

October SPC Meeting – October 2, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting began with 30 minutes of dinner and socializing time.

Introductions by Katie Grassa, the Curley's new principal. She said she is trying to learn people's names, but it's a daunting task. She said she's had a nice welcome to both the school community and the Jamaica Plain community. She has been impressed with the Curley students and their ability to self-advocate. She said the School Parent Council is an important link between school and home, and that is was impressed by the large turn out to this first meeting. She is trying to stay connected to folks through her weekly principal's Pawprints and urged people to sign up in the Curley website for the updates if you haven't done that already. She urged people to come to and help out at the Fall Fling, which is one of our biggest fundraisers.

She also introduced Maria Monteiro-Roby & Maria Alvarado, the school's parent-outreach coordinators.

Introduction to the SPC – Genevieve Day & Dave Demerjian

They introduced themselves and the SPC, passing out 3 handouts explaining the role of the SPC and upcoming meeting and event dates. The SPC raises more than \$40,000 each year (spent on enrichment at the Curley) through extensive fundraising work. Most of the money comes from Fundraising events, which need lots of folks to volunteer for. Getting involved with the school is a great way to meet people. **Our next meeting will be November 6th at 8:45am in the Upper School Library (Will focus on the SPC Budget for 2013/14)**

Classroom volunteer effort - Valerie Snekvik

Valerie Snekvik is spearheading an effort to try to get more parental volunteers to support our very strong (but often overloaded) teachers. She feels that the teachers often have too much administrative responsibility, and any help they can get making copies and other things like that helps the teachers spend more face-time with the students. Some parents can help actually help the students in classroom, others do jobs in the evenings that help out the teachers. Due to Val's work, this year, there will be a volunteer application on the website and in the Family Resource Center. There will also be a training session for interested parents.

Playing Field Campaign – Liza Sterns

The Curley School has had a vision for a playing field as far back as 2006 when the two Curley schools merged into a K-8 and thoughts were given to how best to unify the school. Much of the schoolyard was transformed by way of a Boston School Yard initiative grant, but money ran out before the field could be built. We are trying again to get this project done. Approximately \$260K is still needed. Northeastern University is offering to help with some civil engineering work, and BPS is looking at the feasibility of such a partnership. We are hoping to break ground on July 1st and our goal is to have it up and running next school year. We need help submitting

grants, and we need to get the word out. Doug Rand and Kiernan Fitzgibbons (*Doug Rand dougrandra@gmail.com and Kieran Fitzgibbon kfitzgibbon@statewiderm.com*) are heading up this committee. The need for such a space is dire. The asphalt area is now off limits due to so many injuries last year and 43% of the kids in school are bordering on unhealthy weights.

Fundraising – Inci Kaya

The fundraising committee earns the money that is so critical to filling to gaps in the arts (such as paying for K-5 music). The SPC fundraising is extremely important and we need everyone to help out when they can with events. As mentioned before, it is a great way to meet people. The Fall Fling is coming on October 18, and we need help making baskets to raffle off, help selling food and beverages, and help setting up and breaking down the event. We are selling raffle tickets for an Xbox Connect, a bike and an iPad mini. It is a big family friendly event. The doodle-poll will be sent out and you need to sign-up! Also please plan to come to the event (which is held in the upper school gym).

Other parents spoke briefly about other active committees. Please email them if you are interested in helping.

CASP

Currently we are seeking parents for a CASP committee that will help us ensure the sustainability of the program. Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday every month at 3:30pm. *Dominic Burdick - dominic@sealdom.com*

Community Service Committee

Works with Boston Cares and other community organizations to coordinate service activities (e.g. schoolyard clean-ups, painting projects, clothing drive, etc.)

Julie Smith-Bartoloni - jsbart@brandeis.edu

Curley Orchard Steward

It would be great to get a team of interested parents and families together to assist in maintaining, harvesting, preserving, and donating the fruit from Curley's orchard on Centre St. *Flo Zimmerman - flozmk@gmail.com*

Technology Committee

We work with the administration and teachers to increase technology instruction, access to technology, and technology supported learning.

Sunny Schwartz - sunnyschwartz@yahoo.com

Communications

The Communications Committee runs the curleyk8.com website, the SPC Facebook page, and the SPC Twitter presence. The committee assists with updating the school's central Google calendar. It also provides help to the school by producing flyers, banners, signage, and other printed and electronic materials when asked.

Heshan Berents-Weeramuni - heshanbw@gmail.com

Curley Polo and T-Shirts Sales

Responsible for purchasing and selling Curley T shirts and uniforms throughout the year. *Katie Fitch - kathleenfitch@hotmail.com*

Family Contact List Coordinator

Works to support volunteers from each grade in assembling our online, grade-based Family Contact Lists for parent and teacher use during the year. If you want to be sure your child's class has an up-to-date list, please volunteer to help out with this annual project! *Carrie Fletcher - carriefletcher@fullbridge.com*

Community/business liaison

We work with event and fundraising committees to ensure that businesses and other community partners are able to support the Curley in a variety of ways. Parents with good local business contacts are especially welcome!
Heidi Brooks - heidibrooks@yahoo.com

Health & Wellness Committee

This year our main focus will be nutrition, stay tuned for our nutrition walk-through of the school. *Susan Trotz - strotz@boston.k12.ma.us and introduced by Katie Fitch - kathleenfitch@hotmail.com*

Arts Committee

There are several events each year to showcase students' art and music instruction. Parents are needed to help promote and run these events. *Ben Carlson - benmcarl@yahoo.com*

New Family Welcome Committee

This committee will help organize school preview tours and be a contact for incoming families. We also plan the kindergarten playdates, potluck and other events. *Arusha Hollister arusha_h@yahoo.com & Kristin Jurkoic - kjurkoic@yahoo.com*

Special Projects Fundraising

The focus of this committee is on foundation and corporate grant proposals and large individual gifts for special projects, such as technology, librarian, etc.
Sunny Schwartz - sunnyschwartz@yahoo.com