

## PTO Monthly Meeting September 26, 2011

Attendees: Nancy Pratt, Sarah Coronella, Lisa Harrison, Heather Sroka, Katie McGuire, Tina Mankiewicz, Bob Meek-LaVeck, Dawn-Marie Ayles, Tracey Kerins, Pam Terren, Clement LaShom, Kirsten Snape, Kelley A Lairu, Karyn Paglierani, Mona Carpenter-Bowen, Kim Martin, Gail Dellasanta, Sandy Orni, Paula Welch, Jessica Frank, Wendy Bertrand and Laurie Lovett-Parsons

- I. Welcome to staff and parents
- II. Secretary's report, Laurie Lovett-Parsons emailed June's PTO Meeting Minutes to all attendees. Motion to approve minutes as presented – K. Snape, Seconded M. Carpenter-Bowen, 8 approved, 0 opposed.
- III. President's Report – Wendy Bertrand
  - a. PTO focus change – service driven
  - b. \$2,500 in accounts
  - c. Membership 70 – 90 (236 Members last year)
    - i. Turkey Hill Memberships going out electronically
- IV. Guest Speaker – Superintendent Loxi Jo Calmes.
  - a. Thanked the PTO for the luncheon.
  - b. Went over the technology upgrades, including the new website using Google. Twitter and Facebook to be available for the schools. \$45,000 capital plan for wireless at the High School and Middle School to begin in October and end in January. Will assess wireless at TCP and Primary at that time.
  - c. MCAS newsletters to go out using email alerts-
  - d. School Budget Process beginning October – November
    - i. Down ½ Million out of the gate for this budget
  - e. Reconfiguration Committee
    - i. 4 parents, 1 School Committee Member, 1 Planning Board Member, 1 Finance Committee Member, and 1 Selectman
    - ii. Next move is to meet with the MSBA
  - f. Curriculum to be presented at the School Committee Meeting
- V. Guest Speaker – Karen Martin, Instructional Services Director
  - a. New Teacher Induction
  - b. Teach Like a Champion – 30 teachers, 1 day of training, monthly
  - c. Responsive Classroom Training – on-line and face-to-face
    - i. De-escalation Training

- ii. Restraint Training
- VI. Guest Speaker – Elaine Blaisdell, Special Services Director
- a. PASCAL
    - i. 275 – 280 students on IEP – 16% of student population (17% statewide)
    - ii. 78 students on 504 plans
    - iii. Using Child Find to screen if disability is suspected
    - iv. Pre-k and k screening helpful
    - v. Grants – Student Assistant Team/Teacher Assistant Team
    - vi. IEP Encryption via email to GO GREEN
    - vii. No State Funding for our pre-k students who do not have IEP/special needs
- VII. Primary School Representative Update – Jessica Frank
- a. Karin Menard is updating our website now - items should be sent to Denise and then we will send to Karin
  - b. Using utensils instead of plastic in cafeteria - would like to recycle milk cartons but can't find a place that will take them
  - c. School pictures were finished they will make our student ID's - will schedule make
  - d. Fundraiser ended Friday - too soon to tell how we did
  - e. Pick- a- time goes live Monday 9/26 at 6:00PM
  - f. Theatre of the Mount performance on October 27th - would we be able to use our PTO funds for this?
  - g. 12 parents attended a volunteer meeting for helping at lunch- we set up a schedule and could still use help on Mondays - Amy Sicard tendered her resignation. The position will be posted.
- VIII. TCP School Representative Update – Kirsten Snape
- a. Launching the Read Every Day (R.E.D.) program to encourage and reward students who read at least 800 minutes per term
  - b. Extending the school day by 20 minutes (10 in the morning and 10 in the afternoon) to provide more instructional “face time” to students.
  - c. Developing after-school and summer-school project-based learning programs.
  - d. Implementing StudyIsland.com a web-based software that enabled the practicing of skills in math and ELA.
- IX. THMS Representative Update – Mona Carpenter-Bowen
- a. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade was reconfigured due to budget cuts - no teams more like HS – changing rooms
  - b. 40 i-pads - 2 carts rolled into classrooms have useful apps.
  - c. MGH Bullying Presentation to 6<sup>th</sup> grade in small groups
  - d. October 12<sup>th</sup> – jumping jacks – to set world record

- e. 96% not AYP for MCAS results
- X. HS Representative Update – Nancy Pratt
- a. Interim Principal - Joseph Dillon
  - b. Need Volunteer to do Career Fair – Nancy can assist but can't run it this year
  - c. STEP Program
  - d. Parent/Student Council – How to utilize the PTO?
- XI. New Business
- a. Instituting one-time activity fee at Primary and TCP to eliminate fund raising
  - b. How to handle/Process for teacher requests for monetary needs
- XII. Adjournment –
- Next meeting Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m.