

**South Shore Charter Public School
Parents' Association**

March 7, 2006

Minutes taken by Maria Sullivan

Call to Order 7:02pm

Minutes from February 7, 2006 meeting approved.

Announcements

- The meeting will be starting New Business at 8:30 due to recent events. Keeping that in mind, please go through reports quickly. Hold all comments regarding the event until 8:30.
- Student Representative position is open and we are waiting for a replacement.
- The April PA meeting will be a brainstorming meeting on PA format and ideas for next year.
- Grade Representatives and Committee Chairs, please submit a quick list of 2005-2006 activities to Chair for future publication to the Update.

Committee Reports

- Arts and Music Committee: Social/Auction is postponed to March 11. Tickets are still available. For all food donations, please notify K.T. if you are able to contribute. Donations are still being accepted.
- Diversity Committee: Contacting other area schools about their programs.
- Fundraising & Events Committee: Planning a Road Race to benefit the sports program. More information will be in the Update. April Comedy night will be a Karaoke night. May 20 for the School Carnival, checking on interest right now.
- Library Committee: Computer in the library, working on the catalogue right now.
- Health Committee: Working on the check list for planning events at the school.
- PAC: Parents Rights Workshop "Lets Get Organized" on 3/30 at 7:00. Next PAC meeting on 3/15 at 8:30am.
- Volunteer Committee: Help needed for Laminating for level II and Bake Sales for Workshops.
- After-School Enrichment Committee: Chess Club for younger children 7+. Stacey Kirves coordinating.
- Community Service Committee: Still looking for a Chair of this committee.

Special Presentation / Discussion: Circle Time

- Ted Hirsch gave a presentation about Open Circle Curriculum. Open Circle is a Social Competency Program primarily for K-6. Staff needs to be trained. Parents expressed a desire to keep the program.
- **Motion made to add to April's Agenda for the money raised at the April First Karoke Night be for funding Open Circle Staff Training. Seconded. Vote: Unanimous**

Executive Director Report

- Task Force on School Climate will be held on 3/15 at 2pm will also be meeting monthly.
- Working on the Budget for next year and will present it to the Board at the April meeting for approval.
- Board is working on the complete build out of the school. One Quarter of the building is not being used. The Architect who worked with us in the past will be presenting to the Board in April.
- Exhibition of Mastery took place in Level I.
- The High School Play Writing and Performance Workshop participated in the Boston Globe Drama Festival. They were the only student written, directed, and produced play in the competition.
- Charter School Bills on Funding have not come up with the political race for Governor.
- Phone a thon to take place in April for the Annual Fund.

Board of Trustees Report

A major Ticket Raffle is being planned for the South Shore Charter Public School Educational Foundation. There will be money prizes. The goal is for students to sell at least 2 books of raffle tickets. The ticket drawing will take place at the Spring Carnival.

Grade Representative Reports

- K First week of Exhibitions went great! Teachers are working on the Accreditation for the quality early childhood education. Working on a Guide Book for incoming Ks.
- 1 Studying Egypt and making mummies. Exhibitions are going great.
 - 2 Exhibitions are going well.
 - 3 Report Cards going home on 3/17. BSO Field trip for all of level III with 2nd graders on 3/22. MCAS practice. Thank you to parents who donated supplies for the unit on electricity.
 - 4 Speaking American will take place on 3/10. Show Your Smarts will be held in 2 weeks.
 - 5 Issue of the student fight in the HS. All Comments will be discussed during New Business.
- 6-9 No Report
- 10 Despite some incidents, HS is strengthening.
- 11 No Report
- 12 Drama Festival with an original student written and produced work competed last weekend. Basketball Season ended. National Honor Society going great. College Acceptances coming in from a number of colleges. Look for the updates of acceptances in the Update.

School Council Report

There was a revision of the Code of Conduct for Class-A offenses. Disciplinary Procedures will be determined on a day-to-day basis.

Education Committee Report

- Working on the curriculum maps for the English/Language curriculum.
- Summer Reading lists are being reworked to have consistency through out the levels.

Old Business

Chair David Whitemyer distributed notes requesting the intent of the PA members holding a position as to whether they will be running again. He also asked for volunteers in the vacant positions. He will need an answer by March 31. Look for vacant positions in the Update.

New Business

- Teacher Appreciation Week is the 1st Week of May. Looking for ideas and volunteers to show appreciation for our teachers. Contact Karen Boyle.
- Sonja Finney presented the Dutch Gardens Bulb Fundraiser where the school would get 50% of the profit. She suggested that profits raised go towards our Library. Sonja will be responsible for the Fundraiser.
- **Motion by Harriet Guiney to support Bulb Fundraiser for the Library. Seconded by KT Leary. Discussion: Would like to have the money benefit the Staff's Open Circle Training.**
- **Ammendment to the motion: Help Fund Open Circle Training with the proceeds from the Bulb Sale. Vote: Unanimous.**

New Business

- Principal, Dr Gorsuch, reported to the parents the events of last Friday, when HS students fighting led to the police & ambulance being called and rerouting students and parents to the back of the building for dismissal.
- Parents expressed concern over the inappropriate behavior of High School students. Parents agreed with the administration noting that only a small percentage of HS students behave inappropriately, but expressed concern that we are in a K-12 school and HS students must have a higher standard of behavior. Also concern over punishing entire HS for a few persons' actions is unfair to the children who do behave appropriately.

Motion to Extend the meeting 10 Minutes, Seconded, Unanimous.

Discussion Continued

Motion to Adjourn, Seconded, Unanimous. 9:21pm

END