

## **Thurgood Marshall Fundamental Middle School**

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[www.thurgoodmarhsallfundamental.org](http://www.thurgoodmarhsallfundamental.org)

Nicole Wilson, Principal

### **School Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

**April 9, 2019**

Time: 6:05 p.m. start

Location: All Purpose Room

Welcome: Principal Wilson

Call to order: Tammy Kaplan

Roll Call: SAC Secretary Chris Simoniello: members present

Officers: Tammy Kaplan, Chair, Nicolette Love, Vice Chair, Chris Simoniello, Secretary

School representative: Raquel Leonard

8<sup>th</sup> Grade: Tia Hockensmith

7<sup>th</sup> Grade: Rosena Harris, Dallas Jackson

6<sup>th</sup> Grade: Jorge Angulo, Jamie Decker, Alisha Ford, Elizabeth Magro, Patricia Tatum-Evans, Debbie Terrell, Zoe Wilkinson

Absent—8<sup>th</sup> grade: Beth Alfonso; 7<sup>th</sup> grade: Carol Bolden, Charlotte Suarez; 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Mary Weber

Motions were made by Rosena Harris to accept the agenda, accept the March meeting minutes and excuse March absences (Beth Alfonso, Tia Hockensmith, Nicolette Love, Dallas Jackson, Jorge Angulo and Hyacinth Dyer). Patricia second, all in favor.

Tammy Kaplan provided the Chair's Report, reviewed upcoming SAC election procedures and gave a description of officer positions (Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary). Those interested in serving on the SAC board should send their name and a paragraph describing themselves to [thurgoodsac@gmail.com](mailto:thurgoodsac@gmail.com).

Ms. Wilson reminded the group that the Bingo and BBQ event is April 18; meals are \$10 each. People can play whether they purchase food or not. She encouraged people to run for election on the SAC board stating that keeping diverse families and the community involved helps the School Improvement Plan. She thanked all for the snacks she was able to provide students during testing. Leftover items will be used on testing days in May; \$500 was requested and approved by the SAC board (motion by Tammy, second by Chris, all in favor) to buy freeze pops and snacks for upcoming testing. The testing schedule is available on the TMFMS website. This will likely be the last year 8<sup>th</sup> graders have a Move Up ceremony, a project started by Dr. Lowry. They will transition to a new tradition and also have an 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration breakfast where they will receive their year books. Field day will be the last day of school. Kids loved having recess stating they feel energized and less stressed the rest of the day. Efforts are still needed to unify students—they report they feel there is segregation and bullying by color and race. Sports teams, socials, dances, and spirit days might help. Kids can participate in their zoned school's sports programs but the different start/end times of TMFMS precludes most from doing so. Next year, TMFMS may offer basketball, volleyball, cheerleading and dance teams. Dismissal is at 2:40 pm on May 29<sup>th</sup>, the last day of school.

Renowned social scientist and invited speaker, Dr. H. Roy Kaplan, conducted interactive exercises with the group aimed at building a united school community. He said the segregation issues at TMFMS are the same around the country. In order to connect people in the audience, he asked questions and had people stand if the topic applied to them. The message was that we have more similarities than differences. The goal is for the TMFMS community to discuss the most taxing problems and work to design an Action Plan to address. At one point, approximately 30 people were employed by the county to work on diversity issues. There is no longer funding for these programs. Dr. Kaplan will continue dialogue at the May 2019 SAC meeting and work with the TMFMS community to develop an action plan to tackle social issues identified by students, parents and educators.

Next SAC Meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 6 pm, TMFMS  
Jorge made the motion to adjourn; Nicolette second. All in favor.