

## **SPC Minutes Dec. 4th Meeting**

### **Boston Police Officers**

Two BPD officers came to address the issue of school safety at the Curley School and speak about some specific incidents that have occurred recently at the school. They are from the BPD Citywide School Unit that covers West Zone area- including the Curley school but also charter and Parochial schools in the zone.

They described their job as focusing on safety and intervention with the goal to keep children safe. They said they often act more like social workers than police officers and want to forge positive relationships with kids, so they feel comfortable. They work closely with the BPS school police.

Parents at the meeting had specific questions about a recent incident where bullets were found in an upper school bathroom. These police officers are conducting an investigation. The student responsible was quickly identified and the building was swept for safety by a K9 unit. The officers visited the suspected student and the student's family and conducted an investigation. The school has enforced school discipline and the police are determining if there needs to be law enforcement.

These officers are involved in some other issues at the school. Fighting has been a particular problem recently, specifically involving middle school girls. Social media seems to be an instigator. Officers suggest cleaning kids' rooms, keep vigilant on their social media, and to stay as involved as possible.

Parents discussed bringing these officers back to work with middle school kids. BPD Youth Connect / counseling intervention is a group that will do these types of programs. Understanding Violence – a presentation for middle school and high school.

A discussion started about how to help at-risk kids before trouble happens. A suggestion was made to promote the Curley sports teams

### *Committee Reports –*

**Playing Field Report** – Plans are in place to break ground \$260K , \$130K already raised. We've been given a matching grant, we have a bunch of grants written and are out there. We are trying to get by to the goal by March when BPS starts putting things out to bid. The match grant runs out March 2014.

**Fundraising** – there are parents trying to do fundraising in different ways Shopping Night on December 9<sup>th</sup> – shopping proceeds to go the school.

Silent Auction will be March 25<sup>th</sup> Canary Square – Adult only event. Great event to help out at. A motion was put out to vote for whether auction committee could use a

new software tool. Question about whether we should use this tool for the auction because it requires a credit card to swiped in order to participate in the auction. Questions were raised about inclusion and the parents in the room decided to hold off voting to use the software.

**Racial dialogues group** – A new committee is starting to discuss racial issues at the school. This is a spin-off from the recent series of discussions lead by the YMCA.

**School Site Council** – update by Heshan – governing body of the school. The SSC is currently working with Principal Grassa on the budget. The budget comes from BPS in December and the SSC has to sign off on it. Principal Grassa believes the Curley needs another assistant principal. Because the budget is expected to be flat, there may need to be cuts in order to make this happen. The SSC will be involved in these discussions and decision.

**Arts Committee-** The winter music program will be on January 16 at 9 am. The SPC will be hosting a pre-concert reception at 8:30 am.