

# Parents Association

January 3, 2011

*Minutes taken by Melissa Freitas and reviewed by Lisa Harvey-Mone*

Meeting called to order at 7:03pm.

Due to a printing issue the December meeting minutes were not available for review. Minutes will be either emailed for review or will be reviewed at the February meeting.

**Announcements:** Scholarships are available for ADHD family training – parent to parent training. Contact Hope Malnati or SEPAC for more information.

## **School Reports**

### ***Alicia, Executive Director***

- National Honor Society Induction Ceremony was on 12/19. 4 new students were inducted into the National Honor Society at SSCPS.
- Annual Fashion Walk took place before the start of the December break. The theme was paper – all of the clothing was made from paper.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Green Schools Conference in Colorado – February 27-29. Sarah, Bill, Mark and Kristine will be attending the conference.
- First basketball game of the season will be Friday, 1/6 at MIT. Please check the update for upcoming games and location – the team would love for people to come out and support them.

### ***Polina Shpilker, Student Representative***

- MEFA (Mass. Educational Finance Authority) is coming to SSCPS 1/26 at 6:30pm for any high school seniors who want help with the college financial aid process.
- College applications are almost done, and we are still being notified of seniors obtaining college acceptances.
- Midyears and exams are coming up soon for the high school students.

### ***Ted, K-6 Principal***

- First day back after the break went well.

### ***Angie, 7-12 Principal***

- End of the quarter is coming.
- Study guides will go home soon.
- January 18, 19 & 20 – mid year exams. Count for 10% of the final grade.

## Grade Reports

**2<sup>nd</sup> Grade** – Thank you from the teachers to Cyndi Wormald for organizing the globes. All 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents have received email from the grade rep regarding the importance of the Annual Fund. Some 2<sup>nd</sup> grade parents have expressed concern about high school students showing physical affection/kissing where the younger children can see it. \* *Angie will keep an eye on this.* Thank you from the teachers for craft day – one of the best ones yet. Need 1-3 parents willing to come in and organize the Core Knowledge books. Contact Velma if you are interested.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade** – 3<sup>rd</sup> graders should be working on their EOMs. Pay attention to the calendar that went home and be looking for sources – one of them must be a book.

**4<sup>th</sup> Grade** – 4<sup>th</sup> grade rep had to step down – volunteer needed. Íris Vals Mahegan volunteered to be the rep. Was voted on and approved.

**5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade** – Washington Trip – register on line by 1/31. Deposit of \$99 is due as well as \$60 for optional insurance. Need a minimum of 25 students. If there are 25 students, the cost will be \$610. If there are 45 students the cost will be \$410. Adults pay \$110 more than the students. Money can be paid monthly by credit or debit card.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade** – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade rep had to step down – volunteer needed.

**9<sup>th</sup> Grade** - Workshop EOMs that haven't yet been presented will happen this week. End of 2nd Quarter is January 12. Grades will be distributed January 27. Midterms for Grades 7-12 will be Wed-Fri Jan 18-20 in the mornings. HS early dismissal at 12noon.

## Committee Reports

**Arts & Music** – registration forms were emailed to all of the families over vacation. We are offering violin, drums, flute, guitar and beginning orchestra. While all forms should have been returned to Geoff Roman by now, families can contact him if they did not get them in on time.

**Community Service** – Chair had a question for Ted – a few years ago there was a Community Service book – can we do that again? Answer – that book was funded by a grant and was expensive. Other suggestions included photocopying what the students write up or a bulletin board that changes monthly featuring different community service that the kids have done. The bulletin board idea was well received and will be examined further.

**Fundraising** – No dining for a cause in January. Working to set one up for February. March will be Uno's and April will be Not your Average Joe's.

Q – Have we decided how we are going to spend the money?

A – Lisa will email parents asking for suggestions and we will discuss at the next meeting.

**Health & Safety** – YeeMay Miller has stepped up to take over the position.

**Library** – Book Fair raised \$663.00 in book credit. The committee will be meeting on Friday, 1/6 to discuss whether to take the credit on a gift card to be spent as needed or to give the owner of the book store a list in order of priority and she will order until the money has run out.

Level IV and the high school do not use the library at all. Level I is the most consistent user of the library. High school rep thinks that most high school students are not aware of the library – she will meet with Beth Farmer to discuss.

Adopt a shelf program is up and running.

Q – Since one book for the EOMs must be a book on Level II is there a way to ensure that all of the classes get to the library before they are due?

A – Ted will talk to Krista.

Q – Censoring books – how to we ensure kids are not taking out inappropriate books?

A – Not possible in all circumstance because what may not be appropriate for one 4<sup>th</sup> grader may be fine for another. Younger students are not allowed to take out the young adult books at all but in other circumstances parents need to review what their child has taken out of the library at home.

**Technology** – Chair has been researching the ability to do some level of SKU/Scanner inventory for the auction. Revisiting the library software issue.

**Welcoming** – Next open house is Thursday, 1/12 from 5-7pm. Need donations of snacks (peanut free) or drinks for the event. Also need volunteers to be available that night to welcome visitors and showcase the school. Students can earn community service hours by helping to set up after school.

**SEPAC** – There are a few upcoming local workshops at Hanover H.S. One on Dyslexia and one on MCAS. There will be an upcoming survey of what parents are interested in – both sped and non-spced parents.

## Old Business

Annual Fund Campaign – breakdown of donations by grade:

K – 22.7%	5 <sup>th</sup> – 25%	9 <sup>th</sup> – 29.3%
1 <sup>st</sup> – 27.2%	6 <sup>th</sup> – 18.6%	10 <sup>th</sup> – 8.6%
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> – 33.3%</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> – 4.4%	11 <sup>th</sup> – 6.1%
4 <sup>th</sup> – 11.1%	8 <sup>th</sup> – 13.6%	12 <sup>th</sup> – 10.3%

Breakdown of other groups: Families – 18.3%, Board of Trustees – 14.2%, SSCEF – 11.4%, PA officials – 47.3%

Political Action Magazine – there are no more available as they sold out. In the future they may take preorders and will also notify parents of the content. Angie will inquire as to whether it is okay with the workshop to scan and distribute the sold out magazine.

## New Business

After school enrichment starts Monday, 1/9. Programs being offered are: Homework Help, Newspaper, Creative Math, Mad Science, Knitting, Nature Program and Music Lessons.

Annual Auction – Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Will be scheduling a meeting soon to go over everything that needs to be done. Student art is the focus but there will be other items up for auction. There will be fewer items than in the past.

Golf Tournament – Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at Indian Pond in Kingston

Gillette Stadium – Concession stand – volunteers needed for 1/14 (playoff game). Game starts at 8pm – volunteers need to be there by 3pm. Please note that there will be parking issues. It is unknown at this time what the percentage is that SSCPS will be receiving from manning these concession stands.

**Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm**