

# Parents Association

November 1, 2011

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

**Meeting called to order at 7:04pm**  
**October meeting minutes reviewed and approved.**

## **Presentation by Joyce and Mac, co-level coordinators, Level III**

Would like to improve communication between parents and teachers. Plan on using Edline more often.

Field Trip to Wheelock Theater in 2 weeks - permission slip will be on Edline

Field Trip to Frog Pond in December

Lowell and George's Island field trips later in the year.

FIT schedule changed recently. Most students seem happy with FIT.

## **David Whitemyer, Board of Trustee member**

Explaining process of how the Board goes about reviewing and approving any trip that leaves the state.

Teachers/level do proposal and obtain Executive Director's approval.

The Board then reviews and either approve or denies.

The Board did approve the trip to Europe for Level III but it was approved for spring of 2012. Once the date was switched to 2013, they need to review again.

Q - Would the Board say no because of cost?

A - Not necessarily. Would not want to take the opportunity away from the people that can go.

## **School Reports**

### **Alicia, Executive Director**

10 Students were informed that they received the John and Abigail Adams scholarship based on their MCAS scores. These students receive free tuition to any state school in Massachusetts.

Cross Country Team is featured on the school website.

Harvest Run raised 10K

New PE Space opening soon. Any parent who wants a tour, contact Alicia.

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

Sharpies, provided by an anonymous donor, were distributed by Ted for labeling of clothes.

Coffees went well for Levels I, II & III

Cyndi Wormald is organizing the globe project for the first grade.

### **Emily, Acting 7-12 Principal**

Level IV Coffee is Tuesday, 11/8

High School Coffee is Tuesday, 11/15

Cross Country, high school soccer and middle school soccer all doing extremely well.

Report cards going home next week.

### **Polina Schpilker, Student Representative**

First HS town meeting held today.

Students are not happy with parents parking in the assigned student parking spots.

Q - How many spots are made available to students?

A - 17

Q - Where do the students eat lunch? It was proposed a few years ago that foldable picnic tables be purchased for the village green.

A - Space is limited. The front outside area has been closed to the students because they were not cleaning up their trash.

### **PA Treasurer's Report**

Vote on items that were presented by the Task Force for distribution of money.

Items approved for payment.

### **Grade Reports**

***Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grade*** - Before start of report grade rep brought up some information on the pick-up issue. This issue was placed in the parking lot. Levels I, II & III Math night is on 11/8 at 6pm. Book fair 11/9 & 11/10. Second graders are learning about Ancient Asia in Curriculum Project. They have each made their own piece of paper. In math, all students are working on the vocabulary of addition and subtraction to be better prepared for word problems. Amy is working on social skills and building a classroom community. Small team-building activities. Amy is also coaching an Odyssey of the Mind team on Thursdays.

2 parents concerns expressed to the Grade 2 Rep: 1 - wall mounted hand sanitizers are always empty. 2 - Parents say that their children are concerned at the lack of hand washing after the bathroom.

***3rd Grade*** - Field trip to the Museum of Science scheduled for Wednesday, 11/2 to see the Pompeii exhibit. Level is working on a date for the pajama/movie day and working hard on mastering math facts and spelling words. They are also enjoying library and computer time.

***4th Grade*** - No Report

***5th & 6th Grade*** - Due to Mac and Joyce being at the meeting, no report needed.

***7th & 8th Grade*** - No Report

***9th Grade*** - 9th Graders went to Norwell Public Library on Monday October 31 in order to learn how to conduct library research.

From Adjustment Counselor, Alicia Scafidi:

Freshmen have completed Break Free from Depression program designed by the Swensrud Depression Prevention Initiative (SDPI), a part of the Department of Psychiatry at

Children's Hospital Boston.

\*It included a 35 minute documentary and four structured modules for student instruction, with a pre and post test, and an evaluation.

\*The goals of the program are:

\*to raise awareness of depression and other risk factors associated with mental illnesses in adolescents;

\* to promote early identification of youth in distress; and

\* reduce stigma associated with mental illness.

Alicia: "Overall I felt as though most students got something out of it. The students liked the documentary the best but found the overall information to be repetitive."

**10th & 11th Grade** - Grade 10 will go to the Norwell Public Library this month to learn research skills. Invites will go out to the 11th and 12th graders who qualify for National Honor Society after quarter 1 grades are available. Laura Berger is the new National Honor Society faculty advisor.

**12th Grade** - There are programs at MIT for high school students and also for younger students. Go to the MIT website for more information. Also, the email issue from last month as been resolved- students are now able to send and receive email from outside of SSCPS.

## **Committee Reports**

**Arts & Music** - 11/4-11/6, junior company of Company Theater will perform "Guys and Dolls Junior". Tickets are \$15. Discount tickets for "A Christmas Carol" are available for the 12/17 show at 4pm. \$26/ticket. Geoff Roman, new music teacher will be offering group and private lessons starting in January. Violin, viola and cello as well as guitar. Cost is \$18 per group lesson and \$30 per private.

**Community Service** - School Clean up on Saturday, 11/5. *Candy for a Cause*: Donate to send candy overseas to soldiers. Also could include letters. *Kids Care Mail Packaging* 11/11 package 50k meals. Must sign up on website.

**SEPAC** - 11/17 - Basic Rights Workshop presented by Matt Tondorf. 6-9pm. Sandra Somerville stepped down from co-chair position due to time constraints. Bylaws have been rewritten and need to be voted on. Priscilla Kelly was elected treasurer. Next meeting is Friday, 11/4 at 8:30am.

**Fundraising** - Someone is needed to chair the Auction committee. Auction will be on March 30th tentatively at The Elms. Golf will be at a later date at the Cohasset Country Club. Rockland/Hanson Rotary Club Raffle tickets. Tickets are due to Denise by December 7th. Contact Denise Demaggio if you would like some tickets to sell.

## **Old Business**

Technology Committee - PA reviewed the text outlining the committee and the role of the Chair. Motion was made to create new ad hoc committee (Technology & Communica-

tion). Motion Approved.

Motion to nominate Gary McDougall as the Chair. Motion Approved.

Parking Lot from October Meeting

1. Signs for bans on cell phones/smoking are in process of being made.
2. Parking/pick-up - still a hot topic and placed in the parking lot for longer discussion in December.

### **New Business**

**PA Newsletter** - if you did not receive a copy, contact Lisa Harvey-Mone.

**Lost & Found** - New Strategy: First Friday of every month all clothes in the lost and found will be taken to Tummies to Teens, a consignment shop owned by an SSCPS parent. Clothing will be consigned and proceeds will go to the school. Only UNLABLED clothing will be sent to be consigned - Is someone keeping track of how long items will be in the lost and found? Not fair if someone loses their coat on Thursday and it gets immediately donated on Friday.

A - People should label their clothing. "If you snooze, you lose".

Compromise: This clothing will be brought to PA meeting each month and parents will have an opportunity to reclaim anything their children have lost. No clothing will be donated until it has made an appearance at PA meeting.

### **Meeting Adjourned 9:02pm**

***Parking Lot*** - Items placed in the parking lot will be looked into by the 4 officers of the PA. If items need to be passed on to someone else in the school, they will be and it will be announced at the next PA meeting. If item is something that should be discussed at the PA it will be placed on the agenda for next month.

Parking/Pick-up

Tables for High School student lunches.