

FRANKLIN PTO GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

1/23/2008

Executive Committee members present: Co-Chairs, Kim Freedman and Susan Lapierre; Vice-President Eleanor Boschert; Treasurer, Terri Romanelli; Secty., Walter Devine; Principal, Ruth Chapman

Meeting called to order by Co-Chair Kim Freedman, welcoming remarks and introductions by Kim Freedman.

New business:

Committee chairs presented:

Cindy Mapes, Mid-winter coffee house is this weekend

Midge Connolly and Christine Bonenfont – Movie night this Friday

Paris presented on the status of the Spring Auction – many volunteers still needed for the big event at the post 440

METCO Presentation on 2/26 flyers will be going out, program perspective to be presented by a Harvard Fellow

Mini grants, Eleanor Boschert presented 12 grants rec'd, most were funded at some level. The level of participation has been great and the feedback from the staff very positive.

Bulliten Board help wanted, usually a ½ hr or so commitment

NPS Budgets – Override and Allocation Budgets will be discussed in a public meeting with the School Committee on Wed. Feb. 6, 2008

Wellness Day, April 16, 2008 Sharon Foster running through out the school, Nutrition, sun safety, bike safety, guess the grains, hand washing, yoga, and martial arts are among the topics presented, a very wide ranging day helping the kids focus on their overall wellness. We will need volunteers to coordinate through the PE teachers.

Ruth Chapmans Principal's remarks:
Incoming Kindergarten meeting 2/13/2008
Puppet show is upcoming

June 11th is the Spring Concert date, and this year will include an art exhibit @3:30
2nd budget is being presented this Monday, you can watch on Newtv @7:30

Topic of the night Bullying presented by Laura Perkins, Social Worker here at Franklin was presented in a circle discussion

There was a general solicitation of concerns and questions throughout the program.

Focus on how to help kids be strong when being bullied.

Bullying – the actions of one person that make another feel uncomfortable.

There are those who bully, those that are bullied, and those that witness bullying and do nothing

An involved discussion then took place covering, among other topics, what is being done here at Franklin (class lessons ie, understanding our physical differences, open circle, team building, CAP (child assault prevention), small lunch groups, individ. Support, affinity through history.

what are the protocols,

differences with gender

kids need to have an adult in the building to trust

teaching kids to be empowered

respect for human differences

Cyber-Bullying was also discussed and handouts were distributed as well as strategies discussed for assisting those kids involved.

The guest speakers were thanked, and after brief closing remarks the meeting was adjourned by Co-Chair Kim Freedman.