

Schofield PTO

Meeting Agenda
Thursday, March 4th
Schofield Library

Opening Remarks

Laura Foody

Laura Foody opened the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Principal's Report

David Wilkins

David Wilkins discussed the process when determining class configuration, the number of classes per grade. There are some known factors today, which will impact the number of classes. Due to a decrease in elementary school enrollment numbers at some schools, it has been determined the overall number of elementary classrooms in Wellesley today will be reduced by two. It is also clear that one elementary school will need to increase their classrooms by one.

Additional factors that may alter preliminary classroom configuration are families moving in and out of town, private school attendance and classrooms required for students enrolled in specific Special Ed programs, such as PSP/ISP at Schofield. All of these factors are moving targets at this point and may sway configurations one way or the other by the end of the year.

Given today's enrollment numbers, the best guess estimate regarding classroom configurations would be three Kindergarten classes, three 1st grades, three 2nd grades, two 3rd grades, three or four 4th grades, three or four 5th grade classes. It is critical to remember that it is still too early to determine the class configurations. At the end of April, David will begin to determine which teachers will be teaching at each grade level.

David also defined Wellesley's Open Enrollment policy. Wellesley parents do have the option to request enrollment for their child in a specific Wellesley elementary school. In order to honor the request, there must be enough open spaces within the classroom. Principals need to keep classroom sizes within guidelines, and also need to reserve spots for children moving into the neighborhood school after school closes. To be sure classroom size does not exceed guidelines, open enrollment assignments are not determined until the end of August.

Treasurer's Report

Delissa Prideaux

Delissa Prideaux reported that the book company used during our Book Fair has filed for bankruptcy. We are not planning to receive any of \$3,000 owed to us. The amount owed includes \$2100 in a cash donation with the balance as donation of books to the library. Our next major fund raising event this year is the annual Road Race scheduled for June 6th.

The PTO had budgeted \$1,300 for Math Club this year. In previous years, the PTO has supplemented the after school Math Club expenses. Due to lower enrollment (especially in grades 4 & 5) and lack of teachers to lead and administer the program, the Math Club was not offered this year.

The PTO budget had included \$3,000 to purchase books for the Schofield library, however, Wellesley Public Schools will be providing funds to purchase books this year. The PTO will review the library needs and determine if allocating those funds to another purpose is appropriate.

Field trip costs for the remainder of the year are all within the budgeted expenses.

Over the last few years, overhead projection systems have been installed in most classrooms. On Wednesday March 10 and 17th, the final systems will be installed in the Kindergarten classrooms. The PTO funds the electrical and installation costs of these projectors.

Delissa reported the PTO has not had any unexpected expenses or income and still has the expected \$100,000 in cash.

At the end of last year ELMOS were purchased for some of the classrooms. They have been received well and are an effective tool in the classroom. If the PTO were to spend technology funds at this time, David would put ELMOS for all classrooms on the wish list.

President's Report

Laura Foody

Laura Foody reported the PTO is trying various fundraising events, which require few parent volunteers. Recently, an email was sent regarding online flower and plant sales. In one week, Schofield raised \$182.

The PTO is encouraging enrollment in the Raise a Reader program. This program is sponsored by Parent Magazine and simply requires enrolling your child and their reading time each day. The winning school will receive a \$5,000 grant for their school library. Access the following website to register.

<http://www.parents.com/reading/schofieldelementarywelma>

The PTO is looking for volunteers for the 2010-2011 school year. If you are interested in more information or volunteering for one of the following positions, please contact Laura Foody or Lana Bornstein.

PTO Positions for the 2010-2011 School Year

PTO Vice President/Co-VP
Treasurer(s)
Secretary
Innisbrook Paper Sale (2)
Road Race- various positions
Shopper's Corner-various positions
Playground Representative
Townsmen co-representative (need one)
Social Committee
Book/Literacy Fair (need 2-3)
Connection Editor
POPS Representative
Courtyard/Landscaping

Committee Reports

Road Race

Kathleen Baum

The road race, our largest annual fundraising event, is scheduled for Sunday, June 6th. Traditionally, this is a busy time of year and there are multiple town events including the PMC Kids Challenge and a LINX recital on the same day.

Social

Lana Bornstein

Schofield's next social event is Pizza Bingo on March 26th, 6-7:30pm at the Wellesley Middle School. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Lana Bornstein.

Committee 21

Lisa Hicks

Lisa Hicks reported the Wellesley School Committee has voted to support the Wellesley Public School budget. Advisory Committee held an open meeting on February 24, where citizens had the opportunity to share their opinions regarding the budget. Some recent factors that have favorably affected the initial budget include: \$325,000 in government stimulus money, out of district tuition costs have been frozen, providing a \$95,000 savings and a savings of \$68,000 in teacher salaries due to turnover.

Additionally, bus fees have been increased to \$511 per child. The town has required that Food Services employee benefits be self-funded. In order to fully fund the benefits the lunch costs will be increased by 45 cents.

On April 5th, the final budget will be presented at Town Meeting to the Advisory Committee and Board of Selectman.

For more detailed information regarding the WPS budget, please access the Committee 21 website.

<http://committee21.org/>

Air Quality Update

Val Buller, Lana Bornstein

In January, air quality testing was performed in various rooms and hallways through out Schofield. There were no alarming results and no surprises.

Simple steps have already been taken to address the air quality within the school.

- John Moran, Director of Facilities, has educated teachers and staff on the proper usage of the Heating and Ventilation System and ways to maximize the system's features.
- Simple adjustments to fan speeds have been made and changing fan belts for best performance.
- Keeping classroom doors closed for better circulation.
- Clearing heating vents of paper and books.
- Using Low odor white board markers.
- More thorough and ongoing maintenance schedules for the heating and ventilation systems are being formalized.
- Each Schofield classroom is being reviewed to identify any contributors that may be affecting the air quality.

The PTO will keep the Schofield community updated, as information is made available.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Worrall

PTO, secretary

Important Dates

March 6

Shopper's Corner Open 10am to noon

March 8th

Online enrollment for the Raise a Reader School Challenge Begins

<http://www.parents.com/reading/schofieldelementarywelma>

March 10, 17, 24

Shopper's Corner Open 8:30-12:15pm

March 10 th	Bottle Can Recycling, 8:15am
March 18 th	Girls and Cyberbullying Presentation 7pm Community Center
March 19 th	Internet Safety and Cyberbullying 9-11am Community Center
March 23 rd	MCAS Long Composition Exam-Grade 4
March 24 th -April 1st	MCAS ELA Testing, Grades 3, 4, and 5
March 26 th	PIZZA BINGO, WMS Cafeteria, 6pm
Every Thursday	Litter less Lunch