

HILLSIDE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PTC
Meeting Minutes of March 5, 2014

The meeting came to order at 7:10 pm.
Attendance was 30 members.

Co-President's Report - Amy Lam and Jessica Young
Amy Lam opened the meeting.

Minutes from December 3, 2013 meeting were approved. Due to weather, the previous PTC meeting was cancelled.

Pending Items Update:

The Student Council has requested soccer nets and that the USA Map and Chess board on the hardtop be repainted.

Mr. Tatro has requested a plaque for Jump Rope for Heart. This year's event was dedicated to Ms. Virginio.

Committee Updates:

Tomorrow's METCO Family/Friends event is for METCO only.

Hillside/Eliot Basketball game is this Friday. Tickets are \$5 at the door. Still need volunteers – contact Karen Dasey, Amy or Jessica if you can volunteer.

Used Book Sale is next Tues and Wed. If you can volunteer contact Jenn Sexton.

Spring Fling is May 18th. Volunteers and Spring Raffle items are needed.

Mosaic Mural Project is starting in April.

Treasurer's Report – Mary Buffinger

Awaiting expenses for BINGO. Spirit wear was projected to generate \$1300; it has exceeded expectations by bringing \$4000 to date. Financially, we are in a very good position due to the success of the Spirit wear chairs. We are able to put more money towards grants. Currently we have just about \$1000 left for grants.

Mosaic Mural Project Update – Seema Meloni and Sondae Varga

The budget for the project was \$15,000. We received \$5,000 grants from NEF and Mass. Cultural Council, leaving \$5,000 to be raised by the school. This week we received an anonymous donation in the amount of \$2,000. The NWC donated \$500, the fundraiser through Legacy Place raised \$3,200 and the Vinodivino fundraiser generated another \$265. Thus meeting our goal!

There will be another event at Vinodivino on March 24th.

Joshua Winer, the artist for the project met with members of the Hillside community to come up with some ideas for the mural. The mural will integrate S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) and the Hillside's mascot, the Hornet. There will be 5 panels each representing part of S.T.E.A.M. They will hang in the stairwell by the media center, representing the "flight" of the hornet. Joshua Winer will begin working with the students after April vacation. There will be a need for volunteers, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, alumni anyone is welcome to help the students with this project.

Enrichment Grant Applications - Seema Meloni

Recap of Approved Grants as of February 2014

Owl Pellets Science Class – approved grant was for \$225 no \$150 as previously stated

A to Z Reading Subscription – approved grant was \$100

Mr. Walek Art Supply for Wood for Wire Sculpture bases – approved grant was \$100

Four grants were recommended for approval

Let's Build Program for \$600 - The request is for monies to train volunteers to be able to present the engineering program in grades 4-5. - Grant approved.

Math Books \$200 – The request was submitted by Ms. McKenna for Think Math books for K classes. - Grant approved.

Clay Animation Program \$102.20 – The request was submitted by Mr. Walek and Ms. DeCicco for clay for their "Awesome Clay Animation Program" for 3rd graders. - Grant approved.

Iditarod \$70 – The request was submitted by Ms. Miller for the Ultimate Class Version of the Iditarod. The class can track the GPS of the mushers participating in the race, study the Iditarod and Alaska. - Grant approved.

Principal's Report – Mr. Kascak

Hillside has been working on the S.T.E.A.M. concept for a few years now. Thanks to Liz Lee for all her work on the Let's Build Program. A number of our grants and the mural project all incorporate S.T.E.A.M.

To continue our relationship with Beijing Yizhuang No. 1 Elementary, Mr. K will be traveling to Beijing over April vacation to visit and discuss our Lesley Program. 5 teachers and their spouses will be traveling to Beijing in July.

He (and on behalf of Mr. Tatro) thanked everyone for their participation in Jump Rope for Heart. This was Hillside's 10th year participating. This year the event was dedicated to Ms. Virginio who unexpectedly passed away last spring, which made it extra special to the Hillside community. A representative from the American Heart Association was present at this year's event and was very impressed.

Guest Speakers – Dan Gutekanst, Superintendent and Heidi Black, School Committee

Mr. Gutekanst presented the Innovation and Extended Learning in the Needham Public Schools. The presentation may be viewed in its entirety by clicking on the following link:

http://rwd1.needham.k12.ma.us/Extended_Time/documents/Superintendent%27s%20Presentation.pdf

Ms. Black urged everyone to vote for the override to support Innovation and Extended Learning in NPS on April 8th.

Guest Speaker – Andrea Carter, Co-Chair for Yes for Needham Schools, Override Campaign Committee Member

Andrea also encouraged everyone to vote on April 8th. The committee is looking for monetary donations and volunteers to help with the override campaign. For information on how to get involved visit their FB page and/or website.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33pm