

## January 9, 2013 SPC Meeting

### *Parents in attendance:*

*Melissa & Daryl Elow (k0), Lisa Foulger (k2,2), Heidi Brooks (k1) Kimberly Rand (k1,1), Arusha Hollister (k1,2), Chris Kollett (1), Jill Lazer (3,6), Jess Ormsby (1), Noreen Power (1,5,6), Maria Torella (5,6), Lindsey & Heshan Weeramuni (3,5), Genevieve Day (k1,2,5), Dave Demerjian (1), Joseph Wardwell (1), Kieran Fitzgibbon (k1,1), Rebecca Nieto (2,4), Julie Smith-Bartoloni (4)*

### *Also in attendance:*

*Maria Monteiro-Roby (FCOC), Daniel Sullivan, STEM (science, tech, engineering & math) Education at Northeastern – they do math tutoring, science/math classroom support, after school program, retired engineers/scientists working in the school*

### **Fundraising (Jess Ormsby)**

- December shopping night was well attended, still awaiting Kitchenwitch #s
- Silent Auction planned for Tuesday, March 12: planning meeting scheduled 1/29 @ 7pm, Canary Square – all welcome (lots of small and creative tasks to be done) – 2<sup>nd</sup> largest fundraiser of the year

### **Treasurer's report (Kimberly Rand)**

#### Income to date:

- Shopping night brought in \$818 to date
- Friend raiser has brought in \$2,570 to date
- Have received \$750 from 2 employee matches
- Expecting \$3,000 donation for 2 Boston Marathon numbers

#### Costs include:

- \$11,000 to community music school
- refreshments for SPC meetings and principal's breakfasts
- interpreter for December a.m. SPC morning
- some support for 1<sup>st</sup> grade field trip to RCC theatre (\$40 in scholarship)
- we have \$5,000 budgeted for classwide field trips
- using credit card service for SPC – would like to move to PayPal or more affordable vendor that also has credit card swiping ability (e.g. Square)

### **School Site Council (SSC) – Jill Lazer**

#### Communication initiatives:

1. Welcoming environment – plan to send survey to parents
2. Create school directory to list all programs, key phone numbers
3. Parent-Teacher contract – expectations of communication from teachers, offering guidelines and minimum requirements plus help and guidance for parents to advocate

### **Budget (Heshan)**

Jeff Slater will present it to the SSC next week – it is flat from last year, which sounds really great compared to cuts from last several years. SSC has asked Jeff to bring comments regarding where he still sees gaps (e.g. library). School committee agreed to one of Curley parents' proposals to increase weighting for poverty from 80% to 60% in order to benefit the entire district. **This is a direct result of advocacy effort by 137 Curley parents.** Relationships are solid with CFO Seth Racine and new Committee Chair Michael O'Neil.

Additional night janitor position had been eliminated – we got it reinstated by calling the Mayor's hotline

### **SPED (Noreen Power)**

IEP parent support group being proposed

Next Wed, Jan 16 9:00-11:00am meeting with Federation of Students with Basic Needs regarding evaluations and good information about what resources are offered

### **Schoolyard update (Rebecca Nieto and Julie S-B)**

Provided background on history of the project from BSI grant in 2008 to present day need to raise \$225,000 to build a playing field with perimeter track in area of 6800 square feet of broken asphalt behind the upper school

Now that 6-8 grades have recess, a field is even more needed

Needed: grant writers, people with expertise in building process, landscape designers – anyone interested invited to stay after the SPC meeting for overview  
Phase II will be launched at next SPC meeting on morning of Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>

### **Curley Pride (Genevieve, for student interns Clara and \_\_)**

Student interns have been organizing raffles for students who wear uniforms, they are passing out premiums as prizes – have asked SPC for financial support items on their wish list. Have asked them to present us with a specific request for the group to consider. Coordinated by Kristin and Carrie. Suggestion was made that students could earn items that don't cost money.

**501c3 Status for Friends of the Curley** – no report, research still underway

### **Upcoming events**

- Jan 11: 9:00-11:00am, School preview tour (need additional volunteers)
- Jan 16: 9:00-11:00am, basic rights in special education program (see SPED above)
- Jan 17: 9:00-10:00am environmental walk through with Mass OSHA and BPS Facilities led by Sue Trotz to improve school's physical environment (looking for additional parents to attend, this is really important because having numbers will get results)
- Jan 18: 5:00-8:00pm 6<sup>th</sup> annual Curley night at the Museum of Science – registration is due THIS FRIDAY. Please wear your Curley gear!

- Jan 19: Boston Cares painting project – need details
- Jan 21: 10:00am-2:00pm MLK Day of Service – please plan to attend for a little or a lot with your children
- Jan 23: 9:00-10:30am Winter music concert
  - Participating grades?
  - Lisa will order refreshments for parents
- Jan 24: 9:00-10:00am Principal’s breakfast, “Families First Homework Battles”
- Jan 24: 5:00-7:00pm, Parent-Teacher conference night
- Jan 29: 6:00-8:00pm, Canary Square planning meeting @ Canary Square
- Feb 2: 6:00-8:00pm Schoolyard fundraising meeting @ TBD
- Feb 6: 8:45-10:45am SPC meeting
- Feb 28: 9:00-10:00am Principal’s breakfast, “Families First workshop”
- March 7: Math night TBD – coordinated by Maria
- March 12: 5:30-9:00pm Silent Auction at Canary Square
- March 28: 9:00-10:00am Principal’s breakfast, “Families First workshop”

**Volunteer opportunities available:**

- School Preview tours
- Canary Square organization
- There are opportunities for grants and fundraising opportunities but no one available to write them. We are looking for a point person to evaluate these as centralized resource. Heidi Brooks volunteered, others welcome.

Additional issues raised by parents:

1. Cleanliness of outdoors – we need another garbage can, find out who is responsible for ongoing upkeep of the grounds
2. Salad bar – heard that it has not been functional, school is dealing staff issues to keep it functional and offering smaller containers to reduce waste
3. Issues at concerts: sound and management of kids, need for setting higher expectations through administrative welcome, request that class parents wear Curley shirts and sit with their classes to assist teachers

Daniel Sullivan, STEM (science, tech, engineering & math) Education at Northeastern Northeastern, [da.sullivan@neu.edu](mailto:da.sullivan@neu.edu)

- Initiating a summer camp targeted for Curley students
- Many volunteers can be made available for projects at the school

## **SCHOOLYARD PLANNING MEETING:**

*Doug Rand, Kiernan, Genevieve, Rebecca, Julie*

What we want: Multi-purpose field with perimeter track

What we need: build visibility for capital campaign to raise \$225,000 for playing field + fund for maintenance

- Consider recruiting Northeastern students

Present the “Official Launch of Stage II” at Wed, Feb 6<sup>th</sup> for 8:45am SPC meeting

- Include on agenda
- Include in ConnectEd robo-call
- Make announcement at Principal’s breakfast
- Plan 15-20 minute presentation with overview of Stage I (completed) and announcing Launch of Stage II; collect names and contact information of those interested
- Get large versions of schoolyard design scheme – hang them outside of main office in advance of meeting
- Ask Jeff to add his voice regarding why it’s important to the school

Action Items:

1. Need to ask James Sessum to give us new numbers based on John Ryther’s designs
2. We need to create a solid plan that can be presented to funders regarding what we intend to do
3. Reach out to the Hurley and the Haley to learn what and how they did, also look at Renaissance Charter School
4. Appeal to Mayor Menino for a potential funding match
5. Create an email list of all interested parents and friends
6. Consider hiring a grant writer to run this process

Past proposals submitted:

- New Balance Foundation
- U. S. Soccer Foundation
- Whole Foods
- Red Sox Foundation
- Patriots Foundation

Potential funders:

- Houghton Mifflin Hardcourt, Head of Corporate responsibility (Jill Lazer)
- State Street Foundation
- Citizens Bank (Heidi?)
- 161 South Huntington Ave – they will want to give \$\$ for goodwill (Larry DiCara is their attorney, needs to be approached)
- BSI – Kiernan spoke with Myrna Johnson, funding is currently flat