

PAC Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: September 10, 2008

REMINDERS

Next PAC Meeting Thursday, Oct 8th 7:30 pm Dewing School Library

DECISIONS AND/OR VOTES

#	MOTION	FIRST	SECOND	VOTE RESULT
1	Accept the June 2009 minutes	E. Paulding	M. Fahey	Approved
2	Motion to Adjourn meeting at 9:15 p.m.	M. Arsenault	C. Demers	Approved

Ballot Votes

#		Approved	Not Approved	Table Item
1	PAC Budget 2009/2010 School Year	33	0	0
2	Use Campbell's Points for Equipment Cart	31	1	1
3	Use Campbell's Points for Lemon Twist Ball Hoops (6)	33	0	0

ATTENDEES

Officers

Attended	Role	Name	Email Address
Yes	Chairperson	Krissy Polimeno	philandkristen@comcast.net
Yes	Vice Chairperson	Loretta Ryan	macnmad@comcast.net
Yes	Treasurer	Keri Barry	Kb6@comcast.net
Yes	Secretary	Melissa Lane	mdlane117@comcast.net

Members: The Secretary retains the attendance list. It is not distributed with the minutes.

Meeting Minutes

I. Introductions/Welcome

- Krissy Polimeno called the meeting to order at 7:30.
- Everyone in attendance introduced themselves.
- Krissy Polimeno reminded everyone of the mission of the PAC to serve the staff, students and families at the Dewing School
- Everyone was challenged to volunteer for at least one activity/service for the year. Sign-up Sheets were made available
- Krissy Informed everyone of any committee head openings including Grant Research.
- Melissa Lane told the group about the Weekly Email Updates and the importance of looking at the Dewing School and the Dewing PAC web sites regularly. The Dewing website can be found at <http://www.tewksbury.mec.edu/dewing/index.html> and from there you can click on the PAC link.
- Melissa also told the group about the Dewing Dolphin Newsletter. It will be published every other month this year beginning in October.

II. Mr. LaRoche's Update

- Mr. LaRoche informed/reminded parents about the budget cuts happening in the school system. These cuts affect professional development days, after school help, and Aide positions among other areas.
- The group was told that the teachers hours have changed due to these cuts. Teachers are in the building from 8:30 to 3:15 only due to MTA and TTA contracts.
- Mr. LaRoche commented to the wonderful landscaping which was done by the PAC's landscaping team lead by Ann El and Paige Impink.
- Mr. LaRoche expressed his desire to see more Smartboard available for the teaching staff.
- The group was told that the MCAS scores both town wide and in the Dewing School did not improve this year. This puts the schools in warning status.
- Mr. LaRoche would love to see parent volunteers for bus time from 3-3:30.
- Mr LaRoche also spoke about Open House and the new schedule allowing more time for parents to visit all teachers. The PAC will be helping out by providing flowers and baked goods.

III. Vote on Meeting Minutes

- The meeting minutes from June were made available in advance of the meeting on the PAC web site and at the meeting. They were approved. See votes above.

IV. Financials

- Keri Barry reviewed the status of the Dewing PAC Accounts. The total fund available at the time of the meeting was \$11,022.62 after all outstanding commitments were considered. The income from Lowell Spinners Tickets, Wendy's Dine Out Nights and School store between 6//8/09 and 8/31/09
- was \$1,467.50. The total of disbursements during this period was \$1,565.34. These disbursements were for the 4th Grade Celebration, Spinners Ticket refunds, staff requests, copier leasing, and supplies for Campbells and the Ice Cream Social.
- The budget for the 2009/2010 school year was discussed. In an effort to tighten the budgets some committee budgets were reduced. Hospitality requests will be filled for Dewing Students only. In addition, one scholarship was removed from the budget and the budget for the 4th Grade Celebration was reduced to \$10 per child from \$12. Because of the need for technology in our schools, a new line item for Technology was added. That budget will be \$5,000. The budget was approved by paper ballot.
- Staff requests were presented. Mrs. Rodgers requested a wire basket to hold playground equipment for the kindergarten students. This cart would eliminate the playground toys being stolen. The cart can be wheeled in each day. Campbell's points can be used for this. The request was approved by paper ballot. See votes above. Mrs. Rodger also requested lemon squeeze bags for the kindergarteners. Campbell's points can be used for this. The request was approved by paper ballot.
- Cheryl Edwards presented a proposal for Destination (DI) funds to the group. The presentation included a concise list of budget items. The importance of Destination Imagination (DI) was discussed. While some thought it was a great thing for the PAC to support, others felt if the PAC funded DI it would open up a window to fund all other after school activities, something that cannot be accommodated and still meet the needs of all the students at the Dewing as well as the needs of the staff. It was also mentioned that other school within Tewksbury charged more for the DI program to accommodate these budgetary needs. The PAC officers offered to sit down the Cheryl to discuss ways of trimming the DI budget. Everyone seemed to agree that no funds should come out of the pockets of parent volunteers. The budget items request vote was postponed till a later meeting date.

V. Fund-Raising

- Loretta Ryan discussed various fundraising initiatives for the school year.
 - Dine Out Nights - Sandra Pothier has agreed to coordinate this effort this year. The purpose of the dine out program was outlined for those who are new to the Dewing School. Restaurants in the area give back to the Dewing a portion of their proceeds made during a certain time frame. Dine out nights typically happen once per month.
 - Paper Retriever - 7,000 tons have been collected thus far.
 - BoxTops - We will continue to collect BoxTops throughout the year with several contests planned. The goal is to raised \$4,000 through BoxTops this year. The Dewing School is in the top 2% Nationwide for collections.
 - Hannaford Helps - Save your receipts from Hannafords, 2% of the sales receipts between 9/4 and December goes back to the Dewing School.
 - We will be doing the Gift Card fundraiser again this year. Fliers will come out in early October.

VI. Other Items

- After School Enrichment - Susan O'Neil spoke to the group about the tremendous plans in the work for expanding the After School Enrichment Programs at the Dewing School. Classes will most likely include: Theater, Water colors, Ultimate Frisbee, Book Club, Card Making, Board Games and maybe even a dance class.
- Birthday Book Club - Louise Chmela spoke to the group about the Birthday Book club and her ideas for making it more effective this year. All of the forms will go out at the beginning of the year instead of monthly. Anyone wanting to participate will be able to send their books in by the end of October. Each month the children in the club who have b-days during that month will be acknowledged. Last year the book club brought in 475 books for the Dewing Library. Teachers are polled and a list is compiled.

VII. Adjournment

- The PAC Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM. See above vote.