

**Carlisle School Association
Board Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2014**

Attendees:

Joan Wickman, Dennet Sidell, Rebecca Besthoff., Christine Lear, Jean Barry, Susan Baldoumas, Sarah Grallert, Laura France, Emily DiRocco, Cary Keller, Lisa Chaffin, Shilpa Goel, Phyllis Bewick, Amy Versaggi, Eva Mostoufi, Margo Parent

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Jean Barry to approve December 5, 2013 minutes. Second by Sara Grallert. Unanimous approval.

Dr. Wickman, Administration Update:

- PARCC test: everyone will be doing the same test.
- Choral Collage concert at CCHS this past Tuesday—involves Carlisle & Concord elementary students & high school students.
- 7th Grade play prep underway.
- Chinese New Year coming up Saturday 2/1; publicity by CSA requested (via Buzz, room parents, etc.).
- Secretary Mallone (MA Dept of Education) to tour school today.
- DA's Anti-Bullying talk—last week of January suggested; videotaping of the talk suggested—Dr. Wickman to look into this option (CCTV?)
- Snow days last week—notices came the night prior, which is rare; in Carlisle there is a fire whistle that blows—could this be abandoned? Dr. Wickman to discuss with Fire Dept (2 scenarios where the whistle might be helpful: power outage or unusual circumstance such as a burst water pipe when families would not suspect a school closing)

Dr. Sidell, Administration Update:

- Winter concerts in late December; Spirit Day for Elementary School in December
- Leadership opportunities—4th grade training for helpers for lunch/recess (running games, etc.) & how to balance structured play & unsupervised play being discussed; bus buddies, helpers for lower elementary classes.
- Track my progress—online tracking for math & reading; questions geared toward level of mastery & provides feedback to educators; tests prepping students for PARCC exam pilot program; starting K-5.
- Community Event: SAC discussed bringing Nancy Rappaport (author of *The Behavior Code*) to talk to the community, as she has been scheduled to talk w/ teachers; a Saturday in March 9am-12pm—Dr. Sidell asking CSA to co-sponsor this event. *The Behavior Code*—provides strategies to approach children that may need more attention (eg. Anxious children), geared for K-8.

CSA Thank You's!

Rebecca mentioned thanks you to go out from CSA, and she read list of Thank You's:

- CSA Ice Skating Party
- Heidi Kidder re: Husky Apparel
- Debbie Mers & Suzan Baldoumas re: mitten collection
- House Tour Co-Chairs: Eva Mostoufi, Lori Brown, Patricia Brigiotta, Desa Facey

Rebecca Besthoff, President (reported): no updates

VP of Middle School (6-8 grade), Amy Versaggi (reported):

- Nancy Cowan & Amy Versaggi propose a change in the use of class funds: 50% go toward class trip & 50% go toward graduation ceremonies; this allows the funds to fall under a more academic umbrella (in the past 100% of the funds were used for graduation events & parents were required to pay for the class trip in full). List of class fund usage provided by Amy. All other involved parties are in full support of this change.
- [Motion made by Rebecca Besthoff to vote on this change: Going forward overall class expenditures should be reviewed and approved by the CSA board; for the academic year 2014-15 the CSA approved spending 50% of class funds on educational pursuits and 50% on graduation ceremony & activities. Motion seconded by Amy Versaggi. Unanimous approval.](#)

Parent Education, Jean Barry (reported):

- Let's Be Honest parent workshop re: sexual health and communication changed to Thursday 2/27 6:30-8:30pm; save the dates will go out in Buzz, CSA Newsflash.
- Anti-Bullying event being organized by Joan Wickman—January dates & parental involvement requested: 1/30, 1/29, 1/28 thought to be the best (essentially any night last week of January 2014); another speaker at Fenn 1/27 may conflict w/ this event.
- Behavioral Education program in March; Dennett Sidell would like co-sponsorship by CSA & SAC.

Fundraising, Susan Baldoumas (reported): no updates

CSA Exec VP, Christine Lear (reported):

- Job Descriptions—we can refer interested volunteers to the CSA website to get a good idea if a job is the right fit for them (nature of the job, time commitment, etc.).

Treasurer, Alyson Becker (reported by Rebecca Besthoff):

- Presented updated Treasurer Report—there was a \$1.40 discrepancy, which was resolved electronically. Budget looks healthy. PayPal being set up with help

from Melynda Gambino. List of breakdown of funds provided by Rebecca Besthoff.

Membership, Sarah Grallert (reported): no updates

New Business:

- CSA Book Fair the week of April 14th: Emily DiRocco: potential author being looked into, but we cannot secure this author until we know we have the library for the book fair. Dr. Sidell needs funding to pay for substitutes to supervise classes during library time (teachers have planning time allotted during this time); Amy Versaggi suggested room parents to send out email requests for parent volunteers to fill this gap. Amy V. also suggested use of the community room for the author's presentation to prevent any scheduling conflicts involving the library.

- Behavioral Education program being proposed by Dr. Sidell: Rebecca made a motion to vote on CSA co-sponsor this event (\$2000); seconded by Lisa Chaffin, unanimously approved.

Publicity, Margo Parent (reported): no update

Room Parent Coordinator, Emily DiRocco (reported):

- Emily looking for input from Dr. Sidell & Dr. Wickman re: roles of room parents.

Curriculum Enrichment (Lisa Chaffin) reported:

- Upcoming programs: Chinese New Year 1/31 (all school assembly).
- Eva Mostoufi: need for robotics programs; US underrepresented in recent world programming competition; does this fall under the umbrella of curriculum enrichment? Dr. Sidell would be the first contact re: STEAM program additions.

House Tour Update (Eva Mostoufi): Friday May 16, 9:30am-2:30pm

- CSA needs nominations for more houses for the tour; we only have 3 houses secured; please spread the word to community members who might be good candidates. Anyone with recent renovations or house changes may be interested in sharing with the community.
- Eva handed out a form to board members to fill out with suggestions for possible candidates.
- Please submit any house nominations to Eva Mostoufi, Patricia Brigiotta, Lori Brown or Desa Facey.
- Lunches: boxed lunches (from Whole Foods) to be available for sale during the tour.
- Eva Mostoufi will take dogs during the tour, if needed.

Services (Laura France):

- Family Bingo Night this Friday night.

Adjourn:

Motion by Rebecca Besthoff to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Margo Parent.
Unanimous approval.

Next meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2014 at 9:00am at the Carlisle Public School conference room.