

## **McT PTSO Meeting Thursday, October 11, 2012**

### **Present:**

Kate Murray, PTSO Sr. Chair  
Tracey Smith, PTSO Jr. Chair  
Chris Hanlon, PTSO Treasurer  
David Krane, Principal  
Matt McDowell, Assistant Principal  
Patty Lee  
Christine Brault  
Lara Maira  
Jen Mabardy  
Lauren Richardt  
Bridget Matz  
Carol Chytil

Meeting opened at 9:35 AM  
Introductions

### **Principal's Report**

David will be providing his Principal's report at the October 18<sup>th</sup> School Committee Meeting at the Jr. High. David will be covering MCAS at the meeting. The School Committee Meetings have all been moved to the Jr. High in part due to the technology issues.

McT Mornings Enrichment Programs have been very successful. The Mileage Club, which David has been participating in, has been a great addition to Friday mornings. David has gone to the Lego Adventures class taught by Rich Trombetta. The kids are not only constructing legos but attaching mother boards to them. They run through a computer program on a laptop which allows the students to manipulate the legos on the computer. Kids can change the programming.

### Field Trips this Year:

Kindergarten apple picking field trip.

1<sup>st</sup> Grade tide pools trip. The escaped animals from the tide pools have been an ongoing amusement.

2<sup>nd</sup> grade Mt. Wachusett was a very wet trip. For the first time 2<sup>nd</sup> grade had to have the buses meet them at the top but they were troopers and managed to get in their observational drawings.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade archeology dig...how do you approach a dig...learned about gridding, layers of the dig, screening. In-house field trip in the back playground.

All field trips are about observation, recording what you see and asking questions about those things.

Merrowvista is next week for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.

Professional Development Day is coming up. AB as a district is looking at the evaluation system for professionals. Lots of discussion around benchmarking and how to assess the MCAS results.

MCAS will be phased out in 2-3 years and the State will be going to the “Common Core State Standards.” Tests will be based on Common Core rather than the current state frameworks.

Jillian Gilfoil will be having the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus in the evening so that parents can participate.

Month Community Assemblies have been moved to Thursdays where each class/grade shares something with the entire assembly.

**Review and approve minutes from September at 9:45/9:50**

Motion – Chris Hanlon; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Lauren Richardt. Vote-Unanimous

**Treasurer’s Report at 9:50**

Chris reviewed the cash in Reserved Funds – Funds set aside for specific purposes – Parker Damon Fund, field trips, scholarships, etc.

SCRIP – about \$340. There is some decline over the last two years. Wendy is going to try a free software program to streamline the ordering process.

Field Trips are being processed through the PTSO now as part of the District request. Chris has a tracker to see if everything has been paid. We have funds available for scholarships through the PTSO and also 6<sup>th</sup> Grade from last year donated money to establish a fund as well.

Chris has setup a PayPal account on the PTSO website so that we have ability to receive donations to the PTSO online.

**PTSO Money handling procedures vote**

Motion – Kate Murray; 2<sup>nd</sup> – Patty Lee; Vote – Unanimous

**Fall Fundraising Campaign at 10:05 AM**

Totals over \$9,000 for direct appeal. Considered successful. Plus \$400 in matching employer donations.

Genevieve’s – Expected profit \$2800

Made roughly \$11,500 total.

Roughly 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of families participated in the Fall Fundraising Campaign either through direct appeal, Genevieve’s or both.

Last year \$5450 we made in all fundraisers plus CPAC (which accounted for about \$2000)

Question of whether there was confusion that the Fall Fundraiser will impact the Auction because there was confusion that the Fall Fundraiser was replacing the Auction.

Carol Chytil a new family said that it was clear to them that there were 2 separate fundraisers-the Fall fundraiser and then in the Spring the Auction.

There have been a lot of opinions on the Direct Appeal and the effect on the Auction.

Jen Mabardy raised a question of whether the Direct Appeal has starting amounts too high? There was a lot of debate on amounts to put down and this was the approach that was taken this year. Can look at for next year.

Discussion on wrapping paper. There was a lot of feedback last year that people still wanted the gift wrap so PTSO opted to offer it again this year.

### **Auction Discussion at 10:30 AM**

Jen Mabardy and Lauren Richardt introduced as new Auction chairs. Carol Chytil has agreed to take over creating the Auction Booklet.

Next month's PTSO meeting to have a guest speaker from the District. Looking to have a representative from Food Services to discuss changes in the lunch menu. Will be posted in "The Howler."

### **Bridget Matz – Inter-School Council Meeting**

The Superintendent is looking for support from the parent community regarding next year's budget. Would like input from parents and support especially at next April's Town Meeting.

### **Steering Committee Vote**

Motion – Chris Hanlon, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Lauren Richardt; Vote Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM