

FRANKLIN PTO 2/4/10 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Executive Committee Members in Attendance:

Tracy Soehle - President

Eva Zervos - Vice- President

Deb Rooney - Treasurer

Lisa Chedekel – Co-Secretary

Amy Kelly – Principal

Call to order at 7:10 p.m. and welcome by President Tracy Soehle, who spoke of upcoming events including coffeehouse (sold out in advance of show); movie night; and multicultural day, scheduled for March 2. She also said the annual Franklin auction had been scheduled for May 1 at Post 440 in Newton.

She informed the crowd that a committee consisting of the PTO, Principal Kelly and a parent representative had awarded more than \$4,000 in mini-grants to teachers and staff for technology, library, gardening and other school supplies.

Treasurer Rooney gave a brief presentation on the PTO budget, noting that dues were down considerably from last year -- \$2,800 so far, compared to \$4,775 last year -- and making a pitch for parents to please contribute dues.

Teacher representative Eileen Keane thanked the PTO board for awarding mini-grants this year. The invited speaker of the meeting, Franklin math coach Robin Moriarty, gave an overview of the math curriculum, saying math was an “emotional topic” for some people and that “risk-taking” was part of the learning process.

She explained that math games are part of the responsive classroom approach that Franklin has adopted, and she had parents in attendance participate in one such game.

Moriarty said Franklin teachers follow a predetermined roadmap of content, offering all students a mini-lesson in new concepts, then breaking classrooms into smaller groups to tackle the skills being taught. “We’re working in a targeted way with small groups of students,” she said.

One parent asked Moriarty to explain the way long division is being taught, and she did, walking the group through the process using a web link to the math curriculum.

Principal Kelly fielded several questions from parents about issues ranging from police ticketing of cars parked near Franklin, to lunch and recess time constraint. The meeting was adjourned at about 8:20 p.m.

Minutes taken by: L. Chedekel