



**MVCS PTA General Membership Meeting**  
**Zoom**  
**January 13, 2022**

1. **Welcome and check in – Megan Reing:** Principal Appreciation Week, we very much appreciate our MVCS principals!
2. **Plastic Film Recycling Program – Katie Kessinger and student ambassadors Elliott Perry, Kiley Finnegan, and Carlotta Schofer**
  - There is a new recycling challenge that runs through beginning of April sponsored by TREX.
  - Not just plastic bags– plastic film can be many things. Nothing shiny or crunchy – so no water bottles or food containers. Put will take anything that is clean and dry and is flimsy plastic, such as bubble wrap, packaging, anything with 2 or 4 on it, Ziploc bags, inside of cereal bag, etc - will all be accepted. Three large plastic bins located at the school entrances.
  - If win nationwide, TREX bench and if you win the social media challenge the school will get \$2500. The hashtag will go out in the Thursday folder with more information - #TrexRecyclingChallenge and #Recycle2Win. Make sure you tag MVCS on the social media posts.
3. **PTA Updates - Martha Davis, Megan Reing, Dana Colarulli, Lauren Heslep**
  - A. Dual Language –
    - New DL coordinator for ACPS and interviews will start on Feb. Martha will be one of the parent representatives at interviews.
    - STAMP test will be used to assess 5<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish proficiency.
    - Middle school ambassadors will tell MVCS about dual language at GWMS.
  - B. Spirit Wear-
    - Thank you Kristen Gentile and Diana Epstein – orders are here and will be distributed this week and next.

C. **Big(ish) Flea is On –**

- New space acquired, drop off info coming and can start clearing out now. Date is April 30<sup>th</sup> 2022.

D. **Volunteers Needed –**

- International night, Science night, Gardening/Plant Bingo all outdoors. If we want them to happen we need help, please volunteer!

**4. PTA January Treasurers Report – Patrick Smith**

- Bank balance: \$91,844
- Spending FY: \$45,838
- Receipts FY: \$52,344
- Not much spending during holiday, most were charges for fall fundraiser and COVID response items, teacher reimbursement and eye exams as needed.

**5. February Meeting – Megan Reing**

- Reflections Art Contest Winners recognized and participant artwork will be displayed.
- Presentation: Science and school data, Ms. Burrell and Ms. Annett - Siminski

**6. Duncan Library - Kayla Payne Youth Services Director at Duncan Library**

- Website best place to get info about the serviced the library offers.
- Student card vs full library card – student 3 check-outs and full card up to 100, and AV Is only for full library card. You can also get a full juvenile card and check up to 100.
- Calendar of event – all events are virtual. Have crafts with video, can look at ages for each event. Also have a winter reading challenge, partnered with Wizards who gave out prizes - backpack with fun things inside. Specifically at Duncan have monthly reading challenge and can earn a free book from prize shelf.
- They have expanded Spanish language materials and books – novels, picture books, chapter books, etc.
- Many services you can access from home, databases for kids, fun learning resources and homework help.

**7. Q&A Ms. Burrell facilitated by Terry Heubert**

**A. Engagement with school and differences among asynchronous across grade levels on snow days?**

We were also not expecting a week of snow days, there is a difference between asynchronous and synchronous. Asynchronous – the applications we have on our school platforms and hold office hours. Synchronous – new learning with instructors and SEAL time. Snow days will not be made up.

**B. Where is MVCS on teacher absences and keeping MVCS open in event of absences?**

We are a school with 878 students and 117 staff members, Closure of school is not a local decision. Central office has distributed information on the three zones (green, yellow, red) and those explain closure protocols. So far, staff absences have been minimal. Ms. Burrell has spreadsheet where documents absences – more than 10 percent staff absences then need to start looking at resources to provide coverage. If cannot find coverage, then school will communicate with Central office and see if they can find resources. If that is not possible, then a classroom would close. This would be looked at daily. The first day would be asynchronous and if class remains closed then that would hopefully change to synchronous for any following days. Closing all of MVCS is highly unlikely. Also please note, rules around who can be in building are ACPS rules so cannot invite public to be subs.

**C. How much notice would parents get and how would they be informed?**

We would aim for parents to have one day notification that class would be virtual. Email, text communication.

**D. Where are we with lunches and cafeteria update?**

Cafeteria will be completed in two weeks.

**E. How are you doing with spacing kids out and keeping distancing up as the quarantine days have been reduced?**

We are doing everything in our power to keep kids safe. Daily announcement that masks should be wore properly. Ms. Burrell goes to classrooms to check on that everyday. Using all the space in school, cafeteria, classrooms, library, etc. As weather improves – we will consider and explore spring outdoor lunch.

**F. What mental health resources are available for kids?**

We had the COVID questionnaire and learned the impact it has had on students learning and their mental health. This is a traumatic situation for kids and have student support team, doing sessions and Webinars. Doing everything in our power with the resources we have. Burrell meets with counselors every month, ensure children get outdoor and physical activity time.