

**McCarthy-Towne School PTSO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday January 9, 2015**

Shelley Cole, PTSO Sr. Chair
Julie Weir, PTSO Jr. Chair
Carolyn Dee, PTSO Secretary
Chris Hanlon, PTSO Treasurer
David Krane, Principal
Nancy Giansante, McT Teacher
Tracy Smith, Christine Russell, April Hirschberg and Deb Verner

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M.

The minutes of December 9, 2014 were approved as amended.

Principal's Report

David stated that we have had 1 late start snow day so far this school year. January 31, 2015 will be budget Saturday. David stated that the 9C cuts may be deeper at the state level next year. He continues to work on the budget for next year. Regionalization continues and he feels that there is a lot more communication going on between the teachers and faculty at all the schools. District wide Kindergarten Night was last night. Kindergarten night for McCarthy-Towne will Tuesday January 20. Student Council members will be serving as guides for prospective kindergarten parents who visit the school.

David commended Jillian on a wonderful music program at the school. She brings a lot of energy and vitality to the music program and it shows in what the children have accomplished.

Over the last two days the upper grades had been coached through Teacher's College. On May 21 David and members of the faculty who are on the School Council will present their school improvement plan to the School Committee and Dr. Brand. They hope to have a discussion about homework and its' value and impact on the students.

The After School Program which had been housed in the Multi-Purpose Room will be moving to the Administration Building at the former Merriam School for the next school year.

Half Day Thursdays continue to be an issue between the towns.

Treasurer's Report

Chris reviewed the Treasurer's Report through December 2014.

Coffee Pond - \$1,627.61

Box Tops - \$613.80

Directory - \$696.00

Fall Social - \$209.00

Annual Appeal - \$5,563.31

Bridget Matz is currently looking into how the Amazon Fundraising platform works.

Julie is looking at setting up a school Amazon account through Amazon Smile.

Through all of our fundraising efforts we have raised \$21,592.79 for the school this year.

The Treasurer's report was approved.

Fundraisers

Scrip – It continues to be successful. Christine won't do an order this month.

Lip Sync – It continues to be a very popular event and grows every year. It will be on March 7, 2015 and there will be 4 changes this year. The acts will be limited to 45 acts, students may only perform in one act, there will be no duplicates songs performed and songs will be limited to 2 minutes. This will keep the show to a reasonable length of time.

Auction – Christine stated that the Auction planning is going well with a lot of donations coming in. The Auction will be on March 28, 2015 and the theme is James Bond – 007. A suggestion was made to do an online camp auction next year so that people can bid on camp weeks earlier in the year than in March. It is done at other schools and is successful. Tracy stated that she thinks we are getting more donations because we are asking for them. This year there will be more classroom baskets that will be priced at \$25 - \$75.

Book Fair – It was very successful and made \$2,800 this year. There was talk of looking for a new company for next year. It was stated that Scholastic seems to have the best and most varied selection, something for everyone.

Fall Social – It was successful and the new games and activities were very well received.

Miscellaneous

Tracy stated that Kindergarten Tour time is upon us and if anyone wants to volunteer to help they should contact her.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Dee
PTSO Secretary