

Minutes from the May 18, 2010 PTO Meeting

President Denise Wall opened meeting and welcomed all of those in attendance. Laurie Brosnan, Cathy Boese, Sheila Serrao, Kim Racca, Jeannie Sullivan, Ann Tavennor, Pamela Kline, Cindy Gottfried, Karen Vigors-Stack, Lisa Besen, Michelle O'Connor, Jen Bentley, Christa DiNapoli and Brad Wheaton.

Tina Girwood, President of ACE, Andover Coalition for Education came and spoke to us about ACE. I took the following from their website,

Working Together for Excellence in Andover Public Schools

Welcome to ACE online. The Andover Coalition for Education (ACE) was formed in 2005 by a group of community leaders concerned about the growing gap between the programs that the Andover Public School budget could afford for its students, and the global economy's demands of those students when they stepped onto the world stage. True innovation and creative global thinking were being routinely sacrificed to meet tighter budgets.

Like the education funds in other towns with historically top tier schools, including Lexington, Newton, Brookline, Wellesley, Belmont and Needham, ACE's mission is to ensure, through private funding, that **imaginative, rigorous enrichment programs remain a priority in Andover schools - regardless of the school budget.** This kind of long-term commitment not only distinguishes good schools from exemplary ones - idling from acceleration - it is a requirement in a world that has never before demanded so much from its citizens.

The latest project that ACE tackled was to put a new Foreign Language Lab in the High School and they achieved their goal! Thanks to the help of generous donations they received. They are waiting to meet with the new Superintendent to decide what their goal will be in the near future. There is a late Fall Fundraiser planned to help raise money for their next goal. If you would like to learn more about ACE, please visit their Website @ aceandover.org or email tgirwood@comcast.net.

Treasurer Cindy Gottfried reviewed the budget year end and proposed the 2010-2011 budget to be voted on at the next PTO meeting.

The following motions were made, seconded and had a majority vote on how the PTO is going to spend some of its free cash:

- To purchase 2 Promethean Boards, Francine has a wish list from teachers who would like to have one in their classroom and will decide where they will go.
- To purchase "FUNdations", a reading program that was presented to us by one of our learning specialist. This is an outstanding program that all will benefit by from grades k-3.
- \$425.69 to Media to purchase 4 sets of the Massachusetts Book Award books.

The slate of 2010-2011 PTO board members was presented:

President: Denise Wall

Co-vice Presidents: VP1-Cathy Boese, VP2 -Karen Vigurs-Stack

Treasurer: Cindy Gottfreid

Secretary: Anne Tavenner

Fundraising: Jen Bentley

Membership: Christa DiNapoli

Website/Communications: Heidi Borenstein

Christa gave an update on the Bancroft Building Project. The feasibility study is waiting for approval and the next phase will be the schematic design phase. This is the “fun” part where the community gets to give ideas about what we would like to see in the new school. The next meeting will be June 9th, 6:00 p.m. at the West Middle School.

Principal Francine Goldstein told the PTO about the plans for the Friday before Memorial Day. If students know a veteran they are being asked to invite them to Bancroft and the school will meet outside around the flag pole in the morning to hold a Memorial Day Tribute. Francine also talked about how wonderful the Teacher/Staff appreciation week was and how special and appreciated the staff felt.

President Denise Wall thanked the all the people who worked on the following events:

- Go Green Week
- Mother / Son night at the movies
- Science Fair
- Father / Daughter Dance
- Teacher / Staff appreciation week

The following events sponsored by the PTO are coming up:

- PALS is every Friday during recess in the month of May, come and help if you can!
- Book Fair is the 1st week in June.
- Year – end Bancroft Picnic is on June 16th.
- Year – end staff luncheon being held at Jeannie Sullivan’s home. Please consider preparing something for the luncheon. Hopefully the weather will cooperate!

There are still open positions on the PTO for next year. Please see the website – BancroftPTO.org and if there is something that interests you, please contact Denise Wall.

PLEASE join us for the last PTO meeting for this school year on June 10th. This is a fun, social event with a small meeting attached.

Over and Out,

Laurie Brosnan, Secretary