

JUNE 7, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

1.) Welcome and Principal Report

- Principal's Report
- Offered warm thank you to Parent Council for all that parents/families have done this year (and will do in next couple of weeks)
- Update re: security?
- Looking into key card entry on exterior doors, which will eliminate habit of propping doors, which will in turn increase security. Will happen in the next school year.
- Lobbying for peepholes to be put in cafeteria's and Ms Jinel's doors so that at afterschool pickup, the teachers can see who is at the door.
- Site Council Update
- Homework - Site Council members reported that Erin shared at Site Council that the work / discussions will be continued in the fall. Erin wants to start with all the things that parents shared as the purpose of homework - including fostering a love of learning, engaging parents in what their students are learning in school, and building study habits - and ask, "What can we do (homework-wise and beyond) to foster these things?"

2.) Treasurer's Report - Kelly sent her report, which Katie shared out:

- Balance: \$3,900 in bank (\$3,700 after paying for pizza and school
- Made \$245 from Zumba and \$183 from Dress Down Day
- Leslie: Update re: box tops - payouts in December and April; connected with Misty to take it on for next year

Addendum:

- Kelly shared via email later that the 5th grade trip cost \$198. Parent Council will reimburse the teacher for this trip, as previously agreed upon.
- Parent Council will spend \$100 on pizza for the BBQ.

3.) Fundraising Committee

- BBQ Item for Sale - Recipe Book, printed on nicer cardstock; price around \$5, depending on how it looks J
- Parents could purchase pictures of their kids - \$5/photo for fundraiser; then we'll print them, can be sent home with the child

4.) BBQ

- Scott will be griller in chief - will bring 2 grills and the condiments, rolls, hot dogs, buns; Mick - paper goods, forks; Alan - ice
- Looking for one long table to get 4 in total
- Food only in certain section; any other tables, activities go along the wall where the pledge is
- Close off the stairs after 6 pm
- No tents; we have a rain date, but looks like we don't need it
- If it rains, Moving Up Night stays the same - two sessions, 5:00 - 5:30, 5:30 - 6:00
- Next year - let's close off Eastborn Street and make it a block party

5.) Field Day Kelly has sent out info and schedule, including volunteer shifts

6.) Spring Concert

- ❖ Starts at 10 am - performing two classes at a time instead of one; should be 60-70 minutes (shorter than last year).
- ❖ Tents will be set up.
- ❖ Teacher in charge of stage managing; kids have been practicing in the space
- ❖ 5th and 1st grade are performing a 10-minute play; Making Music Matters performances will be infused into that.
- ❖ Would love donations of: tents and water bottles (to give each student as they come off the stage)
- ❖ Kids should wear hats and sunscreen

7.) Summer Get Together / New Families

- ❖ Erin is planning Popsicles with Principal
- ❖ Thought about organizing another informal get-together?
- ❖ Maybe do a by-grade get-together, which parent liaison could organize?

8.) Open Floor

- ❖ School Calendar
 - Change Parent Night Out to Friday, October 14th
 - Maybe organize child care in some way? Provide a list of sitters; would Roach Center open the gym for \$100?
 - November 8th Election Day Bake Sale? We need to decide.
 - Will be intense with presidential election - need to think about how to do this efficiently, and also capitalize. Could be a safety risk?
 - The healthy/unhealthy snack thing was a challenge
 - Thoughts: have kids not go down to the bake sale.
 - Pancake Breakfast - let's do it
 - Papa's Potluck/Game Night - February
- ❖ Parents discussed that it would be helpful for Parent Council to set up angel fund so that kids who don't bring in money for field trips, etc can all participate; Nicole/Marisa to follow up with Erin about this.
- ❖ Facebook - want to ensure that parents know it is a resource; Mick to ask Erin to put Mozart Facebook invite in mailings to incoming K1 parents
- ❖ Parent Council agreed to give gift cards to Kelly, Ms. Albash, and Ms. Jinel - as a thank you for their afterschool work
- ❖ Mick and Katie to explore the steps landscaping; share out in September
- ❖ Thoughts for next year's structure:
 - Fundraising Committee separate
 - Site Council updates
 - Topics: perhaps a topic/week - to ensure that things like security, homework, etc gets tackled

NEXT STEPS

| Who | What |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mick | Ask Misty to end the crowdrise campaign on last day of school. Ask Erin to put Mozart Facebook invite into email/mailing to new K1 families. |
| Any Parents (if interested) | Let Kelly know if want to volunteer at Field Day. Donate water and tents for Spring Concert |
| Nicole, Katie | Bring tables to the BBQ. |
| Kelly | Send out info again re: Field Day |
| Katie, Leslie | Send call for water to K2 and 1 st grade families (for BBQ and for Spring Arts Showcase). |
| Leslie | Add Mozart Facebook info to Recipe Book |
| Nicole, Marisa | Follow up with Erin: Parent Council would like to set up angel fund for each class for next year. |
| Nicole, Marisa | Get parent council co-chair thank you gifts |
| Mick, Katie | Explore the steps landscaping; share out in September |
| Leslie | Get \$25 Amex Gift cards for Kelly, Ms. Elbach and Ms. Jinel; give during BBQ |
| Ellen | Check in with Erin: Will the school be open for Election Day? Report back at September meeting with thoughts on Bake Sale. |
| Nicole, Marisa | (over summer) Put together school calendar; coordinate with Heather on design |
| | Find dolley, affix piano fundraising gauge to it? |

End June Minutes

MAY 2016 MEETING MINUTES

1.) Welcome!

- ❖ Wonderful Teacher Appreciation Week!
- ❖ Thank you to Dafna!

2.) Principal Report

- ❖ Hiring updates - we're done! Excited that Ms. Jinel and Miss Melissa are coming back in their roles; Ms. Morales in slightly different role, but same time; 2 great new teachers - 4th and 5th co-teacher (inclusion) - Edwin Sebrian; K2 and 1st grade co-teacher -Nicole Corbett
- ❖ Race Dialogues - parents can speak to that work and what's happening next

3.) Treasurer's Report - Kelly reported:

- ❖ Balance: \$4,623 in bank
- ❖ Paid out for teacher appreciation (paid by Dress Down Day)
- ❖ Additional upcoming costs:
 - o T-shirts for Race Dialogues - \$170
 - o Dress down day to pay for zumba (see Upcoming Events, below)
 - o Kelly offered to commit a \$200 book stipend that Kelly could commit to the book order (see Race Dialogues updates below)
 - o Moving On ceremony budget, plus \$200 for 5th grade field trip to Georgia's Island
- ❖ Plan for balance?
 - o Busses for field trips next year; they were \$375/bus this year; next year probably \$400/bus
 - o Next year - would be \$1,600 minimum for busses
 - o Would be great for next year - start with wish list for teachers

4.) Race Dialogues Updates

- ❖ What happened at the race dialogues
 - o 5 weeks (spread over two months due to snow days)
 - o Initial sessions - community building, reflecting on personal relationship to race and privilege
 - o Moved to reflections of how race affects individuals' experiences at the Mozart
 - o Closing session focused on action - what immediate next steps should we take to communicate, sustain, and deepen the work begun in the dialogues?
- ❖ What's happening coming out of the race dialogues
 - o Two committees were formed coming out of dialogues
 - o One committee working on short term actions to get started
 - *Awareness campaign* - Race Matters at the Mozart School t-shirts for those who were in the dialogues; 30 shirts; plus buttons to hand out to all at BBQ
 - *Communication about what happened at dialogues* - Film with reflections from those who participated in dialogues to play at BBQ and be on Mozart website; Handout with review of race dialogues, action steps so far
 - *Resources* - Handout to include book list, and resources for parents to talk with their children about race

- o Race subcommittee formed to begin longer-term work - open to all
 - Drafted mission at first meeting on Monday - articulated a purpose of making Mozart Elementary an anti-racist community
 - Next meeting is June 6th
 - To announce committee and its mission at BBQ, to encourage all to join
 - Next Committee Meeting: June 6th
- o Other thoughts raised at dialogues:
 - Additional staff PD next year around curriculum/instruction, building on work of culturally relevant practices that staff has engaged in this year
 - Commitment to ensuring that

5.) Fundraising Committee

- ❖ Items to raffle for BBQ/Moving Up Night - 50/50 and door prize; T-shirt; recipe book from teacher appreciation lunch; photo table (Dafna will man that)
- ❖ Karen and Michelle - hosting May 20th fundraiser
- ❖ Close out crowdrise fundraiser on June 11th - final plug for donations at BBQ
- ❖ Need to build a stand for the piano

6) BOKS Instructor Updates

- ❖ Parent has reached out - will check out BOKS - will potentially have someone to replace Kelly for next year; Ms. G will continue
- ❖ This year it was over 50 kids with 3 trainers
- ❖ Next year - stipulation is 40 kids for 2 trainers - commit to 3 days/week for 12 weeks, fall and spring

7) Elections for Next Year

Parent Council voted and agreed on the following representatives for next year:

Parent Council:

- ❖ Marisa Suescun and Nicole McGuire - Co-Chairs
- ❖ Kelly Cunniffe - Treasurer
- ❖ Ellen O'Brien - Secretary; will enlist another parent in September to be co-secretary

Site Council:

- ❖ Dafna
- ❖ Hillary
- ❖ Joost
- ❖ Marisa
- ❖ Leave alternate spot open for next year

8) Upcoming Events

Calendar will be going home at end of this week with updates on events:

- ❖ May 20th, 6:30 - 8:00 pm - Fundraiser
- ❖ June 7th = next parent council meeting - moved up to plan for BBQ;
- ❖ June 10th BBQ/Moving Up Night - (see details below)
- ❖ June 15th - Spring Arts Showcase, 10 am

- ❖ June 22nd - Field Day; Kelly running it because gym teacher won't be there - wife will be having a baby; 4-5 stations (eg, dance station, water station, zumba, maybe relay, etc.); Kelly passed around paper to solicit volunteers in time slots (approximately 90 minute slots)
- ❖ Throughout June - Zumba classes; Kelly, zumba instructor, is available in June - probably 4-5 zumba classes in June once BOKS is done; we pay her for the hour
- ❖ Last Week of School - Moving On Ceremony

9) BBQ / Moving Up Night

Committee to be formed:

- ❖ After Moving Up Night (5:00 - 6:00 - chance for families to meet next year's teacher), can rope off the doors that we don't want people to be going out
- ❖ BBQ - 6 - 8 pm
 - Need outdoor seating; move tables outside
 - Someone to think about flow
 - Grills - Ashlei and Jean Marie have grills; Scott can pick up the grill in his truck
 - Assign food by grade for potluck
 - Kelly will update flyer
 - Ellen's husband Scott will be griller in chief; he will get supplies for burgers, hot dogs, chicken, etc.
 - Booth - Video set up from race dialogues; buttons; handout with resources; book to every family - someone works the table
 - Final push for crowdise

10) Open Forum

- ❖ Lawn needs to be mowed because mower is broken; school working on getting it fixed
- ❖ What is going on with Box Tops? Leslie offered to manage that. Update after meeting: Misty has actually been sending in box tops throughout the year at submission times.

NEXT STEPS

| Who | What |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Any Parents (if interested) | Let Kelly know if want to volunteer at Field Day. Join BBQ subcommittee. |
| Dafna | Put together recipe book for BBQ raffle. |
| Race Dialogue Immediate Action Committee | Give book order to Kelly. |
| Kelly | Ask 5 th grade teacher about plans/budget for field trip and moving up ceremony Send email re: change of date in Parent Council and BBQ committee meeting. Update flyer re: potluck for BBQ. |
| Scott | Purchase supplies for BBQ |
| Ashlei, Jean Marie | Donate grills for BBQ |

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| | Find dolly, affix piano fundraising gauge to it? |
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End May Minutes

April 2016 Meeting Minutes

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: The Parent Council and Wellness Committee are in need of three volunteers to fill important positions next year.

--Two Parent Council co-chairs: Mick O'Dea and Ashlei Parris have co-chaired the council nearly two years, and the 2016-2017 school year will require two new co-chairs to attend the monthly meetings. These co-chairs also meet with Principal Borthwick prior to the Council meetings, and distribute an agenda.

Please consider volunteering to help the Mozart Parent Council have another great year. Come to the Mozart's May 9 Parent Council meeting, Tuesday 6:30 pm to learn more.

--BOKS Leader: Mozart parent and classroom aide Kelly Cunniffe helped establish the wildly successful BOKS program before school three days a week on the Mozart playground. She is looking for someone to step in as the BOKS leader, and training sessions are available this spring.

Please contact her at Kelly.cunniffe@gmail.com

Principal's Report

--Two full-time positions have been added to the Mozart staff for the coming school year. These resources are dedicated to English as a Second Language (ESL) and Special Education classes and students.

--Community Conversation: Homework -- Principal Borthwick hosted a Community Conversation on Homework in March with the goal of gathering parental input on crafting a school-based homework policy that addresses things like effectiveness, quality vs. quantity, and how homework relates to student progress reports.

Homework Conversation Next Steps:

Teachers will have a similar discussion about homework during their Common Planning Time.

Then a broader survey will be sent to Mozart families about homework.

All of this information will inform a draft policy that will be voted on by Site Council at the June Site Council meeting.

--Facilities Master Planning Work--Here is the City of Boston and Boston Public Schools agenda for the BPS 10-year Master Plan.

- Facility Conditions Assessment to assess BPS' 128 school buildings and maximize the potential uses in infrastructure (Summer 2016);
- Demographics, Capacity and Utilization Analysis to better understand student populations today, and evaluate the trajectory of student success rates in the future (beginning October 2015);
- Educational Programming to develop a vision and principles for 21st century instruction and learning for all of Boston's public schools (beginning November 2015);

- **Financial Planning and Funding to develop a set of investment recommendations for long-term building maintenance, modernization and the development of new schools, as needed (beginning October 2015).**

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Principal Borthwick is on committee that is advising the city in its goal for providing the appropriate infrastructure for BPS. This includes things like K-6 and 7-12 configurations. The District plans to host a community conversation in August, and more information will become available to Mozart parents who would like to attend.

Treasurer's Report

--Fundraising: The Council approved a donation to the Congregational Church in Roslindale in the amount of \$200. The church donated their space to our annual Pancake Breakfast. The Council also voted to donate \$100 to Teacher Appreciation week. Additional supplies, donations are needed. (See below).

The Mozart Parent Council Treasurer's report reflected a balance of about \$4,500 after these motions; this figure included all online contributions and event-based donations.

End April Minutes