

Marathon Middle/High School Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES (Draft)

May 1, 2012

6:00 PM MMHS Media Center

SAC Members in Attendance: Principal Hammond Gracy, Assistant Principals Liz Logan and Wendy McPherson, Athletic Director Teresa Konrath, Chairperson Luis Gonzalez, Vice Chairperson Karen McKeon, Secretary Anita Nelson, SGA Representative Cassidy Burgos, Beth Ann Connell, and Mike Puto. **Not in attendance:** Karen Angle, Diane Culver, Delvis DelPozo (Cabrera), Lisa Maeder, Gerard “Spook” Roussin, Suzanne Ryals and Regina Ryan.

1.,2. **Welcome:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chairperson, Luis Gonzalez. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

3. **SGA Report:**

Student Government Association Vice President Cassidy Burgos presented the SGA report as follows:

- a. Marathon High School **SGA officers** for the 2012-13 school year have been chosen as follows:

President: Yelixa Larios-Lopez
Vice President: Christina Rios
Secretary: Daniela Ortiz
Treasurer: Sean Roussin

- b. 2012-13 school year class officers recently elected for “rising” classes are as follows:

Seniors – Class of 2013:

President: Shellica Anastari
V.P.: Ariel Rodriguez
Secretary: Alexis Branch
Treasurer: Stacie Colon

Juniors – Class of 2014:

President: Sarah Dodamead
V.P.: Xavier McKnight
Secretary: Malorie Woodbury
Treasurer: Kelsey Heller

Sophomores – Class of 2015:

President: Carlos O’Farrill
V.P.: Brandi Spalten
Secretary: Zamaira Ricart
Treasurer: Samantha Bonilla

Freshmen – Class of 2016:

President: Sacha Olivera
V.P.: Rebekah Smith
Secretary: Chris Freeman
Treasurer: Selena Gonzalez

- c. Upcoming **SGA plans and events** include the following:

- i. Class colors for T-shirts and spirit links have been chosen as follows:
Seniors: yellow or gold T’s and links; Juniors: white or gray T’s, white links;
Sophomores: Blue T’s and links; and Freshmen: Black T’s and links.
- ii. A final SGA fundraiser, a car wash, is scheduled at IberiaBank on Sunday, May 6th.
- iii. The SGA luncheon is planned for May 25th, with location and menu TBA on DTV.

- iv. Some dates for next year's calendar are being planned, including dates for Field Day, prom, Grad Bash and Beach Day, and planning for a new tradition; Queen of Hearts will be on February 14th and King of Hearts on March 14th.
- d. Upcoming activities, events and planning by class include the following:

Seniors:

- i. Beach Day will be May 11th, 2012. Students will walk to the beach and are asked to provide chips, buns, cheese slices and soda. The senior class will provide paper goods and ice. Students must clear library fines and lunch fees and submit permission forms to Ms. Buhyoff by May 9th to go.
- ii. Home-Going is the week of May 18-24, including a culinary department-hosted breakfast on the 18th; "dress up/dress down" days from the 21st to the 24th; theme days; a softball game after school on the 23rd; and tentatively, a dinner at Sunset Grill on Thursday the 24th. The latter may have to be rescheduled due to the three-team football game at Coral Shores on the same night. The SGA's "new tradition" will start on the 24th. More info upcoming on DTV.
- iii. Voting for prom king and queen will occur this week, with winners announced and crowned between 10:30 and 11 p.m. the night of prom. Fair voting procedures were discussed, with the suggestion that a class list spreadsheet could be provided, and names checked off as voters receive ballots.

Juniors:

- i. An attempt will be made to divide class dues between junior and senior years. If this year's juniors pay their \$55 dues, dues will be less next year.
- ii. Juniors are sponsoring Safety Week during prom week. Included will be a talk on May 17th about safety and smart choices presented to juniors and seniors by attorney Dennis Ward.
- iii. Class rings have been presented to juniors who have completely paid for them; once final payments are made, any others will be shipped. Payments can be made online.
- iv. Juniors are encouraged to send college applications as early as Sept. 1st. Check college websites for application deadlines. Senior year is important for scholarship applications. Rising seniors are encouraged to take as many rigorous courses as possible, as colleges and scholarship foundations take this into consideration.
- v. Rising seniors will arrive on campus in the fall as a group in or on a "newsworthy vehicle." More info TBA.
- vi. All rising seniors will have pictures taken on May 22nd in the auditorium, to make sure there are photos for the yearbook; students may choose another photo if desired, however.
- vii. Grad Bash next year will be a one-day trip, in order to make it affordable for more students: Students will ride up on Friday, go to the pre-party and then to Grad Bash, then at 2 a.m. will board the bus for home.

Sophomores:

- i. A fundraising hot dog eating contest will take place during lunch tomorrow. Entry donation is \$20 for five people, and the winners will be the

fastest teams (middle and high school) to eat 20 hot dogs. Prizes will be pizza parties.

Other:

- i. Prom will be May 19th at Sombrero Country Club. Theme is “Arabian Paradise.” Sam the DJ will provide music, and “Faux-to” booths will be available for informal and formal photos. Hummus, chocolate-dipped fruit, and meatballs will be provided. Appropriate behavior is expected, formal attire encouraged, and lewd dancing prohibited. Library fines and lunch fees must be paid before tickets will be issued. Guest applications for non-MHS students (below age 21) must be received before tickets can be issued to seniors or sold to juniors. Ticket sales start May 7th and tickets will be issued to seniors May 16th. Cost is \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door.
- ii. Registration for June SAT and ACT tests closes this week. The SAT is June 2nd and the ACT, June 9th.

4. ***Election of 2012-13 SAC Officers and Council Members:***

a. A roster of candidates for 2012-13 MMHS SAC officers and council members was presented to attendees, with nominations from the floor. *Upon a motion made by Mike Puto, seconded by Karen McKeon and unanimously approved, the following officers were elected:*

Chairperson:	Luis Gonzalez
Vice Chairperson:	Karen McKeon
Secretary:	Anita Nelson
Middle School Liaison:	Michelle Franck.

b. *Upon a motion by Mike Puto, seconded by Karen McKeon and unanimously approved, the following were also elected to the MMHS SAC council for 2012-13:*

Hammond Gracy, Principal	Liz Logan, Assistant Principal
Teresa Konrath, Athletic Director/Teacher	Beth Ann Connell
Diane Culver	Delvis DelPozo (Cabrera)
Marcie Ehrig	Mike Puto
Gerard “Spook” Roussin	Suzanne Ryals
Yelixa Larios-Lopez (as SGA Rep.)	

5. ***Assistant Principal Updates:***

High School and Middle School Updates: Ms. McPherson and Ms. Logan reported on the following:

- a. EOC tests for biology are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, May 7th and 8th; the Algebra I EOCs are on May 14th and 15th; and the schedule for AP tests has been posted. Senior exams are May 25th, 29th and 30th, and planning is underway for graduation.
- b. Middle School Field Day is May 4th; an AVID and National Junior Honor Society trip to FGCU on May 10th; a visit from Switlik students on May 10th; “Peace Day” May 11th; an 8th grade Boomer’s trip on May 25th; a Miami NJHS trip on May 31st; and the moving up ceremony on June 1st (this is for all 8th graders, whether actually moving up or not).

- c. The Middle School uniform policy was discussed, with the conclusion that, as long as the policy is clearly stated, it works well. The following suggestions were made:
 - i. Clearly define whether patterns (e.g., stripes, plaid) will be accepted, and what fabrics (e.g., no denim);
 - ii. Work on having a “clothes bank” with efficient storage, for financially challenged families, and send a letter to families of 8th graders requesting donations;
 - iii. Define colors: Navy and light blue, yellow, white, black; khaki and gray pants;
 - iv. Inform families well ahead of time what the policy will be; and
 - v. Set and publicize days when alternate dress will be allowed (e.g., “class days”).
 - vi. *A motion was made by Mike Puto, seconded by Karen McKeon and unanimously approved to continue the dress code as it was this year, and to provide a copy to registering parents.* Michelle Franck will provide a copy of the policy to clothing companies, such as K-Mart and Beall’s.

6. *Athletic Director’s Report:*

AD Teresa Konrath reported the following:

- a. All spring sports have concluded, with the exception of spring football, which started May 1st; a tri-tournament among MHS, Coral Shores and KeysGate Schools will take place May 24th at Coral Shores, and fans are encouraged to attend to support our team. MHS is in a new conference, which will feature a bowl game at the end of the season.
- b. Congratulations to the baseball team, which placed 2nd in the South Florida conference.
- c. The spring sports awards assembly will be on May 16th at 6 p.m. in the auditorium. One award category will be the 3-sport athlete awards. Note appropriate dress.
- d. The recent Stone Crab Dinner fundraiser at Keys Fisheries was a huge success, with the most tickets sold ever. Kudos to Mike Puto for his role in this.
- e. Kudos to Marina Kay Wiatt, who was one of twelve Florida seniors to be selected for the academic all-star team, for her stellar academic performance as well as participation in sports. She has received a \$1,000 scholarship and is in the running for an additional \$3,000. Marina will be attending a June 11th award ceremony in Gainesville.
- f. Fall and winter sports schedules are already set.
- g. Ms. Konrath will be teaching 4 class periods next year, in addition to her AD duties, supplement or no supplement.
- h. Help will be needed next year from both the Booster Club and the Alumni Club to pay for transportation and other costs.

7. *Principal’s Report:*

Principal Gracy presented his report and lead discussion:

- a. The recent incident involving European visitors asking suspicious questions while touring campus was discussed, while noting that the incident was thoroughly reviewed by law enforcement. Student safety and well-being were

and are the most important considerations. Some ideas for further enhancing security were discussed, including:

- i. Installing a front-door buzzer, placard with phone number, or panic button for after-hours visitors or incidents; and
- ii. Use of the all-call intercom and enhanced sign-in procedures.
- b. The ISS (In-School Suspension) position at MHS has been eliminated. An alternative is to continue temporarily rotating teachers/aides into that position.
- c. 180 Bell to Bell: Mr. Gracy expressed the idea that too many activities toward the end of the year are taking students out of the classroom. Ways to resolve this would be to limit the number of off-campus activities and to plan senior activities during graduation week. The idea was presented to assign an activities director.
- d. Resources and scheduling for 2012-13:
 - i. Ms. McPherson will be moving to Sugarloaf School, which will leave Ms. Logan as sole, full-time Assistant Principal. Concern was expressed about how to handle disciplinary issues, of which there were approximately 800 last year.
 - ii. MMHS will have 35-36 teachers next year, and 38 are needed to reinstate 7 class periods. The comment was made that the pupil progression plan will have to be changed if the school can't reinstate 7 periods.
 - iii. The 2012-13 master schedule will be completed by June 30th; an attempt will be made to match students' electives requests with teachers' certifications. Classes expected to be retained are: Culinary; AVID; Intensive Reading; PE; Art; Marine Mechanics and Music. Expected to be dropped: Critical Thinking. An allocation formula was/is used to determine what can be retained and what can't. Mr. Gracy believes that austere conditions are beginning to turn around, with one example being the return of counselors to the elementary schools.

8. *Open Agenda Items:*

- a. Ms. Nelson reminded everyone of Teacher Appreciation Week, coming up May 7-11. A Wednesday luncheon is being hosted by SAC, and teachers' and staffers' names will be drawn for small gifts throughout the week. Food donation requests have been sent by e-mail.
- b. Ms. Lancaster's notice about upcoming Superintendent's Reading Award ceremonies was read: These will be on May 22nd in the Media Center for both Middle and High School. The HS assembly is from 8:50-9:35 a.m. and the MS assembly from 9:45-10:30 a.m. Light breakfast snacks will be provided.

9. *Approval of Minutes:*

A motion was made by Mike Puto, seconded by Karen McKeon and unanimously approved to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2012 SAC meeting.

10. *Adjournment:*

The next SAC meeting will take place in the fall. There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of May, 2012, by
Anita J. Nelson, Secretary

(Please see schedules of activities, sports & testing on the school's website/calendar.)