

McCarthy-Towne School PTSO Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

Chris Hanlon, PTSO Sr. Chair
Julie Maranian, PTSO Treasurer
David Krane, Principal
Tracey Smith, Parent Involvement Coordinator

Judy Bourdon, PTSO Jr. Chair, and her son, Colin
Kerry Lewis, PTSO Secretary
Jen Pratt, PTSO faculty representative

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. The Minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Principal's Report

As a follow-up to last month's meeting, David distributed copies of the ABRSD's Phase II: Master Plan and Space Needs Assessment Executive Summary. He highlighted the enrollment projection analysis on page 2, which indicates the district will see a drop in enrollment over the next several years before beginning to increase again in about ten years. It is important the town take this into consideration as new building projects are considered. By then, the Parker Damon Building will also have more needs. David hopes the functions of today's schools will be taken into consideration with space for break out sessions and special education services. Pages 4-6 of the summary outline the various options for construction and grade level configurations. David will send Tracey the link to the full 200+page report. If anyone is interested in seeing that, just email her.

McT's kindergarten night is scheduled for January 17th. It is the first of the school night's this year.

The Student Council has been busy giving back. They did the Spoons Project last month and are now working on a Food Drive for the Acton Food Pantry.

Last Thursday there was a professional learning day for faculty. Maria Trozzi, M.Ed. gave a 45 min. training on grief counseling. David shared a handout from that session about how to talk to children about death and the developmental stages of a child's understanding of death. Jen shared that Maria spoke about what each child is looking for at the various ages. Kids need to be talked with about these big issues rather than sweep them under the rug.

Treasurer's Report

Julie Maranian shared that our current funds available are \$89,393.39. This is significantly lower than last month's report due to a large payment for Contractual Services.

Recent income/fundraising:

- \$707 from the directory
- another \$902.20 from Charleston Gift Wrap, making total efforts \$2,855.20
- \$1,986 (plus \$900 received at meeting) from Charleston Wrap
- another \$156.75 from Scrip gift cards bringing total to \$900 (already above goal and more than last year)
- another \$536.35 from Direct Appeal – total is \$4,240.68 (still down from last year)
- another \$15 in McT Class t-shirt fundraiser bringing total to \$1,235

Recent expenses/activity:

- field trips – 2nd grade Acton Historical Society, 4th grade Drumlin Farm, 5th grade Old Sturbridge Village
- reimbursed Chris Hanlon \$692 for Mileage Club t-shirts

- made 1st of 3 payments of \$23,667 for Contractual Services
- renewed Auction software - \$795
- paid \$1,175 to Signature Printing and Consulting for directories
- reimbursed \$175 for Merrowvista trip to family that moved
- paid Embroid Me of Chelmsford a 50% deposit of \$391.12 for Spiritwear
- reimbursed Sarah McBride \$71.90 for postage for auction item solicitation letters

Parker Damon Fund is steady at \$1,385.43. We're waiting for the faculty decision on how to spend this.

Looking Back

The fall fundraisers (Direct Appeal and Charleston Wrap) did not do as well as in years past. Hopefully, the Auction will do well to make up for this.

Merriam invited us to partner with them on the International Night, but we cannot do it due to a date conflict with our Auction.

The SCRIP fundraiser is doing very well. Many thanks to Pam for her efforts!

Tracey signed a contract with Geskus, the new photographer. We will continue to get everything we received from the last company. The big change is that a small \$9 package will now be offered.

Looking Ahead

The Auction flyers went home with students. Chris commented on how informative it is – a great intro.! Business donations have started coming in; we've heard from 40-50 so far. Student donations are due early this year. To streamline things, ALL donations are due December 23rd.

The PTSO is looking for a new Lip Sync Chair for next spring. Ideally, this person would shadow this year's chair. Contact Chris or Tracey if you're interested.

There's a new student Mountain Bike Club starting in Acton. Be on the lookout for more info. This may also be extended into a Community Ed. course.

Our Spring Tag Sale will be held in conjunction with Merriam's during the first weekend of May. This allows us to share some of the associated costs.

David shared that keyboarding will become a larger part of the curriculum. Megan Bowers is now starting this in grades 3 and 4.

Upcoming PTSO Meetings:

Jan. 10 – Finance Committee

Feb. 17 – Superintendent

March 21 – Use of technology

April 11 – Art integration

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kerry Lewis

PTSO Secretary

