

Parents Association

February 2, 2013

Minutes taken by Sarah Collins, reviewed by Lisa Harvey-Mone

Call to order: 8:12am

Review and Approval of Minutes: January 2013 minutes: motion to approve, no discussion, motion to accept, approved unanimously

IMPACT

Melissa Freitas stepping down as Secretary, Sarah Collins nominated and elected by vote as interim secretary.

INFORMATION

Chair Announcements-Lisa Harvey-Mone *Strategic Planning -stated it is setting future for the next five years. A few parents were selected to be on the committee and one parent has volunteered to be on the subcommittee. It is very important for parents to be a voice. Parent volunteers are needed. It appears that it will be mostly email correspondence rather than face to face. Speak to Alicia Savage if interested in volunteering. *Over the past week parents have donated over \$800 to the Foot the Floor in Ted's name.*Annual Fund Challenge and phone-athon will be coming up this month. An anonymous donor will match money if we meet a certain amount.*Derby Street Shoppe's Winter Festival will donate \$500 for Foot the Floor as well as a portion of ticket sales. Volunteers needed to sell tickets, hot chocolate and cookies. Students have make totem poles. Contact Joanna McCarthy, Director of Development, to volunteer.

Executive Director-Alicia Savage not in attendance

K-6 Principal -Ted Hirsch *Lottery is coming up, please remind parents to be sure siblings have enrolled.*On January 11th area superintendents and principals visited the school to observe . *Hope Malnati has resigned her role in manning the Lost and Found. Contact Ted if you would like to volunteer. Duties include folding clothes and taking/posting pictures of items-this job has a high burn out rate.*Kassandra level 1 kindergarten teacher is expecting twins in April and could go out at any time now. *Mellissa Freitas' son, Matthew, is doing awesome with his recovery. Melissa plans to return to school February 11th. She will co teach with another teacher when Kassandra goes out on maternity leave. That other teacher has not yet been determined. *Charter School Office visited the school. They spoke with students and faculty and observed classrooms. They determined that the school is faithful to the charter and the mission statement. They determined that the implementation of the state evaluation system is in fact cooperation between faculty and administrators and not a top down initiative. They had only positive things to say.*SSCPS along with three other MA charter schools are attempting to get approval to allow staffs' children to be chosen from the lottery before the general public. * Ted reported that Zevi Stevens' (kindergarten student) Mom, Megan McKee, has been diagnosed with aggressive breast cancer. A benefit is being held for her.

7-12 Principal-Angie Pepin *The second trimester just began. They are in full testing mode in the high school. *SAT prep class is now an opt-out rather than opt-in. All 37 students are participating! Class is completed during school hours

45 minutes per week. There may be a future need to start an ACT prep class that will be opt-in. *Discussed benefits of high school students taking college classes. Parents should talk to Angie if they are concerned.

Student Representative- Katie Aucella *Report cards came out yesterday.* There is an upcoming field trip to Science Museum for all high school students.* Katie discussed debate club-allows students to learn current events that typical students are not familiar with. Students in grades 9-12 (and sometimes 8th) participate. There are currently 13 members.

PA Treasurer-Elissa Dennis *The task force met last week to discuss PA grant awards. All grants were awarded. Ellissa resented proposal-included soccer uniforms, Spanish books, magazine subscriptions, library books, and sugar cubes for pyramid building. *Ellissa's 4 year term is about to end and a new candidate will be elected.

Grade Level Reports

Level 1, kindergarten *Melissa's replacement in Cassandra's pod is Kathy, a retired kindergarten teacher with 30 years experience and a literacy specialist. She is doing very well.

Level 1 *Parents should have received and returned all EoM forms and are beginning to find books/resources for kids to begin researching info on their topic. This is where parent support is needed and also to help make a plan to accomplish tasks to allow kids not to be rushed. Kids had a blast at the MFA!

Level 2 *Project EoM presentations will be 2/13 and 2/15. A schedule of your child's specific time will be sent home this week. Contact project teacher with questions/concerns. MCAS Dates-4th grade Long Composition: Tuesday March 19. ELA grades 3 and 4: Tuesday March 26th and Thursday March 28th. Discussion about Tuesday being a religious holiday. Ted apologized and said he would look into it. Please have your child get a good night's rest and eat a healthy breakfast that morning. Roman Plays-DVD's are available for \$5 with money going towards Foot the Floor. Contact Janet Daley for a copy. Krista is collecting paper towel tubes for social studies project. Please donate by end of next week. Cephus will be starting a chess club after school on Fridays for 3:30-4:30. Permission slips with more info will be sent home.

Level 4 *Donations of food are needed for MCAS. Report cards just came out.

High School *9th Grade-Theatre Workshop will have its home shows 2/9 and 2/10 beginning at 2pm. The Leads will run first on Saturday and second on Sunday. Understudies run second on Saturday and first on Sunday. Should be done completely by 4pm. Workshop will be performing in the METG Preliminaries at Duxbury Performing Arts Center on 3/2. Tickets are \$10. SSCPS will be 6th in the lineup at 3pm.

Committee Reports

Arts/music *Chorus needs more kids from grades 2-6, forms available at the front desk. Community Service-all opportunities are listed in the update.

Fundraising and Events-Gwen not in attendance, no report

Health and Safety *A chiropractor will be coming to talk to the kids about knowing the signs that their body is getting sick

Technology-Gary states no report

Volunteer *Be sure to email Priscilla any volunteer hours done at home. Her email is Priscilla.kelly@verizon.net Also be sure to log in and out at the school-if not you will only get credit for one hours time. Be sure to print your name and return the badge.

Library *Waiting for books from proceeds of book sale. Denise Demaggio will be in the library several hours per week as part of her employment. Suggestions needed for how to get level 3 and 4 to use library more often.

Welcoming *There is a need for a teacher lunch coordinator. Susan Mellon and Priscilla can assist. Contact either of them to volunteer. It is very rewarding!

INQUIRY

Old Business

New Business Bylaws: Gema Gray presented a PowerPoint presentation of the proposed PA bylaws. *She thanked all who helped: Justina Pettinelli, Elissa Dennis, Priscilla Kelly, Adrienne McDougall, Mickey Cianbriello and Lisa Harvey-Mone. *Radical change to how the document looks.

*Discussion was led by Kerry Griffin about the welcoming committee becoming ad-hoc rather than standing committee. She would like to be sure the welcoming committee stays separate from fundraising. Suggested that rather than a welcoming committee it becomes a community building committee. *9:55AM Priscilla motioned to extend meeting, seconded and approved unanimously *Discussion-a member of the board of trustees used to attend each PA meeting in the past, now only come as invited. *Discussion-difference between a pod parent and a grade level rep. A pod parent is like a “room mother” while a grade level rep is an elected PA official. *Discussion-should alumni and alumni parents be allowed to run for pa positions. Alums/parents are not members of the PA. Further discussed possibility of creating an ad-hoc committee for alums, The Development Office is working on this currently. *Ted- thanked Gema and spoke of the high expectations the committee expects of its officials. He stated that these are “amazingly effective bylaws”. *Gema-huge shout out to Justina for editing of bylaws.

Lisa announced that she will not be running for PA Chair this term. Kerry stated that she will not be running for Vice Chair either. Treasurer’s seat will also be open. Voting will take place in April.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50am.