

McCarthy-Towne School PTSO
Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 15, 2012

Present:

Michele Caterina, PTSO Chair
Kate Murray, PTSO Junior Chair
Carolyn Dee, PTSO Secretary
Chris Hanlon, Treasurer Shadow
David Krane, Principal McT
Matt McDowell, Asst. Principal
Patty Lee, Parent Involvement Coordinator
Heidi Dalaklis, Auction Co-Chair
Michelle Abroff
Debbie Walz
Janet Munson
Kristen Fitzgerald
Lara Maira

Introductions:

All present went around the room and introduced them selves.

Minutes:

The minutes of February 8, 2012 were approved as amended.

Principal's Report

David reported that the budget has been approved for presentation for vote at Town Meeting. In the budget is accounting for Art, Music and Physical Education teachers for each school. This will allow these specialties to be more integrated into the curriculum.

MCAS begins next week. David thanked Patty for all her hard work in getting everything in place for the MCAS. There have been additional security measures that have been implemented by the Department of Education because of incidences of cheating in other states.

There has been 1 snow day since the last time we met. The last day of school will be Friday, June 15, 2012.

At the recent School Committee Meeting the before and after school programs were discussed. A letter was sent from all the Chairs of the PTO at all 5 elementary schools supporting Dr. Mills recommendations regarding the Before and After School Programs. Dr. Mills recommendations will help to "level the playing field" among the five schools.

Kindergarten registration is complete. \$108,000 for classroom assistants was approved in the budget.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was approved with clarifications from Jonathan.

Fundraisers:

Scrip – We raised \$191 last month

Spirit Wear – We raised \$578 last month

Game Night – We raised around \$400

Box Tops – Last submission was for \$508

Game Night – Was successful about 70 people in attendance

Lip Sync – 27 Groups have signed up. The date is March 31 at 4:30 P.M. Deb Verner has agreed to take over Lip Sync next year.

Auction Update

We have 181 reservations for the Auction so far. They will not turn anyone away but the space is very tight so Heidi and Jill were questioning where they would put them if more people signed up. The Raffle Sales are up from last year and the Donations are up from last year. T-Shirt Sales are down. The date of the Auction is March 24, 2012 at the Butternut Golf Club in Stow.

Direct Appeal

Kate and Chris talked about doing a direct appeal in the Fall and possibly eliminating some of the smaller fundraisers. This is already done at Conant and is successful. Chris will put together a proposal for a direct appeal. It was discussed that a lot of fundraising is covered by a small percentage of families. There are 500 students at McT with 365 families. We could do this to ease pressure on the auction to raise a large amount of money. It was suggested that a flyer could go home in the fall about the Direct Appeal.

Rob Mendelsohn

The PTSO approved giving a \$100 gift certificate to Rob Mendelsohn who has been voluntarily teaching computer classes at McT for a few years. All agreed that we would do this.

Constant Contact

It was suggested that we move to Constant Contact next year as a way to keep in touch with McT families. Constant Contact is used by both the Junior High and the High School.

At our May meeting we will discuss the draft budget for next year. At our June meeting it is proposed that we will vote on the PTSO budget for the 2012 – 2013 school year. Michele and Kate will discuss with David what his needs for the school are for next year. Patty discussed increasing the budget for financial aid for field trips since there is more of a need for help with the cost of field trips. There is also a need for swings on the Rte. 111 playground.

Adjournment

A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Dee
PTSO Secretary