

Swarthmore Rutledge School
Home and School Association Meeting
February 11, 2009

ATTENDEES

Mary Murray, Tony Liu, Dr. Gary Davis, Carlin McCoy, Beth DeBruyn, Stephanie Bailey, Ruth Bock, Jody Dawes, Shelley Bollinger, Stephanie Stabinski, Robyn Holford, Kate Dickey, Mark Finlayson, Elma Jones, Life Touch (school photography representative)

MINUTES:

- Minutes for November 12, 2008 were read and approved.
- The minutes will be posted on the web at www.srskids.org

TREASURER: Mary Murray for Sharon Mester

- Mary reports under budget about \$2,200 for the 2 big fundraiser: Sally Foster Gift wrap and Directory
- Bingo night has not been tallied but is expected to be less than budgeted.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT: Dr. Gary Davis

- MLK day of service was a big success
- Talent show with the Philly Phanatic was fun
- The primary grades counted 100 steps/100days
- 5th grade is doing PSSA
- Teachers are doing curriculum mapping
- End of Feb. will be Jump Rope for Heart.
- March will have recycle assembly and Mock Trials with Phil Restrepo and Dave Caputo(parent/lawyers)
- PSSA's are coming in March for 3rd grade
- Conferences will be in March
- H&S will have the Walnut St. Theatre come again
- Read Across America is starting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SAC Committee: Carlin McCoy

- Updates from other committees to SAC- Wellness Committee was reported by Dr. Davis. He discussed that committee members were discussing risky teenage behavior regarding alcohol. Raising parent awareness is a goal in the community. Carlin reported the Expanded Walking Zone survey results were reported at the last meeting. Only 20 people responded- Tom Schaefer proposed the district endorse it- Wellness said doesn't seem like enough interest- Carlin said that SRS community (with possible H&S endorsement) will try encouraging walking more. Eric reported for Technology. Said he had been communicating with Brooke Penders regarding Best Buy grants (which could buy things like Leapfrog, Karaoke, Computer Microphones). Bully Prevention is being covered in all school meetings and incorporated in class curriculum. Linda commented that Bully prevention should be put in place in the middle school.

Brooke Penders was a SAC guest; she is the new the H&S grant proposal writer. Brooke discussed that she would like to know more what the teachers would like when she seeks grants. She searches for grants via word of mouth, friend's tools, government. Currently does not pay for any grant info services. Feels we really don't qualify for any government grants. She described the process of writing proposals: ID Grant/research if you meet criteria/gather info (resumes, stats on school, etc.). Also, should it be through the school district or H&S (to take advantage of non profit (501) 3 status. After grant proposal written, email H&S/Dr. Davis/ and point person (person who is targeted to run grant) for review. Discussions about planning ahead for grants (obviously take time). Brooke is happy to stop in and talk to teachers to brainstorm. The curriculum for each grade is to be sent. Need African Dance contact replacement-possible grant for next year. It's through the Philadelphia Cultural Alliance- Brooke will take over to make sure it progresses. Brooke will email other grant ideas to Dr. Davis to be forwarded to teachers.

Silent Auction: *Beth DeBruyn*

- March 13th baskets from classes due in.
- Auction goal is \$10,000
- Have 65 donations so far

Foreign Language: *Shelley Bollinger*

- Gave brief background regarding our program with Swarthmore College language students. Students are teaching the afterschool classes and receiving college credit.
- Proposed FLES should be under H&S. Currently under curriculum dept.
- New to program-teachers will have formal training so they are better prepared to handle the students

MLK update: *Ruth Bock*

- Happy with results/turnout
- Ruth committed to doing it again next year

Guest Speakers:

Mark Finlayson, the Director of Instructional and Informational Technology for WSSD was invited to advise on technology purchases through H&S. H&S met with Mark to generate a "suggestive" list. Mark's list was prioritized as follows:

- (1)SMART Board 77" no stand for computer room \$1,425
 - (1) Document camera for Library (checked out resource) \$693
 - (1)Digital Microscope for Library (checked out resource) \$700 (approx.)
 - (3)SMART Boards 64" with stand for one on each floor \$3,705
 - (3) Laptops, Digital Projectors, Laptop Carts for one on each floor \$6,117
- Total= \$12,640

Training would be available for these items. Mark was asked what money should come from H&S vs. the district and he answered "budgeted items tend not to be on district level". Software comes with Smart Board. WES has SMART Boards and they share them with a corresponding Laptop on cart. The overall need for flexibility was discussed. Mark was asked if SMART

Boards should be geared more toward 5th grade; Mark said it is more an “instructional tool (for all grades). A suggestion for keeping them in hallways was made. Tony Lui stated that in 1-3 years teachers will be able to integrate them into classroom

NEW BUSINESS:

- Green project (during MLK) parents spent \$800.00 for materials (recycling bins) asking H&S for reimbursement for ½. Receipts were requested. A motion for approval was tabled.
- Life Touch presentation. Spring portraits are being considered for approval by Dr. Davis. Vendor is offering incentives for using their service. 5th grade reps. Requesting to use them and the incentives for yearbook funds.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- February 27 Jump Rope for Heart
- March 21 Silent Auction
- March 30 April 3 Parent-Teacher Conferences
- March 30- April 3 Book Fair

NEXT MEETING

- March 11– at 7:30 p.m. Teachers Lounge

Meeting Adjourned 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Carlin McCoy