunteer.
  + March 5th Adult fundraiser.
  + Communications are now on Website, Facebook, and Twitter so students and parents can find information.

**School Board –** **Kim Woodring**

* Facility upgrade and update - there are essentially four-plus segments to this project and all are at various stages of completion: the auxiliary field punch list is being completed; the stadium is nearing completion to ready the area for Homecoming; the storm-water management system is in redesign process, and the softball fields are ready for seeding.  The stadium field lights issue is still a matter in the Court of Common Pleas, with a hearing scheduled for October 7, 2015.
* The district is involved in a long-term planning process which will enable the Board to focus on direction into the future.  A community work group has been established and the selection of a vendor to facilitate the planning process is the next step.
* A public meeting relative to the potential consolidation of schools is set for tonight (Th) to hear presentations of vendors capable of providing a second review of enrollment in the coming years, among other issues that must be considered as this process moves ahead.
* The North Mont Co Technical Career Center's restaurant will open to the public the first week in October; a test run of the operation is today, with sending school board members invited to have lunch.
* The next school board meeting is October 27, 2015.
* There will be school board turnover of at least two members heading into this election. **Voting day is November 3, 2015**, and everyone is encouraged to become informed on these issues and get out to vote.

**Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Conference room.**

The Meeting Adjourned at 11:15 a.m.