

McCarthy-Towne PTSO
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Attending:

Marie Clougher
Lynne Densen
Marcia FitzGerald
Julie Greenspan
Nisreen Harianawala
Carolyn Imperato
Wendy Schaad

Debbie Simon
Catherine Suess
Astrid Trostorff
Suzi Yarin
Jo-Ann Berry (HGRM)
Marguerite Mazzone (HGRM)

Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves; new faces and HGRM volunteer representatives were present.

Minutes

- ❑ Minutes from the January 16 and “ad hoc” February 4 PTSO meetings were reviewed. Motions were made and approved to accept both sets of minutes.

Treasurer’s Report

- ❑ Revenue goal chart was presented and current revenues for each function were reviewed.
- ❑ A motion was made and approved to accept the treasurer’s report.

Principal’s Report

- ❑ Today’s assembly featured a fun 3rd grade variety show.
- ❑ The announcement that Nancy Kolb will become the interim principal was sent out this past month. Nancy Kolb spoke at the recent faculty meeting and there is a sense of trust in her. Ms. Kolb will attend the May 21 PTSO meeting.
- ❑ The kindergarten open-house night was held, with about 70 people attending. Fifteen Student Council members attended and spoke well. There is one more tour date left. It was noted that the entering kindergarteners make up the high-school graduating class of 2021!

Household Goods Recycling Ministry (HGRM)

- ❑ Jo-Ann Berry and Marguerite Mazzone from HGRM spoke about HGRM and current needs for donations. They asked for help in doing a drive to collect needed items. Gates School did a towel drive for HGRM; students in grades K-2 brought in “gently used” towel and grade 3-6 students brought in blankets.
- ❑ Jo-Ann and Marguerite passed out HGRM’s ‘hot-off-the-press’ brochure describing the organization and what they accept. More detail about what they will and won’t take can be found on the website www.hgrm.org.
- ❑ HGRM is still in need of towels and suggested that this is an easy drive, as the item is not heavy and can easily be brought in by students. It was decided that this drive is a great project for the student council. Astrid would pass this information on to the two teachers, Callie and Janet, that work with the student council.

Letter to School Committee from Gates PTSO (Suzi)

- ❑ Suzi shared the letter that she received from the Gates PTSO chairs being submitted to the school committee, regarding a request for additional funding for teaching assistants.

- ❑ A wide-ranging discussion ensued. Attendees at the meeting felt that the best response to Gates would be to continue to communicate and share concerns across the PTOs/PTSOs of the town's elementary schools. In this way, district-wide concerns, including the strong belief that elementary class sizes need to be reduced, could be presented jointly and addressed most appropriately.

Fundraising Updates

- ❑ **School Spirit Merchandise (Lynne for Kerry)**

A sale of clothing with the McT logo will take place after the auction. Kerry Bremer is spearheading this fundraiser. Samples of items will be available in the office. Items for sale include t-shirts, sweatshirts, flannel pants and shorts, duffle bags and polo shirts. Some of the items may be monogrammed. In addition to the office samples and the order forms sent home, pictures and order forms will be available on the website www.mctptso.org.

- ❑ **Donelan's Fundraiser (Wendy)**

There is \$46,000 in Donelan's receipts so far and probably about another \$20,000 not totaled yet. End date for store purchases is March 31; receipts have to be brought in to the school by around mid-April.

- ❑ **Auction (Carolyn)**

- ❑ Lots of action and dates for things coming up; the booklet is going home after the break.
- ❑ The MCATS will be playing and has been practicing.
- ❑ Getting volunteers for raffle sales has been difficult.
- ❑ Classroom projects are well on their way.
- ❑ Sales of the tie-dye T-shirts are proceeding, but slowly.
- ❑ People who are not attending may bid by proxy, but there is no online bidding. There will be volunteers working on auction night to do proxy bidding.

- ❑ **Family Photo Day (Suzi for JoAnne)**

Julie Smith L'Heureux, a McT parent, will be the photographer.

- ❑ **Yard Sale (Wendy)**

- ❑ It is being held on Saturday, May 17. A "Save the date" flyer will be going out this week.

Social Updates

- ❑ **CPAC (Julie)**

A group performing Handel and Haydn are scheduled for March 11 at 9 and 10am.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Remaining PTSO Dates for the 2007-2008 school year

March 19, April 16, May 21 and *June 11*. Note the change in the June meeting date from June 18.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Simon