

**MVA Parent Teacher Council**  
**18 August 2022**  
**Minutes**

**Present:** Jessica Sherman, Steve Brock, Cassandra Heifetz, Steve Orders, Liz Ryan, Mattie Sanchez Vargas

**Call to order:** President Jessica Sherman called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**Deans' Discussion:** Dean Orders, Upper School, spoke about preparation, collaboration and new expectations, including camera usage. The MVA is down on upper-level administrator with Carrie Vieira's leave-taking. Dean Heifetz, Lower School, spoke about reduced numbers in the elementary. Targeted support for students has increased for grades 3-5. Baseline data is being analyzed. New extracurricular partnerships include a Rainbow Club and Kids for Equity will be run by MCPS staff. MVA is eliminating asynchronous instruction.

**General Discussion:** Jessica asked how to help the deans. Dean Heifetz discussed the material pick-up tomorrow and next week. Steve asked about adopt-a-school partners. Dean Heifetz discussed the need for fund-raising at the school, separate from the MVAPTC. Dean Heifetz said MVAPTC needs funding for staff appreciation. School still has staff shirts remaining from last year and suggested things like water bottles or mouse pads for this year. With orientations coming next week, a slide in her presentation can be put to contact the MVAPTC and donations.

**Financial:** Treasurer Liz Ryan spoke about MVAPTC funding and expenses for last school year and discussed proposed budget for this year.

Discussed continuing to use Square for spirit wear sales, membership dues and donations. Jessica spoke about membership dues, which we discussed two weeks ago. Liz shared her proposed budget for the year. Operating costs about \$425. Liz will send something out before the next meeting; the budget will be adopted in September.

The financial review committee, Andrea and Tim, are currently reviewing last years financial records.

**August Meeting Minutes:** Minutes from 4 August were presented. Liz asked to amend the amount of money we had. Dean Order motioned to approved. Jessica seconded. The minutes from the last meeting were approved.

**Fundraising:** Jessica said the craft fair is not a possibility at present due to issues with True Respite unrelated to our organization. Jessica discussed t-shirts. Jessica discussed looking into other fundraisers.

**Social:** Jessica is looking into socials. Need volunteers to host socials, particular smaller grade level/school level get togethers. A coffee social will be in September. Details forthcoming.

**Dues:** Liz discussed the interplay between voting members and membership. Last year we just asked members to fill out membership forms. Dean Heifetz noted that other schools charge dues for membership. Brock made the proposal to charge membership for MVAPTC this year. Jessica seconded. Discussion ensued. Dean Heifetz said she would write something to share soon with MVA parents. Everyone seemed in favor of asking for something. Dean Orders noted his experience of asking for a \$5 teacher membership.

**Meetings:** Brock suggested having targeted agenda for each meeting with one special item to attract parents. Dean Heifetz suggested having a yearly overarching plan. School resources were discussed. Deans will have a welcome in September. Liz discussed using the Google slides for future meetings. Steve said he co-ordinate the outreach (“larger”) agenda item for each month. September looks to be the Deans Welcome and a comparison of the MVA with last year; October a discussion of parent use of Synergy.

**Meeting Adjourned:** Jessica adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Steve Brock  
Secretary