

# MGMS PACT

PARENTS AND COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Sept. 18, 2023  
7pm MGMS Media Center

Attendees (in person): Karmyn Nelson, Patrick Smith, Kendra Grand, Bonnie Sheridan, Tara McLeod, Christine Karki, Andrea Dorn, Melissa Engle (staff), Sam Bostrom (staff), Megan Woods (staff), Kaia Paquin (staff), Jennie Edin, Kellee Negussie, Tracy Peterson, Becky Ramsey, Christine Hanson, Tammy Harris, Angel Becker, Kristi Wilson, Dara Dalthorp, Lisa Krall, **(on line)** Maureen Schultz, Antonette Jerrick, Jodie, Ashlee Bennett, Cyndy Peterson, Jen Morrissey, Sonia Menard, Maria Chapellin, Monica Tyson, Justin Smykalski, Tenika Thomas, Susan Pedersen, Stacy Salo

## PACT - who are we & what we do:

Middle school PTO - We lead and support initiatives that focus on the following areas:

1. Promote Purpose & Positive Change *(i.e. Tell Me About It career exploration program)*
2. Promote a Learning Environment that Celebrates Diversity and Inclusion *(i.e. Celebrate Culture initiative, World Cafe)*
3. Promote Effective Communication between Administration and School Families *(i.e. Consistent, frequent reminders of where to find communication)*
4. Engage our School Community *(i.e. Student leadership focus also resulting in increased parent engagement)*
5. Fund Capital Improvement & Staff Development Needs *(i.e. Ad Hoc Fundraising for Events, Staff Appreciation, Picnic Tables)*

## Principal Update

Smoothest, best start in 4 years. Teachers just starting to dig into curriculum; first 2 weeks about building relationships & setting expectations. The “no phone” rule is going very well; kids are buying in. (Teachers & counselors in attendance agree with this assessment).

Phase 2 of bond levy - every school in district will be impacted by passage or non-passage; hoping for passage. Every media center, classroom furniture, outdoor classrooms (hands on), safety & security- add cameras, door locks, etc.

Picture day is Thursday, 9/21. Spirit week moved to week of 9/25.

SROs pulled from building - not happy about it but understand where MG police department is coming from. SROs provide much more than "police presence" in school- prevention; work with families, staff & students; provide immense value. Counselors, admin, staff will work to fill in the gaps to provide safety & security students need. Will call 911 if necessary, police patrols should be nearby; SROs will be on patrol in area of schools where they worked. Staff are trained to respond in emergency situations & we continue to train.

- Parent asked: How many times SROs physically involved in restraining students?  
VERY small part of the job; in last 3 years, maybe once or twice. If there's an issue in a classroom, admin are first call. They are trained in CPI- how to de-escalate & restrain (if necessary). No holds on students unless they are a danger to themselves or others.
- New law (re: restraining) does not pertain to patrol officers if they are called in to help at the school
- Any parents who support SRO presence in schools are encouraged to write to legislators and the governor - parent requested a write up from admin detailing all the benefits of having the SROs in the school
- Grade level admin (principal, counselor, SMS) will continue to work during lunch to oversee
- Parent question: Any polling on students on their thoughts of having SROs? No
- Maple Grove police & district have an excellent relationship

Upcoming meeting to design & create American Indian culture display - include student spotlight, QR codes to video interviews of students, celebration of history & culture. Replicate it with AAPI, Black History, and others to keep up permanently. Goal is 1 display up per trimester - 3 up this year and continue to build year after year.

### PACT Priorities for the Year

#### Support and fund:

- Student leadership and school culture
  - 3 leadership groups
    - Fuel Up, WEB, Student Council - students keep eyes open! Student council sign-up is available now- no deadline but sign up ASAP, Fuel Up will open up within next week or 2; WEB leaders are set for this year; opens up (for 7th & 8th graders) in spring for upcoming '24-'25 year.
  - Create social & service events for MGMS community
    - Fall - Fuel Up social event, WEB service project
    - Winter - Student Council social event, Fuel Up service project
    - Spring - WEB social event, Student Council service project
- Staff appreciation and support
- Special projects (i.e. cultural displays, etc.)

### General Budget Recommendation

Current Balance: \$12,941, Funding Requests: (\$3,225)

We think a \$15,000-\$20,000 (after fees) fundraising goal is feasible:

Annual spending:

- School events - \$9500
- Staff & school requests - \$2000
- Staff appreciation - \$3000-\$5000
- Special projects - TBD

### Fall Fundraising Overview

10/2/23-10/13

- Support the 2023-2024 PACT priorities
- Engage student body in funding the school
- Participation/Engagement is celebrated and rewarded (vs. rewarding amounts/totals raised)
- Utilize Pledgestar to collect donations - they charge a fee of 7% of funds raised, cap at \$995
- Prize budget for participants up to \$500

Board brings motion forward to use Pledgestar & \$500 prize budget; no second needed. **Ayes carry, motion approved.**

### Fuel Up Event

Event connected but not directly tied to fundraising

- Sunday Oct 8th 5-7 PM
- Free to play- Ninja course, Arcade, Yard games, Warped wall, Inflatable, And more!
- Come and go as you please
- Fuel Up team to share more details soon
- Funding request \$1200

Board brings motion forward to fund \$1200 for Fuel Up event; no second needed. **Ayes carry, motion approved.**

### Additional Funding Requests

- Previously Approved- Welcome Back Signage, PACT Board approved funding \$250 this summer
- Staff BBQ - PACT Board approved \$250 this summer (not yet deducted)

- Additional \$50 requested

Board brings motion forward to fund additional \$50; no second needed. **Ayes carry; motion passes.**

- Fall Conference Dinner - 10/12 - Onsite conference night
  - \$1200 Funding request - Support the staff with dinner before in-person conferences; Individual meal, dietary considerations met; Staff survey for future events being conducted

Board brings motion forward to fund \$1200; no second needed. **Ayes carry; motion passes.**

- 8th grade Escape Room \$275 - Motion brought by teachers; Angel Becker seconded. **Ayes carry; motion passes.**
- 8th grade Global Studies \$250 - Motion brought by teachers; Angel Becker seconded. **Ayes carry; motion passes.**

#### Additional Business

Yearbook companies have been changed from Lifetouch to Jostens! Emails are not spam. Once you order the yearbook the emails will stop.

October meeting 10/16, we encourage you to join in person if possible - same place, same time. Online is an option if necessary. Meetings after October will be online until the spring when we will re-evaluate.

Volunteer leads are needed for these upcoming social and service events! Send an email via PACT email if interested or keep an eye on Mustang Memo. Andrea Dorn will send volunteer opportunities/requests via email. (If you'd like to get Andrea's emails, fill out a volunteer application.)

Angel motioned to adjourn, Kristi seconded. Adjourned 8:22pm.