

McCarthy-Towne School PTSO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday September 11, 2013

Tracey Smith, PTSO Sr. Chair
Shelley Cole, Jr. Chair
Carolyn Dee, PTSO Secretary
Chris Hanlon, PTSO Treasurer
David Krane, Principal
Nancy Giansante, McT Teacher
Abby Gao
Carol Chytil
Lara Maira
Jen Loria
Other McT Parents

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

Minutes

The minutes June 5, 2013 were approved as amended.

Principal's Report

David welcomed Tracey as the PTSO Senior Chair and the new Parent Involvement Coordinator. School is off to a great start this year. We welcomed 41 new students to McT this year with a diverse range of new languages and cultures. Nancy Wurtz is the new Half Day Kindergarten teacher and Amy-Jo Conant is the new 5th grade teacher. Amy-Jo is not new to McT as she took over for Callie during the middle of the year last year when Callie went out on maternity leave. Carol Chytil has taken over the position of Office Assistant and is doing an excellent job.

Some changes to McT this year are there is no designated computer lab anymore. With the addition of a second All Day K classroom there was a need for an additional classroom in which to house the All Day K. The Reading and Math Specialists have moved into the computer lab. The computer lab will now rotate throughout the building instead of stay in one place. Over the summer 2 teachers were awarded an entire Google Chrome Book Cart. Google Chrome Books are easy to use and offer everything that google has to including The Cloud. 5th and 6th graders will have 30 lap tops on carts that they will be able to use. 5th and 6th graders will also be given a gmail address in order to log into the Chrome Books. This is an exciting time with new technology .

The school has a new look as many teachers moved rooms over the summer. A lot of professional learning was done over the summer. Individuals from Columbia University came to Acton over the summer and teachers participated in workshops. Teachers from Blanchard were invited to participate in the workshops in anticipation of regionalization which will take place next school year.

Astrid has done a wonderful job getting the school ready to open. David thanked her for all her hard work.

The search for a new Principal of Blanchard School has begun. Dr. Mills announced his retirement at the end of the school year.

Each school has been allocated 19 hours for a technology assistant. There is a proposal to hire a full time technology assistant to be split between Conant and McT.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was reviewed and approved at 7:15 P.M.

Fundraising

The Fall Fundraisers are about to kick off. The Direct Appeal and Genevieve's Catalog will be sent home in backpacks this Friday. Between the two we earned \$12,000 last year.

We just received a check from Target for \$563.35.

\$168.17 was spent on supplies for kindergarten orientation.

\$1,385.43 remains in the Parker Damon Fund.

Updates

Tracey reported that 2 playground play dates were held during the month of August. They were both very successful and very well attended. It was a nice way to welcome new families to McT.

Merrowvista Bowling Night will be held on Friday September 20, 2013. It is open to everyone to attend but is aimed at 5th grade families.

Back to school night is Wednesday September 25, 2013.

Family Photo Day will be Saturday October 5, 2013 and Sunday October 6, 2013. Please contact Shelley Cole if you would like to sign up.

Principal's meet and greet will be held on Friday October 11, 2013. Parents are invited to come and meet and talk with David.

Book Fair October 30, 2013 thru November 1, 2013

Fall Social November 1, 2013

McT Auction March 22, 2014

Lip Sync April 5, 2014

Yard Sale May 10, 2014

Family Field Day will be held in late May

Tracey asked if anyone had any ideas for Principal Forums for this year. Some ideas she suggested were: Representatives from Food Services, SPED Program, and the Reading Specialist, Sharon Ryan, come in (on a night separate from PTSO meetings) and talk with us about their programs. Also changes in the computer lab may be a topic for discussion. Anyone with other ideas should email Tracey with their suggestions.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on October 17, 2013 at 9:30 A.M.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Dee
PTSO Secretary