

Blair PTSA Meeting Minutes
November 15, 2016
7:00 PM - Blair Media Center

- I. **Welcome** – Diane Friedman, PTSA President

- II. **Principal's Report** - Renay Johnson
 - Montgomery County Alliance of Black School Educators is holding an evening of smooth jazz at Blair on Saturday December 10
 - Cheerleaders won the County Spirit Award for 12th year in a row; Handball team are County champions
 - Enrollment is 2975
 - November 17 report cards
 - Student protest yesterday; MCPS policy allows students to protest

- III. **"Do Something" Club** – Blair students Rudy and Jessica
Club holds donations and drives to donate to shelters, take birthday cards to Holy Cross Hospital, collect Unicef boxes at Halloween. Currently holding a month-long drive to collect feminine products for women's shelter.

- IV. **Gap Busters** – Margaret O'Connor
Non-profit organization located across the street providing education to close the socioeconomic gap. They hold an after-school enrichment and tutoring program that is free. Also offer IT Busters which trains kids to repair computers.

- V. **NCAA Clearinghouse Info** – Rita Boule **HANDOUT**
Overview of athletics at Division I, II, III and junior colleges. Eligibility requirements have changed starting August 1, 2016. Division I athletes required to complete 16 core courses and 10 must be completed by the end of junior year. There is a sliding scale for SAT/ACT and GPA. There are very few scholarships. Academics are key. Contact Ms. Boule for more info.

- VI. **Academic Affairs** –Frances Frost
Parents and students should look at the courses available for next year. Students can meet with their guidance counselors and they can use the PSAT scores as indicators. Dec. 12 PSAT scores will be online and will be mailed in January. Kahn Academy partnered with the College Board for test prep. There are fee waivers for AP exams and FARMS students can get a reduced rate. Counselors visited all 9th grade classes this week.

- VII. **Committee Updates**
 - Treasurer has stepped down and Dave Williams, the past Treasurer, is willing to step back in. Dave can be the temporary Treasurer and the PTSA will open it up to the general membership and post the vacancy on the list-serv. Will vote in December.
 - Citrus Sale has ended and raised about \$8800. Orders will be picked up Saturday December 10.
 - We have 575 PTSA members. Both Library and English departments have 100% staff participation.
 - Winter Social January 12
 - PTSA will offer the Reflections art program that a parent will lead

- Mini grants have been approved and applicants will be informed this week.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.