



Amy Caggiano opens the meeting at 9:05

Administration Updates

Superintendent O’Shea – proposed budget with social emotional support, an increase in ELL services, full time paraprofessional’s added in the kindergarten, and funds available for five positions due to retirement.

The district report card came out based on our PARCC performance for last year. As usual our students performed extremely well. We were temporarily labeled a level two school based on participation. We had a subgroup of students who opted out of the testing, but after an appeal we sent in, we were reevaluated as a level one school. We are preparing for this year's testing, Next Generation MCAS. We will be getting more information soon. It is to be less cumbersome than PARCC, with PARCC being multiple assessments every year. (Carrie Wilson adds) The format will return to what we know as the old MCAS format, with the open ending writing and a long comprehension piece at certain grade levels. It lengthens the time the kids have to finish the test. PARC was a timed test whereas MCAS stretches it out throughout the day, so kids feel less pressure.

On the state level they have opened up a review of the history and social science frameworks. You look at or give feedback online (<http://www.doe.mass.edu/candi/StandardsReview/hss.html>). They have made some new ELA and Math changes for the upcoming year and those are open for public comment as well.

State has given released funds for watering testing in the schools. We have the water tested at the start of every year. I'm looking forward to the upcoming holiday concerts.

Carrie Wilson – Middle school is busy, working on community service outreach, within the team building and advisory times. We have successfully contributed 22 blankets from the 7th grade to the NCIU at Emerson and Mass General outreach. We had lots of kudos from them about that project. We are working on the next 7th grade project, which will look at projects dealing with saving local wildlife through the Wing Masters program. We will have some of the folks from the humane society come and speak to kids on how that work happens. We have made two attempts on the 7th mannequin challenge and we have one more redo and I think we've got it! 8th grade is working on submitting applications to the scholastic writing and art contest. Instructions have been sent out on how to enroll it that. We have historically done an amazing job and have won some amazing prizes. The music concerts are coming up and the kids are excited and practicing. The conferences are next week specialists this year will be available for meetings. A schedule has been sent out with specific times that they will be around to meet with. The 6th grade coat drive for Lowell is starting soon. Last year we surpassed our previous years totals with over 300 coats being donated. The PJ drive is still ongoing and being put on by the 5th and 2nd graders. We as a staff has been working on our training for the anti bullying OLWVUS program. Our team of 12 were trained by a national trainer and very excited to roll it out in the fall for staff and parents. The only way this really works is if we are all using a using common language and the parents are understanding how the school is approaching students to intervene in a positive way to support the children. It will be community based and we will be pulling in folks from Ferns and the police so everyone will be using the same language. It's positive based so instead of saying "Don't do that!" it's more "I noticed you doing this and this is hurtful...."

School advisory council has been listening to our conversation this year about an outdoor play space. We have been discussing our attempts at creating equal space and not crowding the plaza during recess. It is one of the topics SAC wants to tackle this year in terms of going out and really looking at what we have available on our property and how we might be able to change, adjust, restructure the plaza area. Now that we don't have midday buses we have been using the bus area for soccer. There's around 150 kids out there during each session in what I

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see as a fairly contained space. Next Tuesday SAC and principals have invited parents to a quick, drop in breakfast at 8AM, hoping to get some feedback. A few of the SAC members will be coming to observe the students during recess to see what goes on out there. The kids would love grass.

Dr. Sidell – The pairing of 7th grade with 3rd graders to work on monthly projects will begin in January. For the past couple of years, I have been representing Carlisle in the Merrimack collation for curriculum directors. Out of that we have created NPEN, which is giving professional development to groups of teachers that in one district you may not have a lot of, like Music, PE, Nursing, and Library. We are in our second year of professional development and we had 25 districts and over 1800 teachers come from the day. This year we added preschool and world language. We sent 8 teachers to conference this year. They had a chance to spend the day specifically with their curriculum. It's a program that has been growing with 700 teachers the first year and now 1800 this year and we are excited to be planning it again for next year. The two new recess monitors have started, so we have three people out there everyday for all the recesses. The wing masters program for kindergarten, that was sponsored by the PTO, is amazing. He brings in four owls for the kids to see and talks about how they are different and how you can find them in Carlisle. The bat and animal adaptation program for second grade, also sponsored by the PTO is coming up and help the kids learn so much. The holiday concerts are coming up with the kids performing for the students today during school and then fourth grade will be performing for the parents tomorrow night and the middle school on Thursday night. My last item is report cards. You will be receiving an email with an introduction to the report card that we have changed for elementary with a video going over the different parts of the report card and why we made these changes. The whole issue was we wanted to make sure we had a clear message from the teacher to the parent. This is a report card that is for grade level expectations, so we are really looking to have the skills the teacher is teaching marked, as Above Grade Level, At Grade Level, Approaching Grade Level or Below Grade Level. Comments will be after each section rather than at the end. We are looking for feedback. We did share these with a small parent group just to get feedback on language but we really feel it's a very clear message. The other message we have is the report card is meant to be for parents, it can be shown to children, but we are creating it for the parents to know where their children are in each section. It's now the same format for K - 4.

PTO Thank Yous!

- ✓ Liz McIntosh for organizing the Holiday Apparel Sale
- ✓ Sara Vuckovic for organizing the Holiday Gift Card Sale
- ✓ Everyone who helped with Game Night in November
- ✓ Suzanne Bohs for kicking off the Box Top Contest
- ✓ Sean & Linda Murphy for Publicizing our Events

Ongoing Business

Approve November 2016 Minutes -

Emily Richardson made a motion to approve the minutes.

Carren Panico seconded the motion.

The November Meeting Minutes were approved.

Board Updates

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President - Susan Bohs is taking over the Box tops and will be running monthly contests. She is talking with Dr. Sidell to arrange for some incentives, like extra recess for the class who brings in the most tops each month. We really want to get everyone involved from grandparents to members of the COA. As well, anyone who orders on Amazon, the Carlisle PTO has a Smile account which will donate a percentage of your order back to the PTO.

Exec VP - Carren and Carrie to contact Susan Pray to determine payment option for the grants. Carrie to add to the notes for the grant process.

Treasurer: Budget Updates and Next Steps. We sold with taxes sold about \$1800 in apparel. We are at a point now where we need some help with our taxes and we have done our due diligence searching for accountants with costs ranges from \$800 - \$1200. We have sent out request to the community for volunteers for their time to help us with our taxes but we have not heard back from anyone. Christine Lear recommends each class contribute \$100 each to cover the cost, as we handle their taxes for their accounts. Board must vote on taxes being done by outside service.

Emily Richardson moves to pay an accountant to complete the taxes.

Carren Panico seconded the motion.

Paying accountant to complete the taxes Approved.

Publicity: Updates/Deadlines - The buzz deadline will be the 27th, so if you have news that needs to go out please have it to Sean by then.

Membership: Husky Directory Status & Gift Certificate Winner - We are at 69% of our goal for the year. We are at \$8290 and our goal is \$12K. We have 177 memberships, with 79% of families willing to choose to display their information whether they have a membership or not. The amount of families displayed this year is larger but family memberships are tracking lower. We are not tracking as well as from month to month as we were last year. We did run a raffle to encourage people to sign up before November 1st with a \$25 gift card to Nino's in Burlington. I'm welcome to any ideas to encourage people to sign up. Amy to work with Niressa and determine language for an appeal email to parents. Diane suggested targeting those classes that have had the Curriculum Enrichment programs already.

Curriculum Enrichment: Updates all is moving along, still looking for all school assembly option

Events: January Event – Valentine Create-A-Thon, Science Event in Spring

Fundraising: Apparel has sold around \$1800, Liz not present, Gift Cards to date sold \$1465 and made \$71 profit, last year we sold \$14K and made \$600. Carlisle eCommunity – overview of the Carlisle eCommunity – Christine Lear, list events, classified, advertisements, thought this was going to be a passive fundraiser, finding out that we need 8-10 volunteers to run the project, invested about \$2K for software, monthly fees for URL – has been profitable but at a point – we need a commitment from the PTO and school community to turn the model into a turn-key situation – need volunteers, all can be done from home, events listings, etc – more work to be done than the current team can handle.

Volunteer Chair: Recruitment Starting in January

Middle School Chairs

New Business

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December Event – Professional Development Day on Wednesday, December 14th at Altitude from 10AM – 12 Noon

Scheduling meetings with Amy C. to discuss experience to date and to make plans for the new year.

Summer Camp Fair Volunteer Needed

Suggestions for 2017-18 Volunteers – Recruiting to begin in February

Adjourn

Amy Caggiano made a motion to adjourn.

Carrie Patel seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 3, 2016 at 9:00 am in the Community Room