

## January 2014 Curley SPC Minutes

### Concerns about recess.

- The lunch mothers don't seem to engage the kids.
- Indoor recess, what is the standard (32 degrees – stay inside – need better activities)
- Can we get an organization such as Playworks involved (very costly)?
- Maybe our partnership with Northeastern – college kids who need community service
- Meghan to send email to Katie asking about how we can reach out to other organizations.
- Reach out to JFK – they have implemented Playworks, can they advise us?
- School climate team should be made aware – this is something they could work on (Heshan will bring up at SSC)
- Playworks is costly and something else would need to go perhaps music
- Upper school doesn't have recess – test scores went down and there were bullying issues and other problems
- An email will be sent to Principal Grassa, Jesse Caroso and Sue Trotz

### Playing Field Committee Update– Kieran Fitzgibbon

Big news there was a \$50K anon. donation \$175K raised - Incredible amount of work has gone into it. BPS is committed to bid and oversee the project. We need to have \$85K more by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The feeling of the committee is that we have to raise this money no matter what, we are too close! The problem that the groups has found is that foundations don't fund capital projects. We need more people involved raising the \$\$ -- we need to approach people that we know. Northeastern is donated services but the value of their services is not known.

Fundraiser needed before March 1<sup>st</sup>. Need families to reach out the their networks. We have to earn this money. The suggestion of a backpack letter came up asking for money from the school community communicating the urgency since we have a March deadline.

### Silent Auction-

Plans are underway for the Silent Auction held at Canary Square. The funds are going to different things – the general SPC budget which is still crucial to raise since the money is committed. There is a worry that the playing field campaign will be creating fatigue. There as a proposal to switch to online an auction this year using a software package called Bidding for Good, but the decision for this year is to continue as in years past. There were concerns about the necessity of credit card swiping. And the owner of the venue, Mike Moxley had concerns about the network bandwidth necessary to run the ipads during the event. The auction committee will

be sending out a “call for donations” flyer, but there was a thought to wait until after the playing field campaign’s backpack letter goes out. The committee also has a solicitation letter prepared if anyone wants to request items themselves. Ask Heidi Brooks for details. We also want to better utilize the Facebook Page for the Silent Auction and publicize the items before the event.

**Museum of Science Night** – January 24<sup>th</sup> -- \$20 for 4 guests, tickets for the Imax. The flyers will be coming out this week. We made a little bit of \$\$\$. Curley pride, try to raise \$\$\$ for playing field. Backpack letter will be going out soon. Discussions about Race – SPC funded Childcare voted on

**School Site Council** – Update from Heshan

At the last SCC meeting the budget meeting is happening next Tuesday at 5:30pm, Principal Grassa will be presenting the budget, they will be voting on the budget. Don Kennedy is the new BPS CFO, and they changed when the vote is going to happen. The SSC is going to be able to have actual time to review the budget. BPS is going to be able to sit down with the principals to discuss the budgets.

One thing that was decided is that inclusion classroom will be extended up through the grades.

At the last SSC meeting the Instructional Leadership Team gave an update on the curriculum, and working on the Quality School Plan. There were people from Harvard that came in to observe classroom teaching. Elizabeth String head of the PACE program is taking over for Colleen Leary who has left the school.

**Health and Wellness** committee has suggested to end snacks in the upper-school cafeteria. They were already discontinued in the lower school café. Apparently these snacks are sold by the lunch monitors as some kind of fund-raiser and have continued in the upper school. A nutritionist is coming to talk to families, and a physical activity sub-committee.

**School Climate Survey** – This is something conducted by BPS and last year had a very low response. Maria Monteiro-Roby wants to get the survey done in a better way and get the school more involved, so the survey can be meaningful.

**Uniforms** - Katie Finch and Megan Jewett have done comprehensive research about the uniform policy and have a proposal to send to the SPC & SCC that they can put to vote in the springtime.

**Equality issues between AWC and “regular ed strand”**

This issue was brought up in the SSC. There are ongoing grave concerns about the negative consequences that result from separating children in 4<sup>th</sup> for AWC, these go against the core values of many Curley families. Friendships are disrupted, equality issues arise due to disparities of curriculum, behavior issues exist in the “regular ed strand”, racial issues arise. Parent Noreen Power is proposing an idea to keep

forth grade homeroom classes integrated only separate out the AWC kids for the math and Literacy. Principal Grassa and members of the SSC will be meeting with the AWC leadership in BPS to discuss what our options are for more integration.

**Box Tops initiatives** – Beth Bendavid-Val brought up the question of whether a larger effort to collect Box Tops should exist. Currently Mr. R collects them to run field day. Perhaps we could help him do this and make more for the SPC. A parent needs to take charge of this.

**Race Dialogue Sub-group** – A group of parents want to continue meeting to discuss ways to improve racial issues in the school. They are requesting that the SPC pay for childcare during their meetings so more people can come. The SPC agreed to do this.