

JMHS PTSA February 11, 2025, Meeting Minutes - Draft

IN ATTENDANCE: Regan Morgan, Tim Buckley, Liz Calvert, Kara Reynolds, Angie Gutenson, Michelle Small, Gayle Schlueter, Tana Keeffe, Beth Eachus, Angela Sorrell

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 Pm Regan Morgan

APPROVAL OF NOV MEETING MINUTES: Angela Sorrell made a motion. Moved, seconded. Put to a vote, approved as written.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: LIZ Calvert

Thank you for the support through the holidays and for the staff events through January. Update on mission and vision work: The Principal advisory met once. Student, parent and teacher data have been collected, and we are able to start narrowing down the feedback. We can now go to SGA next and have them start crafting the mission statement. The counselors will then review, then present to the PTSA. We want it to be student driven. The data is remarkably similar across the three groups. Crafting beliefs and commitments will start after the mission is in place. That work will be next year.

Chronic absenteeism is back up to 13%. The vast majority are excused absences due to family vacation or parents allowing the student to miss school. We need buy in from parents for a better attendance record for each student regardless of their GPA. Many of the students are A/B students. We are struggling to get the message across that students need to be in the classroom and need to be on time. We get blasted by the county for our rate being above 10%. We need to come up with ways to improve overall attendance and reduce the number. Madison is dialed in on the truancy kids but the chronic absenteeism among the base kids is a problem. We will probably have parents meeting to try to discuss how to improve the overall rate.

Tim: Historically, Senior skip days have always been there, but this class is trying for one skip day a month. Parents think that they are school activities or school sponsored. Parents should not be approving of those absences.

Mike McNolty is our substance abuse prevention specialist. We can bring him in to introduce himself to the PTSA and decide how he can address the parents.

MIKE: assigned sub abuse spec for Madison and Oakton. HS, MS, Elementary Schools. Work with parents or students via referral or if reach out. A counselor, friend or parent can ask for a check in. How to get info to the parents. Move Mikes contact to student services page and have a click through and resources. Revival training...do we want? If so, he can

facilitate the training with parents. How to prepare and handle an overdose, etc. His email is on the website if there are any direct questions.

STUDENT SERVICES REPORT: Tim Buckley

Counselors knee deep in academic counseling. Met with majority of the 10th graders and currently starting 11th grade. Will then move on to 9th grade and should finish by Mar 7th.

80% of students have put their selections in the system and the selections are available in Student Vue and Parent Vue. You will receive a mail or an email with your students' selections and it is vital that you and your student should review these together to make sure what is in the system is correct. We are looking to revamp the course selection process and how we allow for changes. It is not sustainable the way it is. There were 700 changes last year and it is too disruptive to the staff and the classroom sizes. We will send out the rules this Spring and try to adhere to them.

By now all mid-year Senior grades have gone out. Yesterday (Monday) reports were updated in the common app and E-docs. Mid-year have gone for any transcript request, but if a student will need a final transcript, it can be requested through the counselors and through the end of year survey.

We will bring on another counselor next year and have some good candidates.

We are doing something new and innovative this year during SOLS and will condense the testing into 2 days. Students will only have 1 SOL per day. Tues/ Wed May 21/22 are the test dates. They will be like PSAT days. Students will be testing or in a study hall. Parents can allow students to come in late on those two days if they are not testing.

All testing should be complete by the second block, then classes will continue. More details and info to come.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT REPORT: NONE

TREASURERS REPORT: Kara Reynolds

All dues are now paid to Fairfax County and the state. We had a successful fundraiser with Vienna Vintner. Our goal is to reveal all of the categories within the budget lines over the next couple months and we are feeling confident about wrapping up the year financially strong. Some by-lines will not be tapped so we should have it all balance out.

Motion to accept finance report: Beth Eachus made a motion. A vote approved of the Treasures Report to be accepted as written.

PRESIDENTS REPORT: Regan Morgan

The Nominating Committee is being formed. All the current members are moving positions. 10 is quorum but need a Bylaws update so need a Bylaws Committee as well. There are very few changes that can be made to make it specific to Madison, but the review must be done every 5 years. Board members can be on that committee.

Volunteered: Angie Gutenson, Regan Morgan, Gayle, Kara Reynolds for Bylaws

Received two teacher grant requests: MS. Field AP GOV \$111 to buy a map maker game for helping with jerrymandering understanding. Ms. Gottschalk Health and PE asking for \$200 for purchasing journals for her yoga students to activate short term and long-term goals. Journal writing is part of their curriculum.

Regan requested a motion to approve both requests as written: Kara made a motion to approve. Voted on, passed and adopted as requested.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

Party & Programs: Beth Eachus

Pantry is in great shape. They did well with the clothing and coat drive. The canned food drive went well also. The SGA organized and collected a little less than in the past but enough to replenish the pantry and donate to Food for Others. Madison gave out food and cleaning items right before Christmas during the clean out. The Pantry has significant funding.

Parent programs have been online this past year. Blackbird Health has reached out recently. They are online telehealth for mental health. They offered to have some professionals speak or sponsor the pantry or offer whatever we need.

We are looking at online forum topics. Mental Health, Decoding ADHD, Navigating Social Media and Social Health, When to worry: Parenting Anxious teens and how to support the child and support resilience. We are thinking of starting the series with the last topic listed.

It is hard to find resources when you identify an issue, the telehealth can add a fast option

We have the date set for Baccalaureate; it will be the night before Graduation at VPC. All faiths and everyone welcomed – graduates and families.

Making a Difference Senior Scholarships will be kicked off next month. Teacher scholarships will receive nominations from students and parents.

Mock Testing: Angela Sorrell

Academic Boosters will be offering mock ACT exams. Partnering with an organization offering a new format. Start where you sign up and take when they want by email access via a link throughout February. Mock SATS were not offering tests this year but checking to see if will offer next semester.

Teacher/ Staff Appreciation: Angie Gutenson

The Soup event went well. We had some electrical issues, but we figured it out and should be good for next year. Friday we will bring decorated candy grams to the teacher's mailboxes. In March, the morning after the Oscars, we will celebrate the Real Stars of Madison. We will roll out the red carpet and bring in bundt cakes. The soup bowls cost a little extra so will make up for the overspending on that part of the budget.

All Night Grad: Tim Buckley

We will start the raffle drawings next week and will do three weeks in a row with a TV drawing being the last drawing!

NEW BUSINESS: None

Next Meeting on March 11, 2025

ADJOURN: Regan 7:47 PM

Upcoming Events:

2/1-3/31 -Mock ACT testing fundraiser

3/11 -Next PTSA Meeting

3/28 -End of Q3

3/31 – Student Holiday

