Andrea Appel started the meeting with a plea for a co-chairperson and a secretary.

The minutes from last month were reviewed. Corrections needed:

* The number of High School students needs to be corrected to 116 (Ms. Brown will check)
* The number of parents needed on the committee is not 51% exactly, but a majority

The minutes were approved with these changes.

The new parent members were welcomed.

Everyone introduced themselves.

Ms. Brown presented the Principal’s report

* Due to leveling, Masterman lost .6 of a teacher position. In order to not disrupt and make drastic changes, funding from numerous sources has been compiled. We have 1190 instead of 1200 students needed due to attrition. In the past, the District was more lenient with leveling. This year, they were not. Masterman had to come up with $70,000 to cover this. Ms. Brown explained why loosing a teacher would be extremely disruptive. The District allotted $18, 020 to help. To make up the rest, 1, $182 was taken from Title 1 books, $4,438 was taken from the operating budget, HSA will donate 20,000, District will a lot additional $14,980 and the student activities fund will contribute $12,240 (vending machine money and miscellaneous donations).
  + Questions included:
    - What is now gone due to this?
      * She answered books, supplies, and materials but this is not huge because we’d just gotten books.
      * HSA will no longer be paying for Young Playwrights, though Ms. Brown is looking for other sources of funding for this.
      * HSA will not be able to buy the reading program right now for grade 5.
      * EC money may be effected. We need to sell more at the magazine sale.
  + Will the 10 student reduction hurt us in future years?
    - She answered that planning ahead, she will have a longer waiting list for 7th & 8th grade.
    - The Principals are having a conversation with the District about this process and how it can be less disruptive.
  + Would this have been a specific teacher who was forced to leave?
    - She would have gotten to make the decision
  + Will this effect the HSA funding for technology (like Rich’s money)
    - She said that that was never in this year’s budget.
  + Can you guarantee this won’t happen next year?
    - She said no, but she thinks we can be more prepared.
    - She said that the District has never been this stringent before. Now she knows and will try to plan.
  + Should we have some money in reserve in case this happens again?
    - We should be able to prepare better now that we know this can happen.
    - We can fill the numbers in September as soon as we see spots open.
* Tomorrow is the SAT/PSAT funded through the District
* There is an open house on Oct. 21
* Clean up day will be Saturday, Oct. 22 (painting, cleaning, etc. lunch provided)
* Masterman College Fair at 440 on October 28th
  + Students were given a list of colleges that will be there
  + Counselors gave them guided questions to use
* Halloween Dance on October 28
* College Fair at the Convention Center – Oct, 30
* SGA Canned Food Drive starts the last week of October
* National Merit Semifinalists had a breakfast to honor our students selected. 10 semi finalists, 14 commented and 3 Spanish recognition students.
* The AACC is going to present the film “I’m Not Racist, Am I?” on January 19th in order to start conversations about racism. It is a movie with kids talking about race. He will come on January 3rd to train faculty and the students and teachers will be involved with facilitating conversations about race. This is only for our high school students.
  + She then played the trailer for the movie.
  + There was a question as to whether the middle school students might be involved as they often have these conversations.
    - Ms. Brown said she’d have to preview the entire movie first
    - Rayshawn, student from the AACC said that the context is more appropriate for the High School but also as a peer counselor, he would like to see the peer counselors present this kind of material to the middle schoolers.
    - It was mentioned that we may need to have this conversation even more due to the election. It has brought up some heavy duty topics.
    - One parent said that she does not think from the trailer that this would be appropriate for her 5th grade child.
      * Another parent has had experience presenting this kind of material to young students in the past with help from facilitators who prepared them ahead of time. She hoped that getting this message out to kids as early as possible will help with racism.
      * Logistically, this may not work. It costs money to do the entire program that comes with the movie.
      * Ms. Brown said we need to find ways to have these kind of conversations with our 5th & 6th graders? They need to be continuous.
        + A parent suggested that younger students may feel more comfortable discussing this topic with their peers, rather than their teacher.
        + Andrea Appel suggested we have some people join the committee for this as part of SAC
* Alfredo Pratico presented the High School report
  + He gave info about the PSAT, SAT tomorrow
  + Info on Halloween Dance
  + We did a High School Fair last weekend where Masterman was represented
  + We are a reconstructed student government this year
    - They meet as separate committees, all together, with Ms. Brown, etc. in order to get more things done
    - A priority for Student council this year is fixing the bathroom conditions.
* An update was given about the dress code.
  + Ms. Brown met with students from the senior class and some faculty members.
    - Kids want to feel safe and comfortable in terms of Implementation of dress code
    - There will be another meeting Thursday
    - There was a student suggestion about changing the language of the dress code. This will be discussed Thursday.
    - The faculty will also meet about this on a PD day to discuss student concerns and how faculty should address these issues.
    - Ms. Brown explained that we have been addressing this as students spoke out on social media about the dress code.
    - Alfredo doesn’t think we will have any dress code issues at the Halloween dance.
    - Is there is resistance to a uniform?
      * Yes. There is. People feel strongly.
    - The dress code needs to be enforced consistently.
    - Parents should help to enforce with their children.
* Malcolm Margasak presented the middle school report
  + Today was the first student council meeting
    - They will do trick or treat for Unicef
      * He showed the boxes that will be used
    - There will be a door decorating contest starting this Weds, judged on October 31st
* We need an HSA representative to give that report.
  + Mrs. Brown will ask at the HAS meeting tonight
* Roof Project update
  + The final meeting with the architect is scheduled.
* Alumni Committee Report ……Mr. Borda and Mr. Hayden will head this committee……goal to increase middle school pride….speaker at middle school graduation etc…  
  December 17th Blue Dragon Classic Alumni Basketball game will be December 17th
* Diversity Committee Report……Mr Hayden and Ms Appel….SAC should find a way(s) to address the school’s diversity issues, including the low representation of African American males in the high school.  Ms. Simmons asked how to join and Ms. Appel is going to get information on all the committees out to the group.
* Wellness Policy Committee Report……Ms. Donahue will head this committee and more information is forthcoming.
* Teacher representatives…..we currently have 3 teachers plus Mr. Borda and would like to have at least 6 teachers so Mr. Borda will recruit and then have an election if necessary.