



18 October 2016 General Meeting

Co-Sponsored by SADD, Warrior Club, and PTSA

See attachment for participant list

1. The president welcomed all present and everyone introduced themselves. Many students with representation from all grades were present and received a gift certificate donated from the local Verizon store. The teacher sponsor and president of SADD introduced themselves and indicated they are revamping the program and are looking for more members and volunteers. Please contact SherwoodSadd@gmail.com for more information.
2. General Business
 - a. Amazon Smile: Our PTSA is now participating in this program. Please shop through www.smile.amazon.com, and select 'Sherwood High School Parent Teacher Assoc.'
 - b. May & Sep 2016 Minutes: Approved.
 - c. Communications Survey: Audra Bray presented the results of the survey. The parents indicated they would like to receive information (order of preference): (1) via weekly emails, (2) printed materials, (3) listserv/social media/website. For students, results show their preferences are (1) printed materials, (2) social media/websites they can access from their phones/tablets or computers. The PTSA will review these results for future communications with parents and students.
 - d. Membership: Membership is up about 30% from last year, primarily due to increased student memberships. To date, 432 parents, 15 staff members and 193 students have signed up. Individuals can sign up any time during the school year. However, they need to do so by October 30, 2016 to be included in the directory. All parents, staff and students are welcome to attend meetings, but you need to be a member to vote. Membership increases the voice of the school community. Mr. Glenn Miller, the PTSA Staff VP, will advertise within the school to increase staff membership.
 - e. 2016/17 Budget: Budget approved.
3. 2017/18 School Calendar: Mr. Miller indicated that MCPS submitted a waiver to the Governor to start the school year earlier than mandated. No official response has been received yet, but everyone is encouraged to contact their board members and delegates to have a stronger voice. To comment on the school calendar, you can email the Board of Education at boe@mcpsmd.org and/or Governor Hogan at <http://governor.maryland.gov/mail/default.asp>.
4. Principal's Report:
 - a. Principal Mr. Gregory was unable to attend since he had to attend the MCPS NAACP kick-off meeting schedule for the same time. Assistant Principals Ms. Karen Rose and Dr. Kathlyn Carrol represented the school administration.
 - b. AP Ms. Rose and Dr. Carroll distributed and presented information about the new Academic Achievement initiative, where students that are lagging behind (literacy and math goals) are coached and mentored during the school year to achieve grade level readiness. There were questions regarding involving and informing parents in the process. There were questions about

plans for continuing mentoring for students that meet readiness, given that these students can benefit from the mentoring. Staff indicated that this would be on a case by case basis.

- c. They also indicated a tentative graduation date of June 12, 2017 at 2:30 pm at DAR, however the school is exploring other venues and the time may change. Stay tuned for more information.
 - d. An academic college signing day event is being planned for May 1, 2017. More information will be available at future meetings.
 - e. Homecoming week is October 24-29. Students will vote on homecoming court on October 19. Questions arose about decisions on changing royalty from traditional “king/queen” to “court”. It was unknown if SHS is changing at this time.
5. Guest speaker MCPD Officer Brian Walburn gave talk titled “Responsible Behavior: Teen Alcohol and Substance Abuse: What Every Parent Needs to Know!”
- i. Introduced by PTSA 1st VP Dana Stroman with Q/A session

November General Meeting – 15 Nov 2016

- a. Guest Speaker Jamie Popernack, MSPH, from Mental Health Assoc. of Montgomery Co., “**Teen Depression and Suicide.**”
- b. Co-sponsored with the Warrior Club