

Order of Business	<p>MLC PTSA Meeting Agenda September 11, 2024 6 to 7:30PM at the MLC Library and VIA Zoom</p>	
Introductions	Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! Please share your name, your student's name and grade, and if you are a new or returning family.	6 - 6:15 PM
Standing Rules	Reading of the Standing Rules for the first meeting of the year	6:15 - 6:25 PM
Financial Report	Treasurer's Report: Link to Report	6:25 - 6:35 PM
Committee and Other Reports	<p>Principal's Report (Suezann) Teacher Report (Betsy) Electives Report (Dana) Executive Committee Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sign up or renew your MLC PTSA membership here to be a voting member ● See our annual Family Guide to learn more about MLC and our PTSA <p>Standing Committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Volunteer & Membership Committee (Sierra) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Volunteer Opportunities Interest Form ○ Tabling at Back to School Night ● Community Building & Events Committee (Sierra) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coffee Cart Chat for MLC Caregivers 9/6 ○ Ice Cream Social for MLC Families 9/13 ○ Craft Faire (December) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Paired with McMenamin's Friends & Family Night 12/10 ■ Coordinator needed ● Development & Fundraising Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Auction (Sierra) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Last year, we met our PTSA financial goals and our special appeal raised over \$11,000 which enables MLC to bring in the OMSI Planetarium for 3 days and a Music Artist in Residency for the entire school year! This year, we will continue to focus on creating a fun, inclusive and equitable community-building event. ■ Currently recruiting for our Annual Auction Coordinating Committee and would also love a co-chair. This is a great opportunity for anyone looking to support event 	6:35 - 7:15 PM

	<p>planning/execution and community engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Parking Events (Tammy/Chenney) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Averaging about \$1000 per event ■ Need a few more volunteers for September 13th and October 5th, 6th, 11th. Sign up for shifts here ○ Bottle Drop (Sierra on behalf of Adam) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Current balance: \$333.06 ■ June-August 2024 brought in \$999.86 	
New Business	<p>Community Building & Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Harvest Festival <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New possible event this year ○ Date TBD (October?) ○ Coordinator needed <p>Development & Fundraising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Restaurant Nights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ New fundraiser this year. Several partnerships are in the works, but suggestions are welcome. ○ A dedicated coordinator would be useful. 	7:15 - 7:25 PM
General Discussion		7:25 - 7:30 PM
Adjournment		

Meeting Minutes

Standing Rules

The Standing Rules were read in entirety. New and returning members were welcomed and an introduction to the PTSA was provided as a non-profit fundraising entity to support experiential learning and community building. The PTSA general meetings were identified as one of many spaces for members of the MLC community to gather, get information, discuss, and be a part of budgetary decisions. Volunteers are always welcome, and the PTSA board invites MLC community members to reach out. While there is no administrative representative present at this meeting, there is usually a Principal's Report to give additional information and insight into the inner workings of the school while also giving a chance to ask questions.

Financial Report

The financial report was introduced as what is typically the first part of the meeting after introductions to ensure transparency, give context, provide a picture of financial health, and help maintain financial oversight. The distribution of funds last year was outlined, which came in under budget. Teacher budget's were called out as one area that is being underutilized. Income this year is almost \$4,000 from areas such as bottle drop, parking events, and Fred Meyer rewards. It was clarified that funds raised this year are for next year's budget. This year's music residency is being funded by last year's auction money.

Teacher Report

The new role of Teacher Liaison for PTSA was introduced. An announcement was made at the last staff meeting directing teachers on how communication will work between the liaison and teachers, which is currently informal and mainly in person discussion.

Electives Report

Electives are for 1x5 this year. Anyone interested in teaching an elective should email Dana whether they know what they want to teach or not. Dana is happy to work with volunteers to translate their passion into an elective. Fall electives will take place on Wednesday's (10/9, 10/16, 10/30, 11/6, 11/13, 12/4, 12/11). There will be one 45 minute period for 1x3 2:20-3:05 pm and two 45 minute periods for 4x5 1:30-2:15 pm and 2:20-3:05 pm. There is the option to do a block of 2 periods for 4x5 to have a 90 minute class to dig deeper into a topic. There was discussion about middle and high school students having advisory during the 1x5 elective periods and wondering if there is any way to involve them.

Executive Committee Report

If you want to be a voting member, register on the Oregon PTA website. Meeting agendas will be posted on the MLC PTSA website one week before the meeting, and meeting minutes will be posted on the website when completed. The new family guide for this year was distributed at conferences, and copies will also be available at back to school night. A digital copy is linked in the agenda.

Volunteer & Membership Committee

The PTSA can help connect volunteers with school specific volunteer spaces (ie the library) as well as PTSA specific events (ie parking shift for a few hours, auction committee with event planning). This can be anything from a small commitment to a larger time commitment. Reach out to any PTSA board member to get involved. Volunteer interest form is linked in the agenda. Reminder that a background check is required by PPS for anything involving interacting with kids and in the school building. This can be completed through the PPS website.

Community Building & Events Committee

Coffee cart for adults was last Friday morning. There were a lot of connections and chatting. All families welcome for the ice cream social will be immediately after school on Friday 9/13. The Craft Faire is an MLC tradition put on by the PTSA and needs a new coordinator. The previous coordinator is ready to pass it on, says it is pretty turn key, and is available for guidance. Reach out if to become involved even as a logistics person (no crafting necessary). This event will be paired with the McMEnamin's family/friends night where anyone can eat/drink there and proceeds will go to the school.

Development & Fundraising Committee

The annual auction is looking for all roles from event planning/coordination to set up and working the actual event. Possibility of new coordinator if there is someone interested and invested. The date and details are still TBD. There was a question about what size venue is needed for the auction which usually has 125-150 attendees. There is a current hold at Polaris but definitely open to other venue possibilities.

The parking events for Friday/Saturday/Sunday Timbers and Thorns games are looking for more volunteers to staff the lot(s). This involves unlocking the lot, collecting money, directing cars, and locking up at the end of the night. Opening and closing shifts available, need 2-3 people per shift. A full lot can bring in over \$1000, and this event brings in money from outside of the MLC community. There was a question about fliers to inform the public about parking. A digital copy of the flier was entered into the meeting chat online and emailed to members.

Bottle Drop is one of the ways we recycle in Oregon, and the PTSA has an account. This is an easy passive fundraiser. Blue bags for collection are available with a QR code label attached. Bags will be available at PTSA events and will soon be available outside classrooms again. June, July, and August brought in almost \$1000.

New Business

The topic of the 4x5 overnight fall field trip was brought up by several members as 4x5 parents had been emailed this week to notify them that it was not happening this year due to extreme budget cuts and equity issues. In the past, trips were funded in the past by families paying out of pocket and scholarships given to those who were unable to pay. Discussion included experiential learning being a foundational part of MLC, students looking forward to these trips starting in kindergarten, curriculum built around these trips, concern that communication has been lacking and vague when given, concern that once these experiences are gone that it is hard to get them back, concern for the values and foundation of MLC being lost, what it means to families when they choose MLC but don't get the experiential learning and storyline teaching as advertised by the school, concern that MLC is falling into line with standard PPS schools rather than being an alternative school, what funding options are available, and how the PTSA budget can be adjusted as needed.

Question: Are we no longer allowed to fund with PTSA money? Answer: Grades have a budget line for field trip scholarships, and there is a general field trip scholarships line for needs over grade specific funds.

Question: Did 3rd graders used to have an overnight field trip. Answer: No. 6th grade has outdoor school, and it's district-wide.

Two teachers outside of 4x5 presented their proposed field trips and experiential learning experiences with costs. It was stated that teachers were told not to ask for field trip money at the beginning of the year along with supplies as it was too much of a burden for families. Members expressed frustration and confusion about how field trips and experiential learning was going to occur as well as what the process is for funding these. Several members volunteered to help draft and communicate the various concerns. The PTSA board committed to emailing administration and requesting a meeting with the principal. Members were also encouraged to contact administration directly if they want since the PTSA board is not the only voice and perspective in the MLC community. The board committed to keeping members informed of communications and progress regarding these concerns.