

McCarthy-Towne School PTSO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday April 15, 2015

Shelley Cole, PTSO Sr. Chair
Julie Weir, Jr. Chair
David Krane, Principal
Matt McDowell, Asst Principal
Kerry Lewis
Janet Munson

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 A.M.
February 11th meeting minutes were approved with name spelling corrections.

Principal's Report

The Auction was a huge success. We are happy that it has maintained status quo for funds raised. The past several years have shown a steady decline in available funds so it is we are happy to see things plateau. The school relies on 3 sources of income. The appropriated budget, PTSO Funds and enrichment. If money income declines we may need to change the structure of how we schedule our assistants and what they do. We might need to put clerical work on parents. So we can have paid assistants where they are most needed (ie. Extra math or reading assistance). The plateau in funding amount allows us to take next year for reevaluation of the assistant position.

Science and Math MCAS testing is scheduled for May. The likelihood of MCAS next year is remote. Most likely we will be moving to using the PARCC exam. Last year the 6th grade piloted the PARCC exam and there were many issues. Our limiting factor is going to be the resources needed to administer the exam. We don't have the bandwidth needed to have both schools running the exam at the same time.

Retiring/Hiring – Nancy Giansante (1st) and David Rachlin (4th) will be retiring this year. Lindsey Howe (5th) will also be leaving. Justin Kessler will be our new 5th grade hire. Nancy Wurtz will be moving from K to 1st grade teacher to replace Nancy G., so the next hire we will be focusing on will be the new half day K hire. Candidates for David's replacement (4th grade) will be interviewed after spring break.

Class Placement has begun. Teachers, Administrators, SPED and counselors are all involved in this decision. Parents are encouraged to voice any opinions they might have but are reminded that suggestions for placement with specific teachers are not guaranteed. This year we will hold kindergarten screening in the spring before kindergarteners enter the classroom. The screening process and instruments will also change. Knowing about IEP's and students personalities will greatly help with creating balanced classrooms.

Treasurer's Report – Presented by Shelley Cole

Auction numbers are estimated at \$50k. There are a couple of outstanding checks to be cashed and "Auction Memories" will still need a deposit. Reimbursements have been paid out for auction decorations, etc. Amazon totals (\$535) are slightly higher than last year at this time. The budget sheet for this month's meeting includes a couple of

estimates for planning purposes. Family Field Day and the Tag sale have not happened yet and those estimates are educated guesses. Lip Sync Show could change slightly based on DVD sales. Auction numbers are also estimated. "Recycle" category inconsistent with previous year because previous year's total is based on several years' worth of items to be recycled.

Annual Budget Report

Most budget items will stay the same from this year. Hospitality will be increased by \$50 to \$250 to accommodate a possible student council event. Student aid has been increased from \$700 to \$1000. General expenses have been decreased \$100 from \$250 to \$150. We have raised enough money (with estimated projections) to keep contracted services at \$71K.

2015-16 Steering Committee

There are a couple of openings left for next year's steering committee. Prospective candidates have been contacted with regards to Jr. Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Directory and Family Field Day. Nancy G. is retiring so David will contact staff regarding the Faculty Rep. Position. Positions remain open for:

- Potlucks
- Yard Sale (2-3 positions)
- Directory (1 position)
- Spirit Wear
- Buddy Family
- PDB Landscaping

Interested parties can contact Julie Weir or Tracey Smith

Meeting adjourned at 11:45A.M.