

**South Shore Charter Public School
Parents' Association
June 9, 2005
100 Longwater Circle
Norwell, MA**

Minutes taken by Maria Sullivan

7:04 Call to Order by Maria Sullivan

Election for the 2005/06 School Year Results Announced

OFFICERS:

Chair	David Whitemyer	Treasurer	KT Leary
Vice Chair	Lauri Rumpf	Secretary	Maria Sullivan

GRADE REPRESENTATIVES:

K	Tim/Janet Coletti	7	Pam Algera
1	Debbie Cerilli	8	Donna Schiller
2	Anne Veilleux Williams	9	KT Leary
3	Kristine Shipps	10	Katherine Borsody
4	Bev Bruce	11	Doug Hayes
5	Harriet Guiney	12	Eric Greene
6	Katherine Kardok		

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Arts/Music	Nanci Jaye	Transportation	KT Leary/Susan Kayiales-Knineh
Fundraising	Debbie Shepherd		
Health	Jennifer Sandland	Volunteer	Anne Veilleux Williams
Library	Anne Marie Stanton		

Meeting was turned over to new Chair, David Whitemyer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ARTS/MUSIC:

No report. Chair not present.

FUNDRAISING:

The Carnival raised \$ 2700. Everyone had a great time and the kids are looking forward to next year's October Carnival.

HEALTH:

Committee is working with the Health Teacher and administration on 05/06 curriculum ~ Monthly/Seasonal Health and Safety themes. ~ If anyone interested in working with the committee, contact Jennifer Sandland.

LIBRARY:

No report. Chair not present.

TRANSPORTATION:

Longwater Transport has a few seats available for 05/06 school year. ~ Fundraising Bake Sale being held at the School Picnic for Scholarship fund for people in need. ~ Anyone looking for help organizing busing for other areas, contact KT Leary. ~ Susan Kayiales-Knineh is purchasing a yellow school bus for transportation for Randolph/Holbrook area through to the school, as soon as license is complete.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE MOTION: *Susan Kayiales-Knineh*

Questioned raised concerning the election process and whether it followed the PA bylaws. Concerns about elections being open, honest, without a hidden agenda.

Eric Green makes a motion that the PA election results be ratified as they currently stand and all PA business proceed as normal. Seconded by Ceil Garber and KT Leary.

Discussion followed with several parents voicing concerns about the fact that bylaws should be followed but stressing that they thought this election had been run in a well-intentioned manner.

Gema Gray offered the following friendly amendment, which was accepted by Eric: That next year procedures be set up to either conduct elections according to the current bylaws, or to change the bylaws if necessary.

The motion passed on a voice vote with no Nays and 2 Abstentions.

Susan stressed that she wasn't trying to declare the elections invalid. She wanted to know what the procedure was for counting votes; how many votes were cast etc.

Mike Munhall explained that Maria had given him the 26 ballots cast (and he stressed that there were 26 ballots and not 26 votes because some ballots only had votes for certain positions), and he counted them. He confirmed that he had done so alone, but invited anyone interested to come to his office to view them.

David then redirected the meeting back to the published agenda / COMMITTEE REPORTS.

VOLUNTEER

Volunteer form for 05/06 being finalized with the administration and drafting a letter to send home. We are hoping that families will volunteer for three events and there will be areas to designate willingness to be called for classroom and office volunteering, as well as, special talents volunteers could offer the school.

RECONSTITUTE DIVERSITY COMMITTEE:

This year's Diversity Committee was not active. PA will reactivate committee for next school year by actively seeking a new Chair and Committee members.

GRADE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

- K No Representative. Incoming K representative is having a Playgroup for the K's to make friends before school starts.
- 1 Science Projects
- 2 More Science Project
- 3 Working on Technology Exit Standard by writing short stories on the computer ~ No beach day this year ~ MCAS Tryout ~ Science Fair was great ~ Amanda Toma wrote a Bully Play and will present it at town meeting on June 10th.
- 4 Moving up day on June 15 ~ Anyone wishing to make a teacher recommendation, write a specific learning styles of you child and send it to Ted.
- 5 Claire wants to thank all the volunteers and the parents for all of their support of Level III ~ June 20th Awards day. ~ Level III Fieldtrip to Georges Island. ~ Teachers are excited about half days for planning and sharing ideas and it will be very positive.
- 6 No Representative
- 7 Exhibition of Mastery in Projects ~ NY trip cancelled for lack of interested students ~ Undecided for a substitution—maybe a possible beach day.
- 8 Level IV teachers have done a great job with Julia away ~ Moving up ceremony on June 24th at 9:30. Level IV parents should send in \$2 for cost of refreshments. ~ The 8th graders sent a movie to Julia that they made for her. ~ Locks of Love Hair Drive was held in support for children who have cancer. Students donated 10 inches of hair.
- 9 Biology classes going on a whale watch ~ High School planning a trip to Water Country ~ Elections for Student Board 05/06 taking place on Tuesday, June 14.
- 10 No Representative
- 11 No Representative
- 12 Seniors Graduated on Saturday, June 4, 2005.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

No Report

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: *Katherine Borsody*

REORGANIZATION OF HIGH SCHOOL PROJECTS—TURNING “PROJECTS” INTO “WORKSHOPS” ~ Master/Apprentice model ~ Students will audition/apply for workshops ~ Brochure handed out explained the High School program for academics and workshops ~ Few concerns still exist and are still being worked on. ~ Parents questioned the consistency of the K-12 project curriculum. Administration felt the projects have not worked well in the High School. ~ Parents questioned if the Students were involved with the decision. The School Council (Level IV, V, and VI students, parents from every level, and two faculty members) has been involved and the Student Representative said the students of the projects were helping to design the Workshops for next year.

SINGAPORE MATH ~ Math Task Force has chosen to change the Chicago Everyday Math to Singapore Math. It will take 5 years for the full implementation. Levels I, III and High School will start next year with the Singapore Math and continue on every year. ~ Information available on SingaporeMath.com ~ Bill Hogan will be training our teachers during the summer and talk with Parents in September.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE: *Dan Nardo*

Student Board Nominations ~ Speeches being made on June 14 and voting will be done immediately following. Results should be available by Thursday, June 16.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: *Mariam Bromwell*

Board has not met since last PA meeting ~ Governance Committee working to gather all school policies and have them available in one book.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: *Mike Munhall*

Thank you to all of the 04/05 PA Officers, Grade Reps, Committee Chairs, and Volunteers. ~ Three bomb scares in two days. Incredible cooperation of Students/Faculty, Parents, Norwell Police and Fire Departments. ~ Looking into Phone System can make 1500 calls a minute. ~ Science Lab—Construction of Acid Waste Tank starting this summer. Hopefully installing cabinets during winter vacation. ~ Early release days—once a month for teacher planning purposes. Extended day will be available at from 1pm-3pm as well as 3pm-6pm. Calendar will be going home with all of the dates. ~ Interviews prospective teachers are still on going. A group of six High School Students are helping to make final decisions. ~ Parents Questioned how students are doing science labs without labs? Other activities are taking place: outside activities, computer, "Grocery Store Chemistry". Ideas for field trip to labs for experiments—a group of people are working on it.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION & SAFETY: *Peter Finney*

Working with Mike Munhall on a Phone system and working this summer on Emergency Contact Solutions. ~ Questions that need to be answered: Definition—what instances would we have an emergency contact situation; different levels of emergency—when does just a letter go home at the end of the day or the phone system be utilized. ~ If interested in working on this committee, contact Peter Finney, peter.finney@state.ma.us. ~ Also appreciates that Administration is working for the entire school and that Parents need to have a calm approach. ~ Will be researching what other schools are doing. ~ Questions to Mike on whether the Administration is actively finding out who was responsible for the threats and if the parents will know when they do. Mike, Dr. G, and Ted has spoke with the students and asked the students help.

05/06 PA MEETING SCHEDULE: *David Whitemyer*

Please fill out survey of meeting time options before the end of the meeting and a copies will be distributed in the update, as well as, available at the front desk. Be aware that Dr. Gorsuch will only be available on Tuesday evenings. Feel free to add any other recommendations. We will e-mail incoming families as well.

FRENCH PROGRAM: *Katherine Kardok*

For three years, the French Program has been a fee-based program in hopes that it will be back in the curriculum. ~ Met with Mike and Dr. Gorsuch on May 27th. ~ The school would need \$32,000 for a full time teacher. ~ There are French Grants and are working on applying for them. ~ To bring the program back with a grant it has to be a committed 4-year program. ~ For 05/06 School Year will be a before or after school program—looking into Global Child Language Program.

NEW BUSINESS

GEMA GRAY—Thank you to the out going PA for all of their hard work and efforts.

DEBBIE SHEPHERD—Concerns about the Parent Discussion Forum, bringing down the school with anger and negativity for the past few months. David is looking into List Serve protocol, rules, and etiquette. Contact David Whitemyer if interested in working on this during the summer. ~ Questions and comments on moderators, boundaries, respect for others, and Freedom of Speech. ~ Communication with PA minutes on the Web site.

Next meeting will be in August and schedule will be included in the August Mailing.

► Motion to Adjourn, Seconded, Unanimous.